

February 23, 2023

Regular Meeting

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, A.D., 2023 there was held a Regular Meeting of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Willacy County, Texas at the County Judge's Office, 576 West Main, in the City of Raymondville, Texas for the purpose of transacting the following agenda:

1. Call to Order.
2. Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum.
3. Invocation / Pledge.
4. Public Comment (s).
5. Spread in the Minutes – Certificate of Completion for Rene Orlando Quiroga PCT 3 Road Maintenance for attending the Pipeline Emergency Response and Drainage Prevention in Harlingen, Texas on January 10, 2023 and receiving up to 2 in-service credit hours.
6. Spread in the Minutes – Deputy Constable Alberto Oviedo Jr attended Civil Process Training on February 7-10, 2023 in Austin TX and received 20 hours of TCOLE credit.
7. Spread in the Minutes – Constable Jose Alberto Garza attended Civil Process Training on February 7-10, 2023 in Austin TX and received 20 hours of TCOLE credit.
8. Presentation by Linda Navarro, RATES and Stormwater Task Force, on the Real Time Monitoring System being deployed in the Willacy Floodways.
9. Discussion and Action to pay US Bank for outstanding Invoices on the following; Willacy TWDB #L1001264 escrow; Willacy TWDB #G1001263 escrow; Willacy TWDB #G1001254 escrow; Willacy TWDB #L1001253 escrow; Willacy TWDB #L1001262 escrow; Willacy TWDB #L1001353 escrow; Willacy TWDB #L1001260 escrow; ACTION REQUIRED.
10. Discussion and Action to approve installing doors at the JP's PCT 1 and County Treasurers/Commissioners entrance area. ACTION REQUIRED.
11. Discussion and Action on renewal of ARTS (Affordable care act Reporting & Tracking Services) annual subscription. ACTION REQUIRED
12. Discussion and Action to approve Public Defender Contract under the TIDC ARPA Grant between Willacy County and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, INC retroactive to January 1, 2023. ACTION REQUIRED.
13. Discussion and Action to approve public Defender Contract between Willacy County and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid INC retroactive to January 1, 2023. ACTION REQUIRED.
14. Discussion and Action to approve Proclamation and proclaim February 25, 2023 as National TRIO Day. ACTION REQUIRED

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15. Discussion and Action to update the court on the project Willacy Co. 2021 Colonia CFC21-0274 first time sewer connection, possible funding shortages. ACTION REQUIRED.
16. Permission to host the Willacy County Sheriff's Office 2nd Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on the Courthouse lawn. ACTION REQUIRED.
17. Authorization to apply for and if awarded, accept grant funds from the Border Prosecution Unit Grant through the Office of the Governor, Resolution included. Approval of the District Attorney's office Resolution to apply for, and accept if awarded, Border Prosecution Unit Grant through the office of the Governor for the fiscal year 2024 and 2025. ACTION REQUIRED.
18. Authorization to apply for and if awarded, accept grant funds from the Local Border Security Program (LBSP) Grant through the Office of the Governor, Resolution included. Approval of the District Attorney's office Resolution to apply for, and accept if awarded, Local Border Security Program (LBSP) Grant through the office of the Governor for the Fiscal year 2024. ACTION REQUIRED.
19. Discussion and Approval of the Non-Exclusive License and Services Agreement between the Willacy County District Attorney's Office and Local Government Solutions, L.P. to permit Licensee the use of LGS software programs. ACTION REQUIRED.
20. Discussion and Approval of Partnership between the Lyford High School Law Practicum Students and The Willacy County District Attorney's Office. ACTION REQUIRED.
21. Approval of Travel. ACTION REQUIRED.
22. Approval of Claims. ACTION REQUIRED.
23. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
  - (A) Confer with Commissioners Court legal counsel regarding pending or contemplated litigation and/or negotiations involving the county, its employees, or its interests, pursuant to VTCA Government Code, Section 551.071.
24. ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:
  - (A) possible action
25. Adjourn.

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THE COURT MET:

PRESENT:

Aurelio Guerra, Jr.,	County Judge,
Elberto Guerra,	Commissioner, Precinct 1,
Mario Tijerina,	Commissioner, Precinct 2,
Henry De La Paz,	Commissioner, Precinct 3,
Ernesto Garcia,	Commissioner, Precinct 4,
Annette Hinojosa,	County Attorney,
Maria Del Carmen Maldonado,	County Auditor,
Elizabeth Rios,	County Chief Deputy Clerk,

WHEREUPON, the Court was opened to the following proceedings were had to wit:

PERSONS VISITING THE COURT:

Skyler LeVrier  
Linda Navarro  
Jessica Salas  
Patty Garcia

1. Call to Order – Chairman Aurelio Guerra, Jr.
2. Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum – **ALL PRESENT**
3. Pledge / Invocation – Commissioner Henry De La Paz
4. Public Comments – None

