

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 25th of June 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
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

VISITORS: Nellie R. Treviño, Roger Miller, Severity Sanchez, Veronica Valdez, Francisco Farias, Jaime E. Gonzalez, Michael G. Cano, Jorge Saldana, Raymundo Del Bosque and Delia Mendoza.

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

Judge Rathmell commented that Chief Arraiga could not join us this morning, but he shared the following: Covid-19 status: testing is being done Tuesday – Thursday at community center. Vaccinations are available at CVS and Fire Department, walk-ins are welcome. DHS is also vaccinating once a week.

COVID-19 report:

4 new cases	17,116 tested
13 probably active cases.	1,591 positives
12+ fully vaccinated 56%	15,519 negatives
65 + fully vaccinated 74%	36 deaths

We have fallen behind our surrounding counties. We need to continue being aware of the virus. The pandemic is not over.

Dr. Severita Sanchez, Executive Director for Children’s Advocacy Center, addressed the court. She needs additional office space. They purchased furniture and software to continue servicing our children, furniture will be delivered in the near future. There is a space, however, there is no restroom. Sheriff Del Bosque suggested to share office space with HIDA. The portable building is available and has a bathroom.

Judge Rathmell announced that the Commissioners and Judge will be out next week to attend a conference.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve invoices in the amount of \$748,588.83 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 Solis, to approve checks issued in the amount of \$748,588.83 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 COLLECTION REPORT FOR PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2020 – MAY 31, 2021

Jaime E. Gonzalez, Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, & Sampson delivered the Tax Collection Report for the period of October 1, 2020, through May 31, 2021. Report is attached for the record.

ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF VINYL FLOORING FOR REPLACEMENT OF ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER FLOORS

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the purchase of vinyl flooring from Dr. Ike's for 20,000 sq. ft. for the purchase price of \$11,000.00 for the replacement of the Zapata County Community Center floors, to be paid out of fund balance, 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 INSTALLATION OF VINYL FLOORING AT ZAPATA COMMUNITY CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to request proposals for the installation of vinyl flooring at the Zapata Community Center (labor only) 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 \$2,000 TO ZAPATA COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU FROM GENERAL FUND FOR 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve \$2,000 to the Zapata County Convention and Visitors Bureau from the General Fund for the 4th of July Fireworks, \$1,000 from bird sanctuary and \$1,000 from general fund, 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 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR E9-1-1 PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve an interlocal agreement for E9-1-1 Public Safety answering point services 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 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR E9-1-1 AUTOMATIC LOCATION IDENTIFICATION MAINTENANCE

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve an interlocal agreement for E9-1-1 automatic location identification maintenance services 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 ADDITIONAL \$8,000 TO SPECIAL ROAD AND BRIDGE PRECINCT 3 ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve an additional \$8,000 to the Special Road and Bridge Pct.3 Road Construction as requested by Hon. 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 ADDITIONAL \$1,000 TO PRECINCT 3 PARKS AND BUILDINGS

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve an additional \$1,000 to the Pct. 3 Parks & Building as requested by Hon. 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 PAYMENT TO REP & P FOR REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF 8 TOILETS IN SAN YGNACIO COMMUNITY CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve payment of \$8,800.00 to REP & P for removal & replacement of 8 toilets at San Ygnacio Community Center from 10-409-465 Non-Dept county property repairs 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 RESOLUTION SETTING PENALTIES IMPOSED UNDER TEXAS TAX CODE SECTION 33.11

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a resolution setting penalties imposed under Texas Tax Code Section 33.11 as requested by Jaime E. Gonzalez, Linebarger, Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP.

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

ORDER APPROVING PURCHASE OF DESKTOP COMPUTER FOR COUNTY SHOP

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve the purchase of a desktop computer for the county shop to be paid from line item 10-409-335 computer programs 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.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

To approve the following line-item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	I & A Program	37-645-330	Fuel & Lubricants	\$2,170.30
TO	Nutrition CI	38-647-336	Raw Food	\$2,170.30
FROM	I & A Program	37-645-336	Maintenance/repairs/parts	\$5,069.06
TO	Nutrition CI	38-647-336	Raw Food	\$5,069.06

as requested by Rosalinda Gonzalez, Nutrition Center.

