

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 24th day of July 2023, 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
Pedro Morales	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Roberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	County Clerk and Ex Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court

VISITORS: Nelly Treviño, Roger Miller, Francisco Cantu, Karran Westerman, 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 COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**INVOCATION BY REV. ROGER MILLER, COMMISSIONERS COURT CHAPLAIN
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Garza stated that there was a back-to-school event. Thanked all who participated.

Judge Rathmell stated that the lake levels have been dropping, but still able to drain water. He thanked Congressman Cuellar for funding IBWC.

Karran Westerman presented the fireworks expense report.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve invoices from July 7 – July 20, 2023 in the amount of \$515,610.74 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 invoices from July 7 – July 20, 2023 in the amount of \$515,610.74 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.

PRESENTATION ON TXDOT HIGHWAY PROJECTS IN ZAPATA COUNTY

Mr. Francisco J. Cantu, PE, PMP, presented the TXDOT Highway project report for Zapata County. (Attached for the record.)

ORDER APPROVING QUOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$483.51 TO UNITED AG & TURF FOR PARTS TO REPAIR FAIRWAY CUTTING UNIT

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve quote in the amount of \$483.51 to United Ag & Turf for parts to repair fairway cutting unit 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 PAYMENT TO TEXAS BORDER COALITION FOR COUNTY MEMBERSHIP DUES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment for \$694.00 (annual fee) to the Texas Border Coalition for the county membership dues for FY 2023 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 PAYMENT OF INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,036.13 FOR AERIFICATION OF LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of an invoice in the amount of \$2,036.13 for the aerification of the Los Ebanos Golf Course 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 INVOICE FOR \$12,400.0 TO ZAPATA Q.A., INC. FOR 2-TON SYSTEM AT LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve an invoice for \$12,400.00 to Zapata Q. A. Inc. for replacing a 2-ton system at the Los Ebanos Golf Course 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 PAYMENT FOR INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,000.00 TO PREMIER ENGINEERING

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$7,000.00 to Premier Engineering for survey work & plans at the Zapata County boat ramp from line item 350-600-43140 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 QUOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,830.50 TO SUPERIOR SILICA SANDS 2ND LOAD OF USGA TOP DRESSING FOR LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve quote in the amount of \$1,830.50 to Superior Silica Sands for a 2nd load of USGA top dressing mix for the Los Ebanos Golf Course 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 PURCHASE OF JOHN DEERE 260S LOWALKING GREENS MOWER

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to approve purchase of a used John Deere 260S LoWalking Greens Mower for \$3,250.00 for Los Ebanos Golf Course 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 FIRST AMENDMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY AND SPECTRUM GULF COAST

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve first amendment to a lease agreement between Zapata County and Spectrum Gulf Coast for 406 E First Street in Zapata, TX and increase fee to \$2,000.00 for 1 year extension 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 ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS TO SOLICIT RESPONSES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FROM INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR ZAPATA COUNTY BROADBAND EXPANSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to advertise for proposals to solicit responses and other documents from Internet Service providers for Zapata County Broadband Expansion 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 PAYMENT OF \$2,100.00 TO ABELARDO MENDOZA FOR WORK DONE ON DIPPING VAT #2

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment of \$2,100.00 to Abelardo Mendoza for work done on Dipping Vat #2. as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

The above motion, being put to a vote, was approved by the affirmative vote of Commissioners Garza, Morales, and Solis, and Judge Rathmell. Commissioner Mendoza abstained. Motion carried.

**ORDER APPOINTING TRIUNFO GONZALEZ, COUNTY AUDITOR,
AS FINANCIAL OFFICER FOR ALL OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GRANTS,
EXCEPT FOR OPERATION LONE STAR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to appoint Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor, as Financial Officer for all Office of the Governor grants, except for Operation Lone Star 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 TRANSFER OF MARLOWE BIGLER FROM SHERIFF'S
DEPUTY TO ZAPATA COUNTY ATTORNEY INVESTIGATOR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the transfer of Marlowe Bigler from the Sheriff's Deputy to Zapata County Attorney Investigator. The position is to be paid at the previously budgeted OLS grant slot, along with all fringe benefits, for the Zapata County Attorney's Office. The above referenced slot is to be funded from Operation Lone Star grant as awarded as requested by Said A. Figueroa, County Attorney.

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 COMMISSIONER MENDOZA TO APPROVE
PAYMENT TO BORDER POOLS MAINTENANCE & SUPPLY FOR REPAIRS TO
THE GUADALUPE & LILIA MARTINEZ SWIMMING COMPLEX**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to table request by Commissioner Mendoza to approve payment to Border Pools Maintenance & Supply for repairs to the Guadalupe & Lilia Martinez Swimming Complex in the amount \$10,900.00.

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 INC. FOR INSTALLATION OF
COMMODE AND DOOR AT JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PCT. 1 OFFICE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment to REP & P Inc in the amount of \$1,430.00 for the installation of a commode and door at the Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1 office as requested by Judge Anna M. Guerra, Justice of the Peace Pct. 1.

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

**ORDER APPROVING RENEWAL RATES FOR AMERITAS DENTAL AND VISION
FOR FY2024**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the renewal rates for Ameritas Dental and Vision for FY 2024 as requested by Nellie Trevino, HR Director.

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

ORDER APPROVING FY2023-2024 TAC HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the FY2023-24 TAC Health Insurance renewal as presented as requested by Nellie Treviño, HR Director.

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

ORDER AWARDING TXDOT CTIF PAVING PROJECT CONTRACT TO MOUFLON OILFIELD SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to award TxDOT CTIF paving project contract to Mouflon Oilfield Services, being the lowest bidder, with a bid of \$321,179.15, 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.

REVIEW OF CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS FOR CARDINAL AND CRANE

Mr. Manuel Gonzalez of Premier Engineering reported that the construction project on Cardinal and Crane Streets is substantially complete; they do need to do the final cleanup.

ORDER APPROVING PROPOSALS FOR CISCO SMART NET TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND MALWAREBYTES ENDPOINT PROTECTION FOR ZAPATA COUNTY COURTHOUSE COMPUTER & PHONE SYSTEM

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve proposals for CISCO Smart Net technical support and Malwarebytes Endpoint Protection for the Zapata courthouse computer & phone systems for a 3-year term for the fee of \$25,109 to be paid out of computer line item as requested by Rene Garcilazo, IT 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 LUIS ORTIZ III, 911 PROGRAM SPECIALIST TO APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR E911 PUBLIC ANSWERING POINT SERVICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request to approve Interlocal Agreement for E911 Public Answering Point Services as requested by Luis Ortiz, III, 911 Program Specialist.

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

ORDER APPROVING LINE-ITEM TRANSFER

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales to approve the following line-item transfer to meet departmental needs.

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Sheriffs Regional Jail	010-567-42654	Prisoner Medical	\$7,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Department	010-560-42610	General Supplies	\$7,000.00

as requested by Sheriff Raymundo Del Bosque Jr., County Sheriff.

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

ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION LONE STAR FY2024

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve a resolution in Support of Operation Lone Star FY 2024 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 RESOLUTION APPOINTING COMMISSIONER MORALES AS LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

Motion was made by Commissioner Mendoza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve a resolution to appointing Commissioner Morales as local representative to the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority 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.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SOLIS,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MORALES,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

ORDER HIRING MIREYDA PEÑA FOR ROAD AND BRIDGE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SLOT

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Mendoza, to hire Mireyda Peña for the Road and Bridge Administrative Assistant slot, as advertised. 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 ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

30/35. To discuss property, claim and take possible action on the matter as requested by Nellie Trevino, HR Director.
Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 551, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.074(A)(B) (Personnel Matters).

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

31/36. Update on Border Wall litigation as requested by Carlos Flores, Attorney.
Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mendoza, 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