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Agenda # 5

SPREAD IN THE MINUTES –  
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION FOR  
RENE ORLANDO QUIROGA, PRECINCT  
3 ROAD MAINTENANCE FOR ATTENDING  
THE PIPELINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
AND DRAINAGE PREVENTION IN  
HARLINGEN, TEXAS ON JANUARY 10,  
2023 AND RECEIVING UP TO 2 IN-SERVICE  
CREDIT HOURS

As per the Chairman, spread in the minutes – Certificate of Completion for Rene Orlando Quiroga, Precinct 3 Road Maintenance for attending the Pipeline Emergency Response and Drainage Prevention in Harlingen, Texas on January 10, 2023 and receiving up to 2 in-service credit hours.

Agenda # 6

SPREAD IN THE MINUTES –  
DEPUTY CONSTABLE ALBERTO  
OVIEDO, JR. ATTENDED CIVIL  
PROCESS TRAINING ON FEBRUARY  
7-10, 2023 IN AUSTIN, TEXAS AND  
RECEIVED 20 HOURS OF TCOLE  
CREDIT

As per the Chairman, spread in the minutes – Deputy Constable Alberto Oviedo, Jr. attended Civil Process Training on February 7-10, 2023 in Austin, Texas and received 20 hours of TCOLE Credit.

**Move to item number 8.**

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Agenda # 7

SPREAD IN THE MINUTES –  
CONSTABLE JOSE ALBERTO GARZA  
ATTENDED CIVIL PROCESS TRAINING  
ON FEBRUARY 7-10, 2023 IN AUSTIN,  
TEXAS AND RECEIVED 20 HOURS OF  
TCOLE CREDIT

As per the Chairman, spread in the minutes – Constable Jose Alberto Garza attended Civil Process Training on February 7-10, 2023 in Austin, Texas and received 20 hours of TCOLE Credit.

**Continue with item number 9.**

Agenda # 8

PRESENTATION BY LINDA NAVARRO,  
RATES AND STORMWATER TASK  
FORCE, ON THE REAL TIME MONITORING  
SYSTEM BEING DEPLOYED IN THE  
WILLACY FLOODWAYS

Presentation by Linda Navarro, RATES and Stormwater Task Force, on the Real Time Monitoring System being deployed in the Willacy Floodways.

**Return back to item number 7.**

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Agenda # 9

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
PAY US BANK FOR OUTSTANDING  
INVOICES ON THE FOLLOWING:  
WILLACY TWDB NUMBER L1001264  
ESCROW, WILLACY TWDB NUMBER  
G1001263 ESCROW, WILLACY TWDB  
NUMBER G1001254 ESCROW,  
WILLACY TWDB NUMBER L1001253  
ESCROW, WILLACY TWDB NUMBER  
L1001262 ESCROW, WILLACY TWDB  
NUMBER L1001353 ESCROW AND  
WILLACY TWDB NUMBER L1001260  
ESCROW

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval to pay US Bank for outstanding invoices on the following: Willacy TWDB Number L1001264 Escrow, Willacy TWDB Number G1001263 Escrow, Willacy TWDB Number G1001254 Escrow, Willacy TWDB Number L1001253 Escrow, Willacy TWDB Number L1001262 Escrow, Willacy TWDB Number L1001353 Escrow and Willacy TWDB Number L1001260 Escrow. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 10

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE INSTALLING DOORS AT  
THE JP'S PRECINCT 1 AND COUNTY  
TREASURERS/COMMISSIONERS  
ENTRANCE AREA

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for approval of installing doors at the JP's Precinct 1 and County Treasurers/Commissioners entrance area for the amount not to exceed \$3,500.00 to be paid from Capital Fund (02). Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 11

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON  
RENEWAL OF ARTS (AFFORDABLE  
CARE ACT REPORTING AND TRACKING  
SERVICES) ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval on renewal of ARTS (Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Services) Annual Subscription.

Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 12

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PUBLIC DEFENDER  
CONTRACT UNDER THE TIDC  
ARPA GRANT BETWEEN WILLACY  
COUNTY AND TEXAS RIO GRANDE  
LEGAL AID, INC. RETROACTIVE  
TO JANUARY 1, 2023

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner De La Paz for approval of Public Defender Contract under the TIDC ARPA Grant between Willacy County and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, Inc. retroactive to January 1, 2023. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 13

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PUBLIC DEFENDER  
CONTRACT BETWEEN WILLACY  
COUNTY AND TEXAS RIO GRANDE  
LEGAL AID, INC. RETROACTIVE TO  
JANUARY 1, 2023

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Public Defender Contract between Willacy County and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, Inc. retroactive to January 1, 2023. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 14

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PROCLAMATION AND  
PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 25, 2023  
AS NATIONAL TRIO DAY

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of Proclamation and Proclaim February 25, 2023 as National TRIO Day. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. Chairman Guerra voting ABSTAINED. Motion was declared carried.

