

June 22, 2023  
Regular Meeting

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, A.D., 2023 there was held a Regular Meeting of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Willacy County, Texas at the County Judge's Office, 576 West Main, in the City of Raymondville, Texas for the purpose of transacting the following agenda:

1. Call to Order.
2. Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum.
3. Invocation / Pledge.
4. Public Comment (s).
5. Approval of Claims. ACTION REQUIRED.
6. Discussion and Action on request for permission for the Willacy County Sheriffs Office to accept donations from VTX1 in the amount of \$4,395.00 for annual payment of the Sheriff App. Action Required.
7. Discussion and Action to approve and extend the Retention Records Specialist, Intake Clerk and Investigator temporary full-time positions for the Willacy County District Attorney's Office funded by ARPA. Action Required.
8. Discussion and Action to approve Advertising for Intake Clerk temporary position funded by ARPA relative to Covid-19 pandemic for the Willacy County District Attorney's Office. Action Required.
9. Discussion and Action to approve to hire for Intake Clerk temporary position funded by ARPA for the Willacy County District Attorney's Office. Action Required.
10. Discussion and Action to approve Precinct 1 Road and Bridge to deobligate machinery and equipment <\$50,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114. Action Required.
11. Discussion and Action to approve Precinct 1 Road and Bridge to obligate \$300,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act fund 114 for Road Improvement. Action Required.
12. Discussion and Action to approve Precinct 3 Road and Bridge to deobligate machinery and equipment <\$50,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act fund 114. Action Required.
13. Discussion and Action to approve Precinct 3 Road and Bridge to obligate \$300,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act fund 114 Road Improvement. Action Required.
14. Discussion and Action to approve Precinct 2 Road and Bridge to deobligate the purchase of a 50X30 Equipment Shed to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Act fund 114. Action Required.

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15. Discussion and Action to approve Precinct 2 Road and Bridge to obligate an Equipment Shed to be paid from the remaining estimate balance of \$63,419.57 from the American Rescue Plan Act fund 114. Action Required.
16. Discussion and Action to approve Precinct 4 Road and Bridge to deobligate sand bag machine for the total amount of \$14,000 to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Act fund 114. Action Required.
17. Discussion and Action to approve Precinct 4 to obligate Machinery and Equipment <\$50,000 to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Act fund 114. Action Required.
18. Discuss, Consider and select Scott Merriman Inc. as a vendor to complete project implementation for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Project(s). Funding administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, other federal or state agencies. Action Required.
19. Discussion and Action to approve the Professional Services for Scott Merriman Inc. for the total amount of \$60,000 for Willacy County District Clerk Office to be paid by fund 114 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Action Required.
20. Discussion and Action to approve 3-year subscription to Hyper-Reach Emergency Notification System for the total amount of \$5,800 per year. Action Required.
21. Discussion and Action to approve to utilize line items: 01-422-380 Machinery and Equipment <\$500 and 01-422-385 Machinery and Equipment >\$500 not budgeted for fiscal year 2022-2023. A budget amendment would follow. Action Required.
22. Discussion and Action in regards to Constable Precinct 3 requesting funding for machinery and equipment for 2023 Ford F-150. Action Required.
23. Discussion and Action to approve Resolution in support of Public Safety efforts on FM 1420 between the levees (South) Santa Monica TX. Action Required.
24. Approval of Travel. ACTION REQUIRED.
25. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
  - (A) Confer with Commissioners Court legal counsel regarding pending or contemplated litigation and/or negotiations involving the county, its employees, or its interests, pursuant to VTCA Government Code, Section 551.071.
  - (B) Confer with Commissioners Court legal counsel on potential litigation regarding the planned subdivision of the Willacy County Navigation District, pursuant to VTCA Government Code, Section 551.071.
26. ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:
  - (A) Possible Action.
  - (B) Possible Action.

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27. Adjourn.

THE COURT MET:  
PRESENT:

Aurelio Guerra, Jr.,  
Eliberto Guerra,  
Mario Tijerina,  
Henry De La Paz,  
Ernesto Garcia,  
Annette Hinojosa,  
Maria Del Carmen Maldonado,  
Elizabeth Rios,

County Judge,  
Commissioner, Precinct 1,  
Commissioner, Precinct 2,  
Commissioner, Precinct 3,  
Commissioner, Precinct 4,  
County Attorney,  
County Auditor,  
County Chief Deputy Clerk,

**Arrives at 10:16 a.m.**

WHEREUPON, the Court was opened to the following proceedings were had to wit:

PERSONS VISITING THE COURT:

Lillian E. Garcia  
Gabriel Villarreal  
Ben Vera

1. Call to Order – Chairman Aurelio Guerra, Jr.
2. Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum – **ALL PRESENT**
3. Pledge / Invocation – Commissioner Henry De La Paz
4. Public Comments – None.