ORDER APPROVING THE FOLLOWING LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the following line-item transfer:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	District Clerk's Office	10-450-463	iDocket Software	\$4,500.00
TO	District Clerk's Office	10-409-775	iDocket Software	\$4,500.00

as requested by Hon. Dora A. Martinez, District Clerk.

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 Solis, to approve the following line-item transfer:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Commissioner Pct. 1	10-001-392	Parks Pct. 1	\$868.89
TO	Commissioner Pct. 1	10-001-427	Travel Pct. 1	\$868.89

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 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve resolution authorizing publication of notice of intention to issue Certificates of Obligation as requested by Robert Tijerina, Financial Advisor.

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 SOLIS,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ORDER AWARDING CONTRACT FOR DELINQUENT
TAX COLLECTION SERVICES TO
LINEBARGER, GOGGAN, BLAIR, & SAMPSON, LLP**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to award contract for Delinquent Tax Collection Services to Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, & Sampson, LLP as requested by Jaime E. Gonzalez, Linebarger, Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION SETTING PENALTIES
IMPOSED UNDER TEXAS TAX CODE SECTION 33.07 AND 33.08**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve resolution setting penalties imposed under Texas Tax Code Section 33.07 and 33.08 as requested by Jaime E. Gonzalez, Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, & Sampson, LLP.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION SETTING PENALTIES
IMPOSED UNDER TEXAS TAX CODE SECTION 33.11**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve resolution setting penalties imposed under Texas Tax Code Section 33.11 as requested by Jaime E. Gonzalez, Linebarger, Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ACTION REQUIRED UNDER TEXAS GOV'T CODE 2254
FOR DISTRICT TO PROVIDE WRITTEN STATEMENT AND FINDING OF
DISTRICT'S NEED FOR SPECIALIZED CONTINGENT FEE LEGAL SERVICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve action required under Texas Govt. Code 2254, for the district to provide a written statement and finding of the district's need for specialized contingent fee legal services as requested by Jaime E. Gonzalez, Linebarger, Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP.

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

**ORDER TO DENY REQUEST BY DELIA MENDOZA TO TERMINATE
CURRENT CONTRACT TO END SEPTEMBER 2021 FOR
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTIONS WITH
LINEBARGER, GOGGAN, BLAIR, & SAMPSON**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to deny request by Hon. Delia Mendoza, Tax Assessor-Collector, to terminate the current contract to end September 2021, for Delinquent Tax Collections with Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, & Sampson.

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

ORDER TO DENY REQUEST BY HON. DELIA MENDOZA TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SOLICITING REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to deny request by Hon. Delia Mendoza, Tax Collector-Assessor, to consider approval of soliciting request for Qualifications for Delinquent Tax Collection Services for the county as requested by Hon. Delia R. Mendoza, Tax Assessor-Collector.

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

ORDER AUTHORIZING COUNTY JUDGE TO COUNTER, COUNTEROFFER TO LOS EBANOS GOLF COUNTEROFFER

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize County Judge to counter counteroffer to Los Ebanos Golf Course counteroffer, as per parameters set by Commissioners Court.

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

Closed Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5., Subchapter D., Section 551.071 (BJ {Consultation with Attorney).

ORDER APPROVING EARNEST MONEY CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF ACREAGE FOR COUNTY LANDFILL

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve earnest money contract for the purchase of acreage for the county landfill, subject to the following restrictions:

1. Closing date November 2021
 2. Satisfactory geotechnical testing on proposed acreage
- 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.

Closed/Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5., Subchapter D., Section 551.071 (BJ {Consultation with Attorney)

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

32. Private consultation and advice of counsel concerning pending, potential and/or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, and/or legal matters subject to the attorney-client privilege under the authority of the Open Meetings Act Section 551.071, Government Code as requested by Jaime E. Gonzalez, Linebarger, Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP.

[Closed/Session/Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5., Subchapter D., Section 551.071 (B) (Consultation with Attorney)

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, 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