

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 23rd day of October, A.D., 2017, 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
Olga M. Elizondo	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

ABSENT:

Hon. Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
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VISITORS: Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Juan J. Meza, Nellie R. Treviño, Daniel Arriaga, Juan H. Navarro, Roger Miller, Jose F. Mendoza, Xavier Villarreal, Devin Russel, Mariamanda G. Perez, Armando Guerra, Laura Garza, and Jaime Garcia.

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 MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN, COUNTY CLERK AND
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Com. Elizondo invited the public to the 1st Annual Fall Festival. There will be live music, cook off, and other events. On October 31 there will also be a haunted house and other events.

Chief Meza commented that there will also be a haunted house at the fire station.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices as presented by Triunfo Gonzalez.

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

ORDER APPROVING CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve checks issued as requested by Hon. Romeo Salinas, County Treasurer.

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

**ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF WATER LINE ALONG THE COUNTY
RIGHT-OF-WAY OF OLD HWY 83**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the installation of a water line along the county right-of-way of the old Hwy 83 section of Mesa Salinas Road, after review by County Attorney, as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell.

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

**ORDER APPROVING LOCATION AND ACCOMPANYING TECHNICAL SUPPORT
FOR USE BY VITA PROGRAM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the use of a county location, possibly the library, and accompanying technical support (computers, internet, and printers) for use by the Volunteer Income Tax Assistant (VITA) Program, which offers free income tax preparation as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

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 J. CRUZ & ASSOCIATES FOR
SERVICES RENDERED DURING MONTH OF SEPTEMBER FOR CAUSE 9724
ZAPATA COUNTY VS. SHADY HAVEN**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve payment of an invoice totaling \$23,999.70 to J. Cruz & Associates for services rendered during the month of September for Cause 9724 Zapata County vs. Shady Haven as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge. Zapata County won the case and got a judgement in the amount of \$46,000 which is the amount owed to the County.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO REQUIRE ORGANIZATIONS WITH ACCESS TO
OSWALDO H. AND JUANITA G. RAMIREZ EXHIBIT HALL TO CLEAN UP
FACILITY AFTER USE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve to require organizations with access to the Oswaldo H. and Juanita G. Ramirez Exhibit Hall to clean the facility after it is used as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST TO USE PAVILION AND ZAPATA COUNTY FAIR
GROUNDS FOR ZAPATA COUNTY FALL FEST**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve request to use the pavilion and Zapata County Fairgrounds (carnival area) on October 28 and 31, 2017 for the Zapata County Fall Fest as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

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

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM
COMMISSIONERS AGREED TO WORK TOGETHER**

13. To request assistance from other precinct personnel for Precinct 4 baseball field maintenance as requested by Hon. Norberto Garza, Commissioner Pct. 4.

**ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE FOREST ROBERT FRANKLIN AS A METER
READER/CLERK**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the hiring of Forest Robert Franklin as a meter reader/clerk to fill slot #5 at a starting salary of \$9.50 per hour, effective October 24, 2017, as requested by Carlos Treviño, Water Plant Manager.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO HIRE EULOGIO MARTINEZ III AT DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the hiring of Eulogio Martinez III at distribution department to fill slot #27 at a starting salary of \$9.00 per hour, effective October 24, 2017, as requested by Carlos Treviño, Water Plant Manager.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REVIEW AND INVOICES FOR ZAPATA COUNTY
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve review as presented and payment of two (2) invoices from 2015 in the amounts of \$1,295.68 and \$28,382 both payable to Ovivo USA, LLC out of line item #06-606-392 for work performed at the Zapata County Wastewater Treatment Plant 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 USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER FOR
GIRL SCOUT CEREMONY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve request to use the Zapata County Community Center for a Girl Scout Ceremony on October 29, 2017 as requested by Isela Wells, Zapata County Girl Scouts.

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

**ORDER APPROVING CREATION OF COMMUNITY GARDEN AND APPOINTING
JAIME GARCIA AS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve creation of a Zapata Community Garden and appointing Jaime Garcia as Chairman of the committee to spearhead the project, commissioners will appoint members, as requested by Jaime Garcia, Zapata County resident.

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

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF SECURITY LIGHTS AND SPEED HUMPS

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation and cost of a security light at the following locations:

- a. 204 Lopeño Second Street (Lopeño Townsite Sanchez, Block 1, Lots 6-7)
- b. 294 Lozano Street (Falcon Shores Unit 1, Block 6, Lots 19-21)

as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner Pct. 1.

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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation of a speed hump at the following location:

- a. 166 Park Drive (Lots 836 and 837 Area B Sec 3 Lago Halcon)

as requested by Hon. Paco Mendoza, Commissioner Pct. 1.

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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation of a security light as the following locations:

- a. 1204 Miraflores
- b. 1613 Kennedy
- c. 2411 Delmar
- d. 3014 N. U.S. Hwy. 83, Zapata, Tx
- e. 206 Grant Ave., San Ygnacio, Tx

as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, 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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation of a speed hump at the following address:

- a. 1802 Lincoln

as requested by Hon. Olga M. Elizondo, 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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation of a security light at the following locations:

- a. 1111 Mier
- b. 1415 Zapata
- c. 608 Diaz
- d. 1602 Guerrero
- e. 1905 Brazos Street

as requested by Hon. Norberto Garza, Commissioner Pct. 4.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF GY 2018 ZAPATA COUNTY
INDIGENT DEFENSE FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve a Resolution in support of the GY 2018 Zapata County Indigent Defense Formula Grant Program as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

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

**ORDER APPROVING LOAN RESOLUTION BETWEEN COUNTY OF ZAPATA AND
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve a loan resolution between the County of Zapata, Texas and the United States Department of Agriculture concerning a loan in the amount of \$3,928,000 for the purpose of providing a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing, enlarging, improving, or extending the county's Wastewater Treatment Plant 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.

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

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

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

19./28. To discuss personnel matters at the Zapata County Water Plant and the Zapata County Sewer Plant as requested by Nellie R. Treviño.

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

**ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY LEO CUELLAR, LAND OWNER, REGARDING
LAND ACQUISITION AND EXPANSION OF ZAPATA COUNTY CEMETERY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Leo Cuellar, Land Owner, regarding possible land acquisition and expansion of Zapata County Cemetery.

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

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney and Section 551.072, Real Property.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, 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.

JOSEPH RATHMELL, COUNTY JUDGE
OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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