

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 25th day of March, A.D., 2019, 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
Eddie Martinez	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

VISITORS: Romeo Salinas, Triunfo Gonzalez, Nellie R. Trevino, Monica Alanis, Juan J. Meza, Roger Miller, Daniel D. Arriaga, Ricardo Guevara, Joyce Currington, Letty Vallejo, Edwin Rodriguez, Berta Gonzalez, Monica Bustamante, Luis Guevara, Samantha Ramirez, Mayra Gonzalez, Leslie Vela, Ramona Martinez, Kay Monroe, Raymundo Del Bosque, David Gomez, Dr. Garcia, Lucy V. Garcia, Bersave Salazar, and Siamara Espinoza.

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

Commissioner Elizondo attended a Border Region Meeting.

Ricardo Guevara of RSL advised the Court that trash is not being bagged and garbage cans are overfilled; lids must close. He added that TDPS is not offering CDL testing locally, he asked the Court to request it.

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 Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve checks issued in the amount of \$1,204,999.06 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.

REPORT ON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF ZAPATA

Leslie Vela gave a brief report on the Boys and Girls Club of Zapata. The Boys and Girls Club hired Alex Palacios. Members of the month were Devany Herrera, Danny Martinez and Gisselle Villarreal. Employee of the month was Myrna Garcia.

**PRESENTATION TO RECORD IN COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES
THE DISTRICT'S CERTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF
TRIUNFO GONZALEZ AS COUNTY AUDITOR FOR
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS**

Presentation was made to record in the Commissioners Court Minutes the District's Certification of the Appointment of Triunfo Gonzalez, as County Auditor for Zapata County, Texas for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 84.003 (b) and 152.031 (b) as requested by Triunfo González, County Auditor.

UPDATE ON CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER SATELLITE OFFICE

Dr. Severita Sanchez, Executive Director – Children's Advocacy Center gave an update on the Children's Advocacy Center Satellite Office. Dr. Sanchez thanked and gave credit to the Boys and Girls Club of Zapata for helping to bring the Children's Advocacy Center Satellite Office to Zapata. She also praised Zapata County for assisting. They are presently serving two families in Zapata. There will be a conference on April 24.

**PRESENTATION OF PLAQUES TO LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO ASSISTED
U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT IN SAN YGNACIO, TEXAS**

There was a presentation of plaques to Samantha Garza Ramirez, Luis Garcia, and Esther Garcia, local residents, who assisted U.S. law enforcement in San Ygnacio, TX as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION TO DECLARE MONTH OF APRIL
AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve resolution to declare the month of April as Autism Awareness Month as requested by Nellie R. Trevino, Personnel Director.

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

**ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL REGARDING REQUEST TO
APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY AND BORDER REGION BEHAVIORAL CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Judge Rathmell regarding request to approve an Interlocal Agreement for Mental Health Services between Zapata County and Border Region Behavioral Center.

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

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL REGARDING REQUEST TO ALLOW ZAPATA COUNTY TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR SOUTH TEXAS CHILDREN’S FAMILY SERVICES HEAD START/HEAD START PROGRAM

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Judge Rathmell regarding request to allow Zapata County to submit an application for the South Texas Children’s Family Services Head Start/Head Start 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 AUTHORIZING ZAPATA COUNTY COURT TO PARTICIPATE IN AND JOIN WEBB COUNTY 406TH DISTRICT ADULT DRUG COURT PROGRAM SPECIFICALLY THE REGIONAL ADULT COURT PROGRAM

