

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 24th of October 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:

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 Commissioners Court

ABSENT:

Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
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VISITORS: Rocky Conrad, Janie Mendoza, Magdalena Amesquita, Joseph Pena, Frank Puente, Delia Mendoza, and Manuel Gonzalez.

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
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan, County Clerk announced that early voting started today; polling place will be open Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sunday from 12 p.m. – 5 – p.m.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices from October 7 – October 21, 2022 in the amount of \$1,136,148.49 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 October 7 – October 21, 2022 in the amount of \$1,136,148.49 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 ENGINEERING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
ZAPATA COUNTY AND C.T. BRANNON CORPORATION FOR
ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT FUEL FARM IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve an engineering agreement between Zapata County and the C.T. Brannon Corporation for the Zapata County Airport fuel farm improvements as requested by Hon. Joseph 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 TABLE REQUEST BY COUNTY JUDGE REGARDING REQUEST
TO COMPEL COUNTY TREASURER TO ISSUE PAYROLL FOR
OPERATION LONESTAR STAFF**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by County Judge regarding request to compel the County Treasurer to issue payroll for Operation Lonestar staff in all departments.

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

**ORDER AWARDING MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO GRANTWORKS INC.
FOR ONE OR MORE HAZARD MITIGATION (HMA) GRANTS FROM TEXAS
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT
BOARD AND/OR OTHER SOURCES INCLUDING HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT
PROGRAM, BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE
AND COMMUNITIES AND/OR FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to award management services to Grantworks, Inc. for one or more Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants from the Texas Division of Emergency Management Texas Water Development Board and/or other sources, including Hazard Mitigation Grant program, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities and/or Flood Mitigation Assistance as requested by Hon. Joseph Rathmell, County Judge.

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

**ORDER AWARDING ENGINEERING/ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES
FOR THE HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE (HMA) GRANTS FROM
THE TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEXAS WATER
DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND/OR OTHER SOURCES, INCLUDING
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, BUILDING RESILIENT
INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES AND/OR FLOOD MITIGATION
ASSISTANCE TO PREMIER ENGINEERING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to award engineering/architectural services for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants from the Texas Division of Emergency Management Texas Water Development Board and/or other sources, including Hazard Mitigation grant program, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, and/or Flood Mitigation Assistance to Premier Engineering as requested by Hon. Joseph 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 USE OF FUNDS FROM PRECINCT 2 AUCTION
FOR PURCHASE OF CALICHE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza to deny request by Commissioner Elizondo to use funds from Pct. 2 auction for purchase of caliche. Motion dies due to lack of a second.

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Elizondo, to approve the use of funds from the Pct. 2 auction for the purchase of caliche, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00, as requested by Hon. Olga Elizondo, Commissioner Pct. 2.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Judge Rathmell, Commissioner Elizondo and Mendoza. Commissioner Garza voted against.

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON ITEM #13 - TO DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE
ACTION ON THE PENDING REPAIRS TO THE ROAD AND BRIDGE EQUIPMENT
AS REQUESTED BY HON. NORBERTO GARZA, COMMISSIONER PCT. 4.**

**ORDER APPROVING QUOTE BY ESCAMILLA FORD FOR ENGINE
REPLACEMENT FOR ONE AMBULANCE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve quote in the amount of \$27,097.86 by Escamilla Ford for an engine replacement for one ambulance as requested by Chief Daniel Arriaga, Fire Chief.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT FOR THE CUT AND RAKING OF GRASS
ON ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT GROUNDS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Elizondo, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve payment in the amount of \$2,700.00 out of non-department, for the cut and raking of grass on the Zapata County Airport grounds as requested by Ramon Montes, Airport Manager.

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

**ORDER APPROVING BID BY TOMAS CHAPA TO PAINT T-HANGER AT
ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT FROM SUBMITTED BIDS –
AIRPORT RAMP GRANT TO COVER EXPENSES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve bid by Tomas Chapa, being the lowest bidder, with a bid of \$12,800 to paint the T-Hanger at the Zapata County Airport to be paid from Airport RAMP grant as requested by Ramon Montes, Airport Manager.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO GO OUT FOR BIDS FOR GRANT WRITING
AND MANAGEMENT FIRM FOR THE TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION (TVC)
GENERAL ASSISTANCE GRANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve to go out for bids for a grant writing and management firm for the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) General Assistance Grant as requested by Adolfo "Pope" Gonzalez Jr.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO GO OUT FOR BIDS FOR GRANT WRITING
AND MANAGEMENT FIRM FOR TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION (TVC)
HOUSING FOR TEXAS HEROES GRANT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to go out for bids for a grant writing and management firm for the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) Housing for Texas Heroes Grant as requested by Adolfo "Pope" Gonzalez Jr.

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 RAMON MONTES, AIRPORT MANAGER
ON REQUEST TO PURCHASE AIRCRAFT TUG CADDY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Ramon Montes, Airport Manager, for purchase of an Aircraft Tug Caddy from Non-Department amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF \$363,590.40 TO MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS
FROM OPERATION LONE STAR FOR PORTABLE RADIOS AND INSTALLATION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of \$363,590.40 to Motorola Solutions from Operation Lone Star for 30 portable radios, 30 mobile radios and installation as requested by Joe Peña, Sheriff's Office.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Ricardo Ramirez approached commissioners court and clarified that the deed states that the property donated to Zapata County is for airport purposes only. Making hay for profit is not part of the agreement; the mower would have to deal with previous property owners for other business.