**Commissioner Mario Tijerina steps out of the meeting at 11:08 a.m., does not vote for item number 15.**

Agenda # 15

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
UPDATE THE COURT ON THE  
PROJECT WILLACY COUNTY 2021  
COLONIA CFC21-0274 FIRST TIME  
SEWER CONNECTION, POSSIBLE  
FUNDING SHORTAGES

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Garcia to pass on this item. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Commissioner Mario Tijerina returns back to the meeting at 11:16 a.m.**

**Commissioner Eliberto Guerra steps out of the meeting at 11:17 a.m. and returns back at 11:19 a.m.**

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Agenda # 16

IN REGARDS TO PERMISSION  
TO HOST THE WILLACY COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL  
COMMUNITY EASTER EGG  
HUNT ON THE COURTHOUSE  
LAWN

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval for the Willacy County Sheriff's Office to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on the Courthouse Lawn. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 17

IN REGARDS TO AUTHORIZATION  
TO APPLY FOR AND IF AWARDED,  
ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE  
BORDER PROSECUTION UNIT GRANT  
THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE  
GOVERNOR, RESOLUTION INCLUDED.  
APPROVAL OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
OFFICE RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR,  
AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED, BORDER  
PROSECUTION UNIT GRANT  
THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND 2025

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of authorization to apply for and if awarded, accept grant funds from the Border Prosecution Unit Grant through the Office of the Governor, Resolution included. Approval of the District Attorney's Office Resolution to apply for, and accept if awarded, Border Prosecution Unit Grant through the Office of the Governor for the Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 18

IN REGARDS TO AUTHORIZATION  
TO APPLY FOR AND IF AWARDED,  
ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE  
LOCAL BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM  
(LBSP) GRANT THROUGH THE OFFICE  
OF THE GOVERNOR, RESOLUTION  
INCLUDED. APPROVAL OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE RESOLUTION TO  
APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED,  
LOCAL BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM  
(LBSP) GRANT THROUGH THE OFFICE  
OF THE GOVERNOR FOR THE FISCAL  
YEAR 2024

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of authorization to apply for and if awarded, accept grant funds from the Local Border Security Program (LBSP) Grant through the Office of the Governor, Resolution included. Approval of the District Attorney's Office Resolution to apply for, and accept if awarded, Local Border Security Program (LBSP) Grant through the Office of the Governor for the Fiscal Year 2024. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 19

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF  
THE NON-EXCLUSIVE LICENSE AND  
SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE WILLACY COUNTY DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS, L.P.  
TO PERMIT LICENSEE THE USE OF  
LGS SOFTWARE PROGRAMS

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of the Non-Exclusive License and Services Agreement between the Willacy County District Attorney's Office and Local Government Solutions, L.P. to permit Licensee the use of LGS Software Programs. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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**Commissioner Eliberto Guerra steps out of the meeting at 11:34 a.m. and returns back at 11:37 a.m.**

**Commissioner Eliberto Guerra steps out of the meeting at 11:40 a.m. and does not vote for item numbers 20-22.**

Agenda # 20

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF  
PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE  
LYFORD HIGH SCHOOL LAW  
PRACTICUM STUDENTS AND THE  
WILLACY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Partnership between the Lyford High School Law Practicum Students and the Willacy County District Attorney's Office. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 21

IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL  
OF TRAVEL REQUEST

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina that the following travel requests be approved:

1. Extension Office, Georgina Macias to Mercedes, Texas on March 8-19, 2023. County Agent will be needing meals and county truck.
2. Sheriff's Department, two (2) Deputies to Bridgeport, Texas on March 27-31, 2023.
3. County Judge, Aurelio Guerra, Jr. to Austin, Texas on March 8-10, 2023.
4. County Judge, Aurelio Guerra, Jr. and County Judge Pro Tem, Commissioner Precinct 1 Eliberto Guerra to Carrizo Springs, Texas retroactive February 22, 2023.

Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 22  
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL  
OF CLAIMS

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Claims, as presented. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Commissioner Eliberto Guerra returns back at 11:44 a.m.**

**Commissioner Henry De La Paz steps out at 11:44 a.m. and returns back at 11:45 a.m.**

Agenda # 23

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(A.) CONFER WITH COMMISSIONERS COURT  
LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING PENDING  
OR CONTEMPLATED LITIGATION AND/OR  
NEGOTIATIONS INVOLVING THE COUNTY,  
ITS EMPLOYEES, OR ITS INTERESTS,  
PURSUANT TO VTCA GOVERNMENT CODE,  
SECTION 551.071

Agenda # 24

ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE  
SESSION:

(A.) POSSIBLE ACTION

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner De La Paz to pass on item numbers 23 and 24. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina that Court Adjourned. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

There being no further action,

Court Adjourned.