

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 8th day of July 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	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of Commissioners Court

ABSENT:

Paco Mendoza	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
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VISITORS: Roger Miller, Christopher Dávila, Ana Hernández, Ernesto Galindo, Carmen Napp, Nereida Garza, Nellie R. Treviño, Adolfo González, Mary Briseño, Andrea Beard, Robert Drinkard, Delia Mendoza, and Daniel Arriaga.

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 Solis stated that there was a scheduled sand distribution; however, it was cancelled because hurricane Beryl went around us. He added that the pony league team traveled to Laredo to compete.

Judge Rathmell thanked Chris Mesa for sand loads. Shelters were ready for evacuees. He added that there was confusion on 4th of July display location. It was relocated to the boat ramp which is a more appropriate location; the Veleño location was inaccessible due to overgrowth.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Anna Hernandez of Materiales Peña, addressed the court and stated that there was a pending invoice due to Materiales Peña. She was advised by Triunfo Gonzalez that said invoice would be paid at the end of July.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices from June 21 – July 2, 2024, in the total amount of \$299,141.48, which includes an additional invoice in the amount of \$6,000.00 payable to Quick Air, 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 Mendoza, to approve checks issued from June 21 – July 2, 2024, in the total amount of \$299,141.48, which includes an additional invoice in the amount of \$6,000.00 payable to Quick Air 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 \$6,634.18 for the month of June with a year-to-date total of \$93,428.17. Net collections were \$279,076.62. Tax collections are at a rate of 86.92%.

PRESENTATION ON RAINWATER RECYCLING /HARVESTING

Christopher Davila, Consultant, made a presentation on Rainwater Recycling/Harvesting. Non-Potable water can be used for landscape irrigation, fire protection, wildlife, and livestock watering. A disadvantage of rainwater harvesting is that the individual is responsible for maintaining of their own system and storage. Presentation attached for the record.

ORDER APPROVING TO GO OUT FOR QUOTES /ESTIMATES TO FILL IN BREAKAGE OF EXISTING BOAT RAMP CONCRETE SLAB

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve to go out for three quotes/estimates to fill in the breakage of the existing boat ramp concrete slab 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 AMENDED JURY FEE AS PER
GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 61.001(A) AND 61.0015(A)**

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the amended jury fee as per Government Code, Section 61.001(a) and 61.0015(a). Jury fee is to be increased from \$6.00 to \$20.00 on the initial day of summons and from \$40.00 to \$58.00 after the initial summons, if chosen to serve as a juror as requested by Dora Martinez, District Clerk.

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

**ORDER APPROVING QUOTE FOR PURCHASE OF
LIFEPAK EKG DEVICES THROUGH OPERATION LONE STAR FROM
COAST BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve quote for \$90,909.15 for the purchase of five LifePak EKG devices from Coast Biomedical Equipment through Operation Lone Star previously approved February 12, 2024, as requested by Fire Chief Daniel Arriaga, Fire Department.

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

**ORDER APPROVING HIRING OF MARIA GUZMAN AS
PART-TIME ASSISTANT COOK**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve hiring of Maria Guzman as part-time (60 hours) Assistant Cook at \$10.48 per hour, as of June 24, 2024, as requested by Bertha Lopez, Nutrition Center Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING TO CONSIDER BIDS FOR
JAIL REPAIRS ON SEVEN ADDITIONAL CELLS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to consider bids for jail repairs on seven additional cells 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.

**ORDER APPROVING 2025 TCDRS PLAN ASSESSMENT
FOR ZAPATA COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the 2025 TCDRS Plan Assessment for Zapata County as presented, with a contribution rate of 11.56% 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 LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve line-item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Auditor's Office	010-495-42610	Supplies	\$1,000.00
TO	Auditor's Office	010-495-43580	Travel	\$1,000.00
FROM	Auditor's Office	010-495-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$217.55
TO	Auditor's Office	010-495-43580	Travel	\$217.55

as requested by Triunfo Gonzalez, Jr., County Auditor.

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 approve line-item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Sheriff's Office	010-567-42654	Prisoner Medical	\$6,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Office	010-560-43431	Equipment Maintenance	\$6,000.00
FROM	Sheriff's Office	010-567-42654	Prisoner Medical	\$4,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Office	010-560-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$4,000.00
FROM	Sheriff's Regional	010-560-42660	Prisoner Transportation	\$1,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Office	010-560-42610	General Supplies	\$1,000.00
FROM	Sheriff's Office	010-560-42660	Prisoner Transportation	\$2,500.00
TO	Sheriff's Office	010-560-42610	General Supplies	\$2,500.00
FROM	Sheriff's Regional	010-560-42660	Prisoner Transportation	\$4,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Office	010-567-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$4,000.00
FROM	Sheriff's Regional	010-560-41270	Clothing Allowance	\$5,000.00
TO	Sheriff's Office	010-560-43580	Travel & Training	\$5,000.00

as requested by Joseph Peña, Sheriff's Office.

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 approve line-item transfers to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE-ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Olga V. Figueroa Zapata County Public Library	010-650-43580	Travel & Training	\$1,000.00
TO	Olga V. Figueroa Zapata County Public Library	010-650-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$1,000.00
FROM	Olga V. Figueroa Zapata County Public Library	010-650-43580	Travel & Training	\$500.00
TO	Olga V. Figueroa Zapata County Public Library	010-650-43610	Books & Periodicals	\$500.00

as requested by Rebecca Gutierrez, Zapata County Library.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PROCLAMATION FOR PROBATION,
PAROLE & COMMUNITY SUPERVISION WEEK JULY 15-19, 2024**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve Proclamation for Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Week July 15-19, 2024, as requested by Chief Fernando Rodriguez, Juvenile Probation.

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**

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

17./22. Update from TAC and legal counsel on the pending litigation against Zapata County 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