

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 9th day of December 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
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VISITORS: Roger Miller and Rene Piña.

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 reported that the youth baseball tournament has been a great success, bringing together teams from Laredo, Rio Grande, Roma, and Zapata. Organized by Lauro Guerra, the event was held to support children in need.

Commissioner Morales shared that the lighting of San Ygnacio Plaza was successfully completed. He expressed his gratitude to everyone who contributed and participated in the event. The celebration featured mariachi performances and guided house tours.

Commissioner Garza reported that the Quinceañera Ball was a success, extending special thanks to Roxana Garcia for serving as the madrina.

Judge Rathmell highlighted the recent Christmas parade and plaza lighting, noting that while the event was a success, additional lighting is needed. Commissioners plan to pitch in to improve lighting in the plaza.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices from November 22 – December 5, 2024, for \$757,806.74, 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 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 November 22 – December 5, 2024, for \$757,806.74, 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.

TAX / ASSESSOR COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Assessor/Collector's office reported Hotel-Motel tax collections for \$12,358.95 for November with a year-to-date total of \$18,433.04. Net collections were \$3,441,230.88 with tax collections at a rate of 53.08% for 2024.

PRESENTATION OF DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION REPORT

Jaime E. Gonzalez, representing Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP, presented the Delinquent Tax Collection Report covering the period from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The report has been officially attached for the record.

ORDER APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT EXTENSION WITH MERIT ENERGY

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve a lease agreement extension with Merit Energy, at a monthly rate of \$2,500.00, pending review by Mr. Figueroa 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 FOR REPAIR OF LANDFILL DOZER

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment of invoice for \$20,212.18 for the repair of the landfill dozer from non-department 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 CHANGE REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 23, 2024 TO DECEMBER 20, 2024

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve to change the regular commissioners court meeting scheduled for December 23, 2024 to December 20, 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 PURCHASE OF A FORCED AIR BOTTLE COOLER
FOR LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the purchase of a forced air bottle cooler for the Los Ebanos Golf Course at a cost of \$3,863.63 from RDO Equipment. The expense will be covered through the golf course capital outlay fund, 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 REIMBURSEMENT TO STX GOLF MANAGEMENT
FOR EXPENSES INCURRED AT THE LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve reimbursement of \$1,206.31 to STX Golf Management for expenses incurred at 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 CLOSURE OF STREETS FOR
ZAPATA NORTH ELEMENTARY PTO**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the closure of 23rd Ave. & Glenn and 23rd and Fresno around the pavilion on December 19th for an event hosted by the Zapata North Elementary PTO 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 TO ADVERTISE FOR POSITION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND AIRPORT MANAGER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve to advertise for the following positions:

- Administrative Assistant-HR Department
- Airport Manager-Zapata County Airport

as requested by Nelly Treviño, HR Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ANNUAL INVENTORY REPORT FOR
ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS CRP CB AMBULANCE CONTRACT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve Annual Inventory Report for the Zapata County, Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs CRP CV Ambulance Contract Number 70800001015. The annual inventory report is due December 31, 2024 and each year thereafter, till 2029 as requested by Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting LLC.

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

**ORDER ACCEPTING TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION CLEARANCE
FOR THE ZAPATA COUNTY USDA RD SHERIFF'S OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioners Morales, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to accept Texas Historical Commission Clearance for the Zapata County USDA RD Sheriff's Office Improvements as requested by Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting LLC.

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

**ORDER ACCEPTING TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION CLEARANCE
FOR ZAPATA COUNTY USDA RD FIRE STATION IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to accept Texas Historical Commission Clearance for the Zapata County USDA RD Fire Station Improvements as requested by Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting LLC.

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

**ORDER ACCEPTING TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION CLEARANCE
FOR ZAPATA 4-H ARENA IMPROVEMENTS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to accept Texas Historical Commission Clearance for the Zapata 4-H Arena Improvements as requested by Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting LLC.

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 #2 FOR \$7,500.00
TO CARLOS COLINA VARGAS ASSOCIATES
FOR WORK DONE ON THE MIRAFLORES PARK PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment of invoice #2 in the amount of \$7,500.00 to Carlos Colina Vargas Associates for work done on the Miraflores Park Project. Overall project is at 50% completion as requested by Carlos Colina Vargas, Consultant. A stop payment will be placed on 1st payment of \$3,750.00 which are included in this payment.

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 Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, 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