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize the Zapata County Court to participate in and join the Webb County 406th District Adult Drug Court Program, specifically the Regional Adult Court 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 TO TERMINATE “AGREEMENT FOR FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICE” (“AGREEMENT”) WITH ESTRADA, HINOJOSA, & COMPANY, INC., AND TO AUTHORIZE ZAPATA COUNTY JUDGE TO SEND A THIRTY (30) DAY TERMINATION NOTICE LETTER TO ESTRADA, HINOJOSA, & COMPANY, INC., EFFECTIVE THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM DATE COMMISSIONERS COURT TAKES ACTION TO TERMINATE SAID AGREEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to terminate the “Agreement for Financial Advisory Service” (“Agreement”) with Estrada, Hinojosa, & Company, Inc., and to authorize the Zapata County Judge to send, pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, a thirty (30) day termination notice letter to Estrada, Hinojosa, & Company, Inc., to be effective thirty (30) days from the date the Commissioners Court takes action to terminate said Agreement, and any matters incident thereto; 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 TO APPROVE TO ENGAGE LAWRENCE FINANCIAL CONSULTING, LLC, SOON TO BE RENAMED TIJERINA, GALVAN, LAWRENCE, LLC, AS ZAPATA COUNTY’S FINANCIAL ADVISOR AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACT ENGAGING THEIR FINANCIAL ADVISING SERVICES WITH ABILITY TO TERMINATE CONTRACT WITH OR WITHOUT CAUSE UPON THIRTY (30) DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve to engage Lawrence Financial Consulting LLC, soon to be renamed Tijerina, Galvan, Lawrence, LLC, as Zapata County’s financial advisor and approval of a contract engaging their financial advising services, with the ability to terminate the contract with or without cause upon

thirty (30) days written notice, and any matters incident thereto; 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 INSTALLATION OF HALIDE WALL PACKS ON BUILDING EXTERIOR AT ZAPATA COUNTY NUTRITION CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve the installation of halide wall packs on building exterior at the Zapata County Nutrition Center, for the price of \$3,140.70 payable to Mike Martinez Electric, 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.

ORDER APPROVING J.P. COURT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM USER SUPPORT AND MAINTENACE INVOICE FOR HILL COUNTRY SOFTWARE

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve J.P. Court Management System User Support and Maintenance invoices for Hill Country Software in the amount of \$5,700.00; monies to be paid from Technology Fund as requested by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor.

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

ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF TWO VANS FOR ZAPATA COUNTY REGIONAL/COUNTY JAIL

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the purchase of two vans for the Zapata County Regional/County Jail, for the total purchase price of \$109,639.48 for both vans, as requested by Chief Deputy Ray Del Bosque, Zapata County Sheriff's Office.

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

ORDER APPROVING SUBMISSION OF 2019-2020 TAC – PROPERTY RENEWAL QUESTIONNAIRE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the submission of the 2019-2020 TAC – Property Renewal Questionnaire as requested by Nellie R. Trevino, Personnel Director.

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

ORDER TO AUTHORIZE AND ALLOWING GUILLERMO MARTIN SAENZ OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE NUISANCE CITATIONS

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize and allow Guillermo Martin Saenz of the Environmental Department to issue nuisance citations under the Health & Safety Code Chapter 829 and to establish a fee schedule to cover fines issued, which will be approved in the future, as requested by Guillermo M. Saenz, Environmental Department.

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

**ORDER APPROVING INVOICE AND REVIEW STATUS FOR
U.S. 83 VELEÑO LIFT STATION PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoice in the amount of \$8,500.00 payable to Joe Chick for U.S. 83 Veleño Lift Station Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Invoice is for move of lift station by Best Western. Waterline has been completed, lines are above water, County will request guard rail.

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

REPORT ON SIESTA SHORES INCIDENT

Manuel Gonzalez reported that Saul Garza went to turn on pumps and was later found unresponsive. They were advised to go through the insurance to avoid future tragedies.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN BY THE COURT ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM

23. To form a committee for the U.S. Census Bureau for the 2020 Census as requested by David Gomez, Partnership Specialist.

Discussion: David Gomez approached the court regarding the U.S. Census 2020 Bureau for the 2020 Census and suggested that a committee be appointed. No action was taken at this time.

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION BY COUNTY OF ZAPATA OPPOSING
DECLARATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY ON SOUTHERN BORDER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a resolution by the County of Zapata opposing the declaration of a National Emergency on the Southern Border, including Zapata County 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 FOR ZAPATA COUNTY COURT TO PARTICIPATE AND JOIN
WEBB COUNTY 406TH DISTRICT ADULT DRUG COURT PROGRAM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, to approve resolution approving for the Zapata County Court to participate in and join the Webb County 406th District Adult Drug Court Program, specifically Regional Adult Drug Court 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.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Garza, 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.

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