**ORDER TO TABLE REQUEST BY ROCKY CONRAD, TEXAS OFFICE SYSTEMS
ON CONTRACT WITH TEXAS OFFICE SYSTEMS FOR COURTHOUSE WIDE
PITNEY BOWES MAILING SYSTEM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve contract with Texas Office Systems for a courthouse wide Pitney Bowes mailing system. Commissioner Mendoza rescinded the above motion.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Rocky Conard of Texas office Systems to a contract with Texas Office Systems for a courthouse wide Pitney Bowes mailing system.

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

ORDER APPROVING USE OF SOFTBALL FIELDS FOR SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the use of Pct. 1 and Pct. 4 softball fields for a softball tournament on November 5, 2022, as requested by Luis Mendoza, Zapata Resident.

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

ORDER AWARDING BID FOR FALCON MESA PAVING PROJECT TO MOUFLON OILFIELD SERVICES

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to award bid to Mouflon Oilfield Services, with a bid in the amount of \$339,013.00 for the Falcon Mesa Paving Project (Crane and Cardinal Streets) as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Difference to be paid out of fund balance.

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

ORDER TO APPROVE BID FOR TxDOT 2ND STREET PAVING PROJECT

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve bid for TxDOT 2nd St Paving Project as presented by Manuel Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez stated that no bids have been received on this project. County has done milling and prepped. Only needs prime coat and overlay.

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 OF WORK COMPLETED AT ZAPATA COUNTY JAIL

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve invoice #3 from Campos Construction in the amount of \$5,550.00 to be paid out of Non-Department for Zapata Co. Jail as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering. Mr. Gonzalez reported that some of the work completed included addition of roof ceiling cookies, metal beam was welded to other beams, installed downpours, and other work.

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

REVIEW OF EOC PRELIMINARY PLAN

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve EOC preliminary plan as presented by Manuel Gonzalez of Premier Engineering. It is a 1.3 M project; the county is responsible for \$333,000. Wall will be moved and removed as recommended. He recommended that a contractor assess the roof for possible replacement. This project is funded by a FEMA Grant.

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

**ORDER APPROVING LEASE AGREEMENT EXTENSION WITH
SPECTRUM GULF LLC FOR PROPERTY AT 406 E. FIRST STREET
ZAPATA, TEXAS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve lease agreement extension with Spectrum Gulf Coast LLC for property at 406 E. First Street, Zapata TX at a rate of \$1,300.00 per month; pending review by county attorney. Extension will be approximately 9 months as requested by Susan Kitchen, Charter Communications.

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 ZAPATA COUNTY PLAZA ON
DECEMBER 1, 2022, FOR A CHRISTMAS VENDORS MARKET**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve request to use the Zapata County Plaza on December 1, 2022 for a Christmas Vendors Market as requested by Victoria Vela-Garcia, Chamber of Commerce.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST TO CONTINUE USE OF OFFICE SPACE
AND UTILITIES TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SCAN SERVICES
TO THE COMMUNITY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve request for continued use of office space and utilities to continue to provide SCAN services to the community as requested by Maggie Amesquita, SCAN.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ADOPTION AND DESIGNATION OF ALTAMIRA SOLAR
REINVESTMENT ZONE #1 PURSUANT TO COUNTY'S GUIDELINES
AND CRITERIA UNDER PROPERTY REDEVELOPMENT AND
TAX ABATEMENT ACT, CHAPTER 312 OF TEXAS TAX CODE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve adoption and designation of the Altamira Solar Reinvestment Zone #1 pursuant to the County's guidelines and criteria under Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act, Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code as requested by Jeff Snowden, Capex Consulting.

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

ORDER APPROVING STREETLIGHTS

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

- a. 107 Miraflores Ave
- b. 201 Guerrero Ave
- c. 121 Maru Ln

as requested by Hon. Olga 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 installation of the following streetlights:

- a. 402 Kennedy Street
- b. 5326 Mission Lane
- c. 410 Monterrey Lane
- d. 108 Ballard Street
- e. 626 Seagull Street
- f. 401 Guadalupe Street
- g. 5302 Laredo Lane
- h. 5321 Victoria Lane
- i. 209 FM 3074
- j. 307 Cardinal Street

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 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY JUDGE TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF ZAPATA COUNTY ALL AGREEMENTS WITH TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW FUELING SYSTEM FOR ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT

Motion was made Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a resolution authorizing County Judge to execute on behalf of Zapata County all agreements with the Texas Department of Transportation for the implementation of a new fueling system for the Zapata County Airport as requested by Ramon Montes, Airport Manager.

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

ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS SELECTION FOR HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDED THROUGH TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (TDEM) AND/OR TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB)

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a resolution of Zapata County, Texas authorizing Professional Service Providers Selection for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program funded through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and/or Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) as requested by Hon. Joseph 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 RESOLUTION OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS SELECTION FOR PROJECT RELATED ENGINEERING/ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDED THROUGH TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY

**MANAGEMENT (TDEM) AND/OR TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(TWDB)**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a resolution of Zapata County, Texas authorizing Professional Services Providers Selection for project related engineering/architectural services for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program funded through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and/or Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) as requested by Hon. Joseph 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 Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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