

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

Be it remembered, that on this the 10th day of February 2025, 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
David Moya	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
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

VISITORS: Patricia A. González, Adolfo González, Daniel D. Arriaga, Adolfo González, Jr., Delia Mendoza, Dora A. Martínez, Ralph Treviño, and Manuel González, Jr.

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 Morales expressed appreciation to Raul Villarreal for his work on the Zapata sign and acknowledged the successful installation of a canopy over the show barn, extending thanks to everyone involved in the effort.

Commissioner Solis shared the exciting news of a new fitness center now open at Monterrey Lane and Highway 83.

Judge Rathmell announced an upcoming bull riding event scheduled for February 28, 2025.

Commissioner Moya highlighted recent improvements to Romeo Flores Park and informed the community of a car show set to take place there on March 4, 2025.

ORDER APPROVING INVOICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to approve invoices from January 24 – February 6, 2025, for \$622,172.17, 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 January 24 – February 6, 2025, for \$622,172.17, 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 \$5,499.75 for December with a year-to-date total of \$28,883.17. Net collections were \$1,671,744.30 with tax collections at a rate of 76.53% for 2024. Mrs. Mendoza reported that a tax sale was held and over \$200,000.00 were collected.

TEXAS ESGR AREA 13 RECOGNIZED THE ZAPATA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT FOR ITS CONTINUOUS SUPPORT OF OUR VETERANS IN ZAPATA COUNTY

Adolfo Gonzalez, with Texas ESGR Area 13 recognized the Zapata County Commissioners Court for its continuous support of our Veterans in Zapata County and presented that court with an award.

ORDER APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH BENCH CRAFT COMPANY TO FURNISH CUSTOM DESIGNED PRODUCTS TO LOS EBANOS GOLF COURSE

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve an agreement with Bench Craft Company to furnish custom-designed products to the Los Ebanos Golf Course at no cost to the county, pending approval by County Attorney, 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 CHANGE OF TITLE OF SLOT #1 MIREYDA PEÑA, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO ZAPATA COUNTY SHOP ADMINISTRATOR

Motion was made by Commissioner Moya, to discuss item in Executive Session.
Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion was made by Judge Rathmell, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve to change title of slot #1 Mireyda Peña, Administrative Assistant, to Zapata County Shop Administrator as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

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

ORDER TO TABLE REQUESTS BY COMMISSIONER MOYA REGARDING PURCHASE OF 2025 FORD F150 AND PURCHASE OF SKID STEER OUT OF CERTIFICATE OF OBLIGATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to table requests by Commissioner Moya, as follows:

- a) To approve the purchase of a 2025 Ford F150 for \$39,900 from Certificate of Obligation.
- b) To discuss the purchase of Skid Steer with 2 attachments for \$49,000 from the Certificate of Obligation.

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

ORDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF VALID INVOICES LEFT FROM PREVIOUS SHERIFF'S OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve payment of valid invoices left from the previous Sheriff's Office administration as requested by Sheriff Ramon Montes, Sheriff's Office.

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 (MOU) BETWEEN ZAPATA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND ZAPATA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR USE OF SHERIFF'S OFFICE RADIO CHANNELS

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Zapata County Sheriff's Office and Zapata County Fire Department for the use of Sheriff's Office radio channels as requested by Sheriff Ramon Montes, County Sheriff.

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

ORDER APPROVING PROPOSAL FOR JUSTICE SOLUTIONS TO HOST CLOUD IMAGING FOR ZAPATA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the proposal from Justice Solutions to host cloud imaging for the Zapata County Sheriff's Office at the rate of \$150.00 per month, service will be free until October, as requested by Sheriff Ramon Montes, County Sheriff.

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

ORDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR DONATION FROM ZAPATA COUNTY JUDGE AND COMMISSIONERS FOR UPCOMING REGION 8 COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK'S SPRING CONFERENCE

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to approve request for a donation from the Zapata County Judge and Commissioners Court for the upcoming Region 8 County & District Clerk's Spring Conference in Eagle Pass, Texas. Conference will be held on April 9 – 11, 2025. This donation will be used to sponsor one (1) of our three (3) breaks during the conference as requested by Dora A. 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 USE OF RAMIREZ EXHIBIT HALL FOR INTOCABLE
PEEWEE GOAT SHOW 2025**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to approve the use of the Ramirez Exhibit Hall on Saturday, March 2, 2025, for the Intocable PeeWee Goat Show 2025. Permission has been acquired from Zapata County Fair Association as requested by Dora A. Martinez, Intocable PeeWee Goat Show Committee.

