

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ZAPATA**

**IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS**

Be it remembered, that on the 24<sup>th</sup> 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:** Roger Miller, Ramon E. Montes, Mario H. Garcia, Jr., Juan R. Molina, Jr., Christopher Williams, Delia Mendoza, Ramiro Garcia, Jr., 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 HON. MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN, COUNTY CLERK  
AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION BY DR. ROGER MILLER, COMMISSIONERS COURT CHAPLAIN**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Solis reported ongoing collaboration with Martin Saenz from the Environmental Department and the Sheriff's Office to address issues involving abandoned properties, junk accumulation, and brush clearing.

Commissioner Garza expressed heartfelt condolences to the family of Monica Alanis following the passing of her mother.

Commissioner Morales shared excitement about next week's County Fair and thanked everyone who helps support local youth.

Sheriff Montes thanked Commissioner Solis' crew for their assistance in assembling new furniture.

Commissioner Moya congratulated Cristaly Leal on her recent victory in a mariachi contest.

Judge Rathmell reminded all departments that the inventory will take place on March 10, 2025. There are well over 500 electronic entries to be accounted for.

**ORDER APPROVING INVOICES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve invoices from February 7 – February 20, 2025, for \$3,194,454.53 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 February 7 – February 20, 2025, for \$3,194,454.53 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.

#### **THE COURT RECOGNIZED STUDENTS FROM ZAPATA HIGH SCHOOL BAND WHO PARTICIPATED AND PLACED AT ALL-STATE CONCERT CLINIC IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

The Court recognized students from the Zapata High School Band who participated and placed at the All-State Concert clinic in San Antonio, Texas, as requested by Hon. Jose A. Solis, Commissioner Pct. 3., as follows:

- Delayla Martinez – 14<sup>th</sup> Chair Flute
- Daniel Weaver – 5<sup>th</sup> Chair Baritone
- Samuel Resendiz – 1<sup>st</sup> Chair Tuba

#### **ORDER APPROVING BONDS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR TERMS STARTING JANUARY 1, 2025**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to approve bonds for elected officials for terms starting January 1, 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.

#### **ORDER AWARDING GRANT WRITING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR FY2026 OPERATION LONE STAR**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to award grant writing and administrative services for FY2026 Operation Lone Star to Esser & Company Consulting, LLC, for \$50,000.00, 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 FROM CERVANTES TRUCK CENTER, INC. FOR REPAIRS TO 2009 INTERNATIONAL 4300 DUMP TRUCK FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve an estimate from Cervantes Truck Center, Inc., in the amount of \$40,265.17, for the repairs to a 2009 International 4300 Dump Truck for the Environmental 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 CHANGE IN PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
AND GRANT WRITER FOR OPERATION LONE STAR GRANT #4372601**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to approve the change in Program Director to Roxana Elizondo and Grant Writer to Dr. Rodney Rodriguez for Operation Lone Star grant #4372601, as per the Office of the Governor request, 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 INSTALLATION OF TWO ADDITIONAL STOP SIGNS  
AT INTERSECTION OF 5<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE AND ELM STREET,  
TO BE CONVERTED INTO FOUR WAY STOP**

Motion was made by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the installation of two additional stop signs at the intersection of 5th Avenue and Elm Street, to be converted into a four-way stop, as requested by Hon. David Moya, Commissioner Pct. 1.

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

**ORDER APPROVING REMOVAL AND/OR RELOCATION OF  
HISTORICAL BRIDGE IN FALCON, TEXAS  
DUE TO ONGOING SAFETY CONCERNS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Solis, to approve the removal and/or relocation of a historical bridge in Falcon, Texas, due to ongoing safety concerns, pending clearance by the Historical Commission, as requested by Hon. David Moya, Commissioner Pct. 1.

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 TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC SAFETY FOR USE OF SHERIFF'S OFFICE RADIO CHANNELS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Zapata County Sheriff's Office and the Texas Department of Public Safety for the use of Sheriff's Office radio channels by Texas DPS, 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 CASH MATCH FOR VICTIMS OF  
CRIME PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION #4975901**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve the cash match for the Victims of Crime Program grant application #4975901, in the amount of \$34,821.24, 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 PAYMENT FOR REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED WATCH  
AND SUBMISSION AS INSURANCE CLAIM**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve payment of \$1,077.09 for the replacement of a damaged watch and its submission as an insurance claim for the county 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 CONCRETE SLAB AT ZAPATA COUNTY AIRPORT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve a concrete slab at the Zapata County Airport in the amount of \$10,800.00. Down payment of \$5,400.00 for material and upon completion, the remaining \$5,400.00, to be paid out of matching grant line item 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 EDUCATION HOURS FOR TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR  
DELIA MENDOZA**

Motion was made by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve education hours for the Tax Assessor-Collector Delia Mendoza from January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024, as requested by Hon. Delia Mendoza, Tax Assessor-Collector.

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

**ORDER APPROVING ESSER & COMPANY CONSULTING, LLC  
INVOICES TOTALING \$40,000.00**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve Esser & Company Consulting, LLC invoices 2439 & 2440, for a total of \$40,000.00, Contract CDBG CFC 22-0086, San Ygnacio Water Plant Improvement Project, as requested by Carl Esser, Esser & Company Consulting, LLC. Project is 99.9% complete.

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 STATUS REVIEW ON CFC21-  
0191 NORTHWEST COLONIA – BOOSTER STATION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Garza, to approve payment of Inv. #10 for \$61,736.41, payable to Acstar (Frank's Construction), and Invoice #27389 for \$3,825.00, payable to Premier Engineering, for staking and right-of-way on CFC21-0191 Northwest Zapata Colonia – Booster Station project, as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

Tank has been received and is 90% complete. Building and pump are 75% complete.

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 ITEM**

22. To review preliminary plat on Lincoln Street as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

**ORDER APPROVING RESOLUTION FOR USE OF TXDOT RIGHT OF WAY  
FOR ZAPATA COUNTY FAIR PARADE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Moya, to approve a Resolution for the use of the TxDot Right Way for the Zapata County Fair Parade on March 8, 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.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SOLIS,  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MORALES,  
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**

26. Discussion and to take possible action on request for leave as requested by Nellie Treviño, HR Director.

**ORDER APPROVING TO CONTINUE WITH EASEMENT ACQUISITION  
FOR LIFT STATION ON PROPERTY ON LAKEVIEW DRIVE**

Motion was made by Commissioner Solis, seconded by Commissioner Morales, to approve to continue with easement acquisition for a lift station on a property on Lakeview Drive as requested by Manuel Gonzalez, Premier Engineering.

*Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Sub Chapter D, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney.*

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.

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JOSEPH RATHMELL, COUNTY JUDGE  
OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS

ATTEST:

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MARY JAYNE VILLARREAL-BONOAN,  
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
COURT OF ZAPATA COUNTY, TEXAS