

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 14th of February 2022, 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:

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| 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: Roger Miller, Ralph Trevino, Ruth Larios Hernandez, 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 MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN, COUNTY CLERK AND
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER, COMMISSIONERS COURT CHAPLAIN
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Judge Rathmell commented that Fire Chief is at a meeting this morning, therefore, he sent a report on vaccines. He reported that 97 Moderna vaccines were administered; 8 - 1st dose, 11-2nd dose, and 78 boosters were administered by Fire Department. Curative is testing at the community center, EZ Testing is at the Lions Club, and Innovative Laboratories is testing in San Ygnacio. CVS is testing and have the Pfizer vaccine. National Guard is at community center on Sundays only. DHS offers both Moderna and Pfizer. Daniel's Pharmacy and PPA clinic are also administering vaccines.

Covid-19 test results
121 positives
1124 probable cases
2 more deaths for a total of 49

Judge Rathmell added that early voting started today.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ruth Hernandez addressed the court and asked if they would approve to relinquish a 20 ft. easement that runs in the rear of the property located in the Falcon Shores Subdivision. Utilities run in the front of the property; sewer lines run behind the property and the easement is not being used.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve invoices in the amount of \$1,521,429.48 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 Garza, 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 \$1,521,429.48 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 \$11,844.48 for the month of January with a year-to-date total of \$51,683.7. Tax collections were \$1,245,049.27 with a rate of 74.44%.

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF PENDING INVOICE TO LUMENSERVE FOR LIGHTING OF COMMUNICATIONS TOWER

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve payment of pending invoice to LumenServe for the lighting of the communications tower in the amount of \$5,648.00 per year 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.

No action was taken in the following item.

11. to hire AARC Environmental Inc. to bring the Zapata County Waterworks into compliance with the America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY JUDGE RATHMELL TO CONSIDER AMENDING 2021-2022 BUDGET FOR COUNTY COURT STAFF AND POTENTIAL NEW GRANT FUNDED POSITIONS CONTINGENT WITH APPROVAL OF FUNDING FROM OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OPERATION LONE STARE GRANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to table request by Judge Rathmell to consider amending the 2021-2022 budget for County Court staff salaries and potential new grant funded positions, contingent on the approval of funding from the Office of the Governor Operation Lone Star Grant Number 43726011 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 ESTIMATE FOR REPAIRS OF PUBLIC RESTROOMS
AND LOW WATER CROSSING AT LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve estimate for repairs of public restrooms and the low water crossing at the Los Ebanos Golf Course, in the amount of \$13,948.60 payable to Fast Track LLC, being the lowest bidder, to be paid out of Certificate of Obligation, 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 DENY REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER GARZA
FOR INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMP**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to deny request by Commissioner Garza, to install a speed hump at 1608 Roma Avenue.

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

**ORDER APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING USE OF ZAPATA COUNTY
PAVILION AND COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ZAPATA COUNTY FAIR
QUEENS CONTEST ACTIVITIES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve and authorize the use of the Zapata County Pavilion for practice on February 15-17 and 20 and at the Zapata County Community Center on February 22 – 25 for practice and set up for the Zapata County Fair Queens Contest as requested by Dalia Garcia, ZCF Queens Contest Committee Chair.

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
WINTER TEXANS APPRECIATION DAY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the use of the Zapata Community Center for the Winter Texans Appreciation Day on February 24 at 10:00 a.m. as requested by Karran Westerman, Zapata County Newspaper.

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

**ORDER APPROVING AGREEMENTS FOR MIRAFLORES PARK AND
LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve agreements for the improvements of Miraflores Park, in the amount of \$12,000 and the Los Ebanos Golf Course, in the amount of \$40,000 as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. (Proposal attached.)

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

**ORDER APPROVING INVOICES AND STATUS REVIEW ON MIRAFLORES PARK
AND LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoice in the amount of \$4,000.00 for Miraflores Park and invoice in the amount of \$2,500.00 for the Los Ebanos Golf Course as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. (Layout attached for the record.)

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

(Mr. Gonzalez reported that survey work has been done for Miraflores Street and preliminary layout has been made for multi-use field.)

No action was taken in the following item

19. to review easement on Falcon, Ramireño, and Villa Street as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Easement was not found of record at county clerk's office. Property owners are not in agreement of drainage easement.

**ORDER APPROVING INVOICE PAYABLE TO PREMIER ENGINEERING
FOR JAIL REPAIRS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoice in the amount of \$3,780.00 payable to Premier Engineering for work on jail repairs, to come out of non-department 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.

(Repairs done at jail were previously approved by commissioners' court; they are removing and replacing rubber gaskets, repairing section of gutters, concrete work, replacement of window, and other necessary repairs. Work should be completed before end of month.)

ORDER APPROVING STREETLIGHTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve installation of the following streetlights:

a. 115 Trinity Lane
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 Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve installation of the following streetlights:

a. 1807 Alamo Street
b. 507 Mier
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.

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