

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

**IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS**

Be it remembered, that on this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of December 2023, the Commissioners Court of Zapata County, Texas convened in **REGULAR SESSION** of said Court, at the regular meeting place thereof, in the Courthouse of Zapata, Texas, with the following members of said Court, to-wit:

**PRESENT:**

Hon. Joseph Rathmell	County Judge
Paco Mendoza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Pedro M. Morales	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Roberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Celica A. Rodriguez	Chief Deputy County Clerk

**ABSENT:**

Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk
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**VISITORS:** Ralph Treviño, Olga Bruni, Adolfo Gonzalez, and Carlos Q. Ramirez.

**WHEREUPON**, the following Orders and Proceedings were had by said Court, to-wit:

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M.**

**ROLL CALL BY CELICA A. RODRIGUEZ, CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Judge Rathmell commented that there was another break-in of attempted theft in county property at the county shop. The lock was broken and some items were missing from storage unit where county crews keep equipment. They did not get away to far because the would-be thieves left items behind on the other side of the shop fence. They need to upgrade the security around the area.

Commissioner Garza spoke to Rene Garcilazo, and he will go in on Tuesday to put in a better security system at the county shop. He added that there were three break ins that same day at the county shop, and some apartments that are nearby.

Commissioner Solis stated that vandalism continues at Siesta Shores Park. He received calls from neighbors that could hear juveniles breaking the doors. Doors were locked because they kept vandalizing the restrooms. He is looking into a camera system. Rene Garcilazo went there and they are looking into installing cameras. He encourages everyone to keep reporting the vandalism.

Judge Rathmell added that Mr. Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer, has been applying for AEP grants and Mr. Tony Arce the representative, has been very helpful. Mr. Salinas applied for a \$5,000 grant for food pantry and it was approved. The judge thanked AEP and Mr. Salinas.

Judge Rathmell sent condolences to the family of Adan Lopez who passed away. Mr. Lopez was a veteran and a county employee who served for 16 years as adult probation officer.



**ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL, TO CONSIDER  
PURCHASE OF A 3150 GREENMASTER GREENS MOWER  
FOR LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to table request by Judge Rathmell, to consider the purchase of a 3150 Greensmaster greens mower for the Los Ebanos Golf Course.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ORDER APPROVING PUBLIC MEETING JANUARY 10, 2024 AT 5:35 P.M.  
FOR USDA FUNDING FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve public meeting January 10, 2024 at 5:35 P.M. for USDA funding for Sheriff's Office Improvements as requested by Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting, LLC.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ORDER AWARDING BID FOR CFV21-0191 NORTH WEST ZAPATA  
COLONIA PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the bid by Frank's Construction (Frank Barragan) for \$795,000.10, being the lowest bidder, for the CFV21-0191 North West Zapata Colonia Project, and commit Zapata County to match \$130,000.10 to complete the project, as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE TO MOUFLON OILFIELD SERVICES  
FOR WORK ON LOS EBANOS ROAD**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoice for \$11,000.00 to Mouflon Oilfield Services for work on the Los Ebanos Road, to be paid out of Pct. 3 Road & Bridge funds as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE AND REVIEW STATUS ON  
MIRAFLORES PARK PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to pay invoice in the amount of \$64,260.33 payable to Mouflon Oilfield Services and review status on the Miraflores Park as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Manuel Gonzalez reported mobilization has been done, general grading and compacting on the field is done and is 100% complete. Top soil was brought in for Bermuda grass seeding and is about 67% complete. Three canopies have been added to the walking trail for 9% completion. For the 25' x 25' canopy, only foundation has been installed and materials have been purchased and makes it 50% complete. Overall project is about 45% complete.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ORDER APPROVING CHANGE ORDER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00 FOR WATER LINES, PAYMENT OF INVOICE TO MOUFLON OILFIELD SERVICES, AND STATUS REVIEW ON MIRAFLORES STREET IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve change order in an amount, not to exceed \$10,000.00, for waterlines, and payment of invoice for \$30,409.65 payable to Mouflon Oilfield Services and review status on Miraflores Street Improvements as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Manuel Gonzalez reported that clearing and 6" subgrade are 100% complete. The flex base is 90% complete. Waterline services will need to be installed.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve installation of the following street lights:

- a. 13<sup>th</sup> & Bravo Ave.
- b. 1406 Lincoln St.
- c. 2313 Elm St.

as requested by Hon. Pete Morales, Commissioner Pct. 2.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SOLIS,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MENDOZA,  
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SOLIS,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MENDOZA,  
TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM DISCUSSED  
IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

16 Consultation with attorney in regards to distribution repairs as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Director.

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney.

**ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, and being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of all members of the Court.

There being no further business for disposition at this term, the Court adjourned.

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JOSEPH RATHMELL, COUNTY JUDGE  
OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN,  
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS