

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 11th day of March 2024, 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
Pedro M. Morales	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Jose A. Solis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Roberto Garza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
Mary Jayne Villarreal-Bonoan	Zapata County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court

ABSENT:

Paco Mendoza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
--------------	------------------------------

VISITORS: Patricia A. Gonzalez, Rebecca Y. Gutierrez, Roger Miller, Adolfo Gonzalez, Rachel Amaya, Marvin Winkler, Maria C. Winkler, Veronica Alanis, Delia Mendoza, Ralph Treviño, Ramon E. Montes, Vicki Anderson, Joseph Peña, Armando Guerra, and Olga Bruni.

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 HON. 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 Solis stated that they are backed on work at Pct. 3 due to last week's short work week.

Commissioner Morales thanked all for participating at the fair and thanked the Commissioners for helping set up for county fair.

He also asked for prayers for the Martinez-Medina family who suffered a fire at their residence.

Judge Rathmell congratulated and thanked parents and volunteers for their participation in the fair. It was a great event with great weather and the auction went very well.

Patricia Gonzalez, Indigent Program Director, reported that 137 people were serviced, 37 were assisted with utilities, and 14 were assisted with funeral expenses. She also commented that they are organizing a coalition with the library called Zapata Fuerte.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Joe Peña addressed the court regarding item #27.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices from February 23 - February 29, 2024, in the amount of \$308,035.96 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 Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, 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 Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve checks issued from February 23 - February 29, 2024, in the amount of \$308,035.98 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 \$11,612.65 for the month of January with a year-to-date total of \$55,324.34. Net collections were \$766,628,.42 with tax collections at a rate of 81.67%.

ORDER APPROVING LEASE AGREEMENT EXTENSION BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY AND MERIT ENERGY

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a lease agreement extension between Zapata County and Merit Energy for use of county property on Oak Street 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 AFFIRMING REQUIREMENTS OF
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING
FOUR SEASONS PARK**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Resolution affirming the requirements of the property owner's association representing Four Seasons Park 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 INVOICES TO
SHI GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of invoices to SHI Government Solutions in the amount of \$115,662.00 for 50% of labor for original scope of work and all post sale modification, to be paid out of Capital Outlay 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 ELECTRICAL SERVICES
AT SHOW BARN AND OPEN PAVILION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve estimate from Martinez Electrical Service for \$4,697.70 for electrical services at the show barn and the open pavilion as requested by Hon. Pedro Morales, 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 HIRING OF A LABOR/MAINTENANCE
IN 15-422 SLOT #3**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the hiring of a Labor / Maintenance in 15-422-slot #3 at \$10.96 per hour, effective 3/12/2024 as requested by Hon. Pedro Morales, 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 PERSONNEL CHANGES AT
JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following personnel changes at the Juvenile Probation Department. Gabriela Navarro has been promoted to Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, she will transfer from 10- 570-slot #8 to slot #6 at \$5,615/yr. and TJJD Grant Fund from 200-580-slot #6 to slot #4 at \$45,425/yr. To increase in 10-570-slot 117 in the amount of \$2,000 for Monica C. Martinez, with no increase to budget 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 CHANGE ORDER AGREEMENT FOR
REMOBILIZATION OF CREW FOR FUEL DELIVERY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a change order agreement in the amount of \$2,922.75 for the remobilization of a crew for fuel delivery 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 TO TABLE REQUESTS BY RAMON MONTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to table request by Ramon Montes on aviation fuels contract between the Zapata County Airport and Titan Aviation Fuels, Inc.

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to table request by Ramon Montes on approval of a proposal from Avfuel Corporation for the Zapata County Airport.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT REQUEST #3 TO
D & H UNITED FUELING SOLUTIONS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment request #3 in the amount of \$692,399.92 to D & H United Fueling Solutions for the fuel tanks at 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 PAYMENT OF INVOICES AND
UPDATE OF TXDOT PROJECTS
MIRAFLORES, PELICAN AND
RAMIREZ STREETS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve total payment in the amount of \$134,256.79 to Mouflon Oilfield Services for work on TxDot projects Miraflores, Pelican, Ramirez streets as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Mr. Gonzalez reported that Pelican Street and Miraflores Street are 100% complete and Ramirez Street is 50% complete.

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 MANUEL GONZALEZ OF
PREMIER ENGINEERING ON HIRING O'CONNOR ENGINEERING**

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to table request by Manuel Gonzalez of Premier Engineering on request to hire O'Connor Engineering to perform materials testing on EOC, sheriff's office, and fire station projects.

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

REVIEW ON SAN YGNACIO WATER PLANT PROJECT

Manuel Gonzalez of Premier Engineering reported that survey is complete and are planning on going out for bids on San Ygnacio water plant project.

ORDER APPROVING LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

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

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Commissioner Pct. 4	015-424-42610	General Supplies	\$4,000.00
TO	Commissioner Pct. 4	015-424-43430	Repairs	\$4,000.00

as requested by Roberto Garza, Commissioner Pct. 4.

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

Motion was made by the Commission Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the following line-item transfers:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension	010-665-4261	Communication & Programs	\$1,500.00
TO	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension	010-665-4358	Travel & Training	\$1,500.00
FROM	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension	010-665-4261	Membership	\$40.00
TO	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension	010-665-4358	Travel & Training	\$40.00

as requested by Jesse Rodriguez, AgriLife Extension Agent.

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
ZAPATA COUNTY'S APPLICATION FOR FY2025 OPERATION LONE STAR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a Resolution in support of Zapata County's application for FY 2025 Operation Lone Star from the Office of the Governor, application amount is \$3,405,868.43, 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 GARZA,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ORDER AFFIRMING DECISION BY DEPARTMENT HEAD
AT ZAPATA COUNTY LIBRARY AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to affirm decision made by department head regarding personnel matters at the Zapata County Public Library, as discussed in Executive Session, 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.

Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney.

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

24/29. Consultation with Attorney on pending litigation against Zapata County, Consultation with Attorney, as requested by Nellie Trevino, HR Director.

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 Solis, 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