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

**ORDER APPROVING HIRING OF ERIKA SANTOS FOR PERSONNEL
DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Moya, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve hiring of Erika Santos for the Personnel Department Administrative Assistant position, effective February 10, 2025, 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 TO TABLE REQUEST BY TRIUNFO GONZALEZ, COUNTY AUDITOR
REGARDING PROVISION OF \$400,000.00 IN IGT FOR
LAREDO MEDICAL CENTER FOR DY14 UC ADVANCE IGT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to table request by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor, regarding provision of \$400,000 in IGT for Laredo Medical Center for the DY14 UC Advance IGT due on February 3rd, 2025, as requested by Triunfo Gonzalez, County Auditor.

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 REVIEW STATUS ON SAN
YGNACIO WATER PLANT PROJECT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment of Inv. # 5 for \$176,837.75, payable to Acstar; Inv. #12 for \$49,910.00, payable to Acstar and Inv. #27624 for \$22,500.00, payable to Premier Engineering for work performed on San Ygnacio Water Plant project. Checks will be held until punch list is completed, as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Status review on San Ygnacio Water Plant project. Project is substantially complete. No report was submitted for the record.

STATUS REVIEW ON ZAPATA BOOSTER STATION

Review status on the Zapata Booster Station, reached out to tank manufacturer and it will be delivered by the end of February. Waiting on generators and channel feed system. Should be able to meet extension date. No report was submitted for the record.

STATUS REVIEW ON ZAPATA MEDINA DRAINAGE PROJECT

Status review on Zapata Medina Drainage Project, bonding was received, and contract was sent to administrator. No report was submitted for the record.

ORDER AUTHORIZING PREMIER ENGINEERING TO SEEK FUNDING FOR WILDFIRE GRANTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to authorize Premier Engineering to seek funding for wildfire grants 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 LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

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	Texas A&M AgriLife	010-665-42610	Communications & Programs	\$1,500.00
TO	Texas A&M AgriLife	010-665-43580	Travel & Training	\$1,500.00

as requested by Jesse Rodriguez, AgriLife.

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 approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Zapata Co. Water Plant	080-600-43440	Rentals	\$10,000.00
TO	Zapata Co. Water Plant	080-600-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$10,000.00
FROM	Zapata Co. Water Plant	080-600-43617	Chlorine & Chemicals	\$35,000.00
TO	Zapata Co. Water Plant	080-600-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$35,000.00

as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Director.

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 approve the following line item transfer to meet departmental needs:

	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FUND	AMOUNT
FROM	Sewer Plant	008-602-43617	Chlorine & Chemicals	\$12,000.00
TO	Sewer Plant	008-602-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$12,000.00
FROM	Sewer Plant	008-602-45510	State Fees	\$12,000.00
TO	Sewer Plant	008-602-43430	Repairs & Maintenance	\$12,000.00
	Sewer Plant	008-602-43440	Rentals	\$3,000.00
	Sewer Plant	008-602-43580	Travel & Training	\$3,000.00

as requested by Ralph Treviño, Water Plant Director.

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

**ORDER APPROVING UPDATED RESOLUTION FOR
OPERATION BODY CAMERAS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve an updated Resolution for Operation Body Cameras as requested by Triunfo Gonzalez, 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 MOYA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SOLIS,
TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

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

26. To review salary of the Electronic Data Processing Department Slot #1 as requested by Hon. Joe Rathmell, County Judge.

**ORDER APPROVING HIRING OF DOMINGO CASTAÑEDA FOR POSITION OF
ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT MANAGER**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to approve hiring of Domingo Castañeda for the position of Zapata County Airport Manager, with a salary of \$36,000.00 effective February 10, 2025, 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.

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