

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 12th of April 2021, 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
Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Norberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Celica A. Rodriguez	Chief Deputy County Clerk

VISITORS: Roger Miller, Delia Mendoza, Bobbie Meza-Barrera, Daniel D. Arriaga, Raymundo Del Bosque, and Joseph Pena.

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

Chief Daniel D. Arriaga reported that 202 - 2nd doses of COVID-19 were administered on April 3; 250 persons got the Johnson and Johnson. About 350 doses are currently available at the Fire Department. The state is providing reimbursement for funeral expenses for Covid-19 related deaths; the number to call is 1-844-684-6333 or log into www.fema.org and look for the Covid-19 Funeral Assistance program, applications opened April 12. Covid-19 testing will be done 2 days out of the week. Evening vaccination is being planned for those who work during the day.

Commissioner Mendoza stated that our community is very lucky to have the vaccine readily available.

Judge Rathmell commented that our vaccination numbers are good, especially those over 65, approximately 70% have been vaccinated. Others are lagging, there are several outlets for vaccinations. Judge Rathmell added that our Falcon Lake levels are very low. He spoke to the water master and reminded him how critical it is for our county. Amistad is also reclosing the dam since the level there is also critical.

Sheriff Del Bosque gave the breakdown of revenue handout. The Sheriff's Department is working on a plan for vaccinating inmates.

Commissioner Elizondo commented that donated Easter baskets were passed out at the schools.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices in the amount of \$1,055,829.23 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 TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve Treasurer's Report 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 CHECKS ISSUED

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve checks issued in the amount of \$1,055,829.23 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.

TAX / ASSESSOR COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Assessor/Collector's office reported Hotel-Motel tax collections in the amount of \$46,979.61 for the month of March with a year-to-date total of \$69,302.50. Tax collections were \$269,683.16.

PRESENTATION BY CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

Dr. Severita Sanchez reported on the Children's Advocacy Center. They will be coming in June for in person consultations. Eleven children have been seen at the center; ten of them being due to sexual abuse and one domestic violence case. The service is also provided to children in San Ygnacio. They ordered equipment for forensic interviews to be done in Zapata, so children and parents don't have to travel. Ms. Vero will be doing the interviews. Mr. Padilla will do therapy like procedures to help children. Zapata numbers went up this year. Vero explained the forensic interview process, it's used to gather information. The information is recorded and it is given to the investigator who is handling the case.

ORDER APPROVING PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2021 CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT AWARENESS PREVENTION MONTH

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve a proclamation declaring the month of April 2021 Child Abuse & Neglect Awareness Prevention Month as requested by Dr. Severita Sanchez, Director-Children's Advocacy Center.

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

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF TOWER LIGHTING ON LAND ADJACENT TO ZAPATA COUNTY REGIONAL JAIL AND PAYMENT TO LUMINSERVE

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the installation of Tower Lighting on land adjacent to the Zapata County Regional Jail, and approve payment to Luminserve in the amount of \$705.00 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 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF
A 25 FT. X 50 FT. STEEL FABRICATION ADDITION TO
HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve request for proposals for construction of a 25 ft. x 50 ft. steel fabrication addition to the Helping Hands Food Pantry, including site preparation, foundation, electrical, lighting and doors 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 EXPANSION OF ZAPATA COUNTY BOAT RAMP

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve expansion of the Zapata County Boat Ramp 3,600 sq. ft. for a total of \$11,500.00. Dimensions will be 80'x45' to be paid out of Hotel Motel Fund; work will be performed by Cecilio Jasso as requested by Jose A. Solis, Commissioner Pct. 3.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO RESUME RENTALS OF SAN YGNACIO
COMMUNITY CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to resume the rentals of the San Ygnacio Community Center 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 TEMPORARY HIRE OF MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEE FOR
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT 4 OFFICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the temporary hire of a maintenance employee for Justice of the Pct. 4 office at \$9.00 per hour to clean office and park area 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 PAYMENT TO ANDERSON EQUIPMENT COMPANY
FOR REPAIRS TO DRESTA DOZER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment to Anderson Equipment Co. for repairs of Dresta dozer in the amount of \$5,064.04 as requested by Jose Mendoza, County Shop Manager.

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

ORDER APPROVING PAY INCREASE FOR ROEL IVAN GUZMAN

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve pay increase for Roel Ivan Guzman from \$9.98 per hour to \$11.00 per hour (Slot #23). Mr. Guzman has met all educational TCEQ requirements and has achieved a Class D Water Operator License. Funds to come from 80-600-22 (License Stipends) as requested by Ralph Trevino, Water Plant Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING CONVERSION OF FIELD SUPERVISOR POSITION
TO CAD TECHNICIAN**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the conversion of Field Supervisor (Slot #18) position to CAD Technician as requested by Ralph Trevino, Water Plant Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING PAY INCREASE TO MELITON VALADEZ

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve pay increase to Meliton Valadez from \$15.73 per hour to \$17.43/hour (Slot #6). Mr. Valadez has met all educational TCEQ requirements and has achieved a Class B Wastewater Treatment Operator License. Funds to come from 08-602-227(License Stipends) as requested by Ralph Trevino, Water Plant Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING JUAN SENDEJO REPLAT ON 6TH STREET

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the Juan Sendejo Re-Plat on 6th Street for each owner to have their own water and sewer services with a 30-foot drainage easement 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 INSTALLATION OF STREETLIGHTS AND
LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the installation of a streetlight at the following address:

a. 4200 S. U.S. Highway 83 (Abstract 71 Par 22 I Pina Share 9B)
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 Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the installation of a streetlight at the following address:

a. 1803 Falcon Ave.
as requested by Hon. Olga Elizondo, Commissioner Precinct 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 Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the installation of a streetlight at the following address:

a. Corner of U.S. Hwy 83 and Tepozan Rd.
Honorable Jose A. Solis, Commissioner Pct. 3

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 Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the following line-item transfer to meet departmental needs.

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Sheriff's County Jail	010-561-336	Law Enforcement Supplies	\$770.00
TO	Sheriff's Regional Jail	010-567-336	Law Enforcement Supplies	\$770.00
FROM	Sheriff's Regional Jail	010-567-406	Physicians	\$1,400.00
TO	Sheriff's County Jail	010-561-406	Physicians	\$1,400.00
FROM	Sheriff's County Jail	010-561-205	Uniforms	\$137.78
TO	Sheriff's Department	019-560-205	Uniforms	\$137.78

as requested by Joe Pena, Sheriff's Office.

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