

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on the 20th 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: Patricia A. González, Ramon E. Montes, Armando Guerra, and Delia Mendoza.

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
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Garza announced the annual Toy Drive will be held at the Z-Town Baseball Academy, hosted by facility owner Lauro Guerra.

Judge Rathmell shared that Manuel Martinez, courthouse maintenance employee, is experiencing a medical issue. The judge also noted the courthouse will close for a half day on Monday in observance of the holidays.

Commissioner Solis extended holiday wishes to all in attendance.

Patricia A. Gonzalez, Indigent Program Director, presented the court with a financial report, which has been attached for the record.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices from December 6 - December 19, 2024, for \$496,816.48 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 Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve checks issued from December 6 - December 19, 2024, for \$496,816.48 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 TO RECORD IN COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES
THE DISTRICT CLERK'S CERTIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF TRIUNFO
GONZALEZ, JR., AS COUNTY AUDITOR FOR ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS**

Presentation to record in the Commissioners Court Minutes the District Clerk's certification of the appointment of Triunfo Gonzalez, Jr., as County Auditor for Zapata County, Texas pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 84.003(b) and 152.031(b) as requested by Triunfo Gonzalez, Jr., County Auditor.

**REVIEW OF PROCEDURES IN PLACE FOR RECONCILIATION OF ZAPATA
COUNTY CHECKING ACCOUNTS AT ZAPATA COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE
AND COUNTY AUDITORS OFFICE DUE TO DISCOVERY OF FRAUDULENT
CHECKS RESULTING IN POSSIBLE LOSSES TO TAXPAYER FUNDS**

Review procedures in place for the reconciliation of Zapata County Checking Accounts at the Zapata County Treasurer's Office and the County Auditor's Office due to the discovery of fraudulent checks and the resulting in possible losses to taxpayer funds as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

Account in question was closed and reopened. Positive Pay software was not used. A claim was filed with insurance company.

**ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF SLOT #5 DEPARTMENT 500 TO EPARTMENT
560 AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025**

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to transfer slot #5 department 400 to department 560 as a telecommunications operator effective January 1, 2025, with salary set at \$28,340.00.00. Remaining funds of slot #5 department 400 to be distributed evenly to existing telecommunications operators 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 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS OF SOUTH TEXAS (WSST)
AND ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER FOR PLACEMENT OF
WORKSTATION AT ZAPATA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Workforce Solutions for South Texas (WSST) and Zapata County Community Center for the placement of workstation at the Zapata County Community Center 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 FROM JOHNSON CONTROLS TO REPAIR FIRE
PUMP DEFICIENCIES AT ZAPATA COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve quote from Johnson Controls for \$8,278.19 to repair fire pump deficiencies at the Zapata County Courthouse to be paid out of 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 QUOTE FROM CARRIER TO REPAIR
MOUNTERS FOR HVAC OF ZAPATA COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve quote from Carrier for \$8,617.37 to repair the mounters for the HVAC of the Zapata County Courthouse, out of 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 FACILITY LEASE AGREEMENT
FOR SAN YGNACIO CIVIC CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve facility lease agreement for the San Ygnacio Civic Center, pending review by Mr. Figueroa, 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 ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT
COURTESY CAR USE AGREEMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the Zapata County Airport Courtesy Car Use agreement as requested by Ramon Mones, Airport Director.

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 AND CHANGE ORDER
FOR BOOSTER STATION PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of invoice for \$26,030.00, being payment #7 payable to Acstar (Frank's Construction) and a change order requesting a 90-day extension to March 25, 2025, for Booster Station project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Premier Engineering.

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 WORK PERFORMED AT SAN YGNACIO WATER PLANT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment of invoice for \$97,707.50, being payment #8 to Acstar (Mouflon Oilfield Services) for work performed at the San Ygnacio Water Plant project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Premier Engineering.

Mr. Armando Guerra reported that the project is 53% complete and should be done by January 2025.

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

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT TOJ ZAPATA Q.A., INC.,
FOR WORK PERFORMED AT ZAPATA MEDICAL CENTER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment of \$2,500.00 to Zapata Q.A., Inc., for work done at the Zapata Medical Center as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Primer Engineering.

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 ITEMS
(REPEATED, POSTED BY MISTAKE)**

19. to review status and take any action on the San Ygnacio Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Premier Engineering.

21. to review stats and take any action necessary on the CFC21-0191 Booster Station as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Premier Engineering.

**ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE AND
STATUS REVIEW ON CFC21-0191 DRAINAGE PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment of \$14,875.00 to Premier Engineering for work performed on CFC21-0191 Drainage Project as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Premier Engineering.

Mr. Armando Guerra reported that project is 100% complete; bond documents for Mouflon Oilfield Services are pending.

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 REGARDING
AWARD OF BID FOR USDA RAW WATER TRACTOR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to table request by Manuel Gonzalez, of Premier Engineering, regarding award of bid for USDA raw water tractor as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., Premier Engineering.

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

ORDER APPROVING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHT

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve the following streetlight:

a. 4125 Canteras Lane San Ygnacio, Texas 78067
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.

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