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**Commissioner Mario Tijerina steps out of the meeting at 10:07 a.m., does not vote for item number 5.**

Agenda # 5  
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL  
OF CLAIMS

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Claims, as presented. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Commissioner Mario Tijerina returns back to the meeting at 10:09 a.m.**

**District/County Attorney, Annette Hinojosa arrives at the meeting at 10:16 a.m.**

Agenda # 6  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON  
REQUEST FOR PERMISSION  
FOR THE WILLACY COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO ACCEPT  
DONATIONS FROM VTX1 IN  
THE AMOUNT OF \$4,395.00  
FOR ANNUAL PAYMENT OF  
THE SHERIFF APP

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval for permission for the Willacy County Sheriff's Office to accept donations from VTX1 in the amount of \$4,395.00 for annual payment of the Sheriff App, contingent upon supporting documents from VTX1. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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**Move to item number 23.**

Agenda # 7

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE AND EXTEND THE  
RETENTION RECORDS SPECIALIST,  
INTAKE CLERK AND INVESTIGATOR  
TEMPORARY FULL-TIME POSITIONS  
FOR THE WILLACY COUNTY DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FUNDED BY ARPA

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra to table this item for the next ARPA Meeting. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Motion Amended:** Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for not the next ARPA Meeting, but the next ARPA Workshop. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 8

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE ADVERTISING FOR  
INTAKE CLERK TEMPORARY  
POSITION FUNDED BY ARPA  
RELATIVE TO COVID-19  
PANDEMIC FOR THE WILLACY  
COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra to table this item for the next ARPA Meeting. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Motion Amended:** Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for not the next ARPA Meeting, but the next ARPA Workshop. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 9  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE TO HIRE FOR INTAKE  
CLERK TEMPORARY POSITION  
FUNDED BY ARPA FOR THE WILLACY  
COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra to table this item for the next ARPA Meeting. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Motion Amended:** Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for not the next ARPA Meeting, but the next ARPA Workshop. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 10  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PRECINCT 1 ROAD  
AND BRIDGE TO DEOBLIGATE  
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT  
<\$50,000.00 FROM THE AMERICAN  
RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND 114

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval for Precinct 1 Road and Bridge to deobligate machinery and equipment <\$50,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 11  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PRECINCT 1 ROAD  
AND BRIDGE TO OBLIGATE  
\$300,000.00 FROM THE AMERICAN  
RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND 114 FOR  
ROAD IMPROVEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval for Precinct 1 Road and Bridge to obligate \$300,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114 for Road Improvements. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 12  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PRECINCT 3 ROAD  
AND BRIDGE TO DEOBLIGATE  
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT  
<\$50,000.00 FROM THE AMERICAN  
RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND 114

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval for Precinct 3 Road and Bridge to deobligate machinery and equipment <\$50,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act fund 114. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 13  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PRECINCT 3 ROAD  
AND BRIDGE TO OBLIGATE  
\$300,000.00 FROM THE AMERICAN  
RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND 114  
ROAD IMPROVEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval for Precinct 3 Road and Bridge to obligate \$300,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114 Road Improvements. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 14  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PRECINCT 2 ROAD  
AND BRIDGE TO DEOBLIGATE  
THE PURCHASE OF A 50X30  
EQUIPMENT SHED TO BE PAID  
FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE  
PLAN ACT FUND 114

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval for Precinct 2 Road and Bridge to deobligate the purchase of a 50x30 Equipment Shed to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Commissioner Eliberto Guerra steps out of the meeting at 11:05 a.m., does not vote for item numbers 15 and 16.**



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Agenda # 15  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PRECINCT 2 ROAD  
AND BRIDGE TO OBLIGATE AN  
EQUIPMENT SHED TO BE PAID  
FROM THE REMAINING ESTIMATE  
BALANCE OF \$63,419.57 FROM  
THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN  
ACT FUND 114

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval for Precinct 2 Road and Bridge to obligate an Equipment Shed to be paid from the remaining estimate balance of \$63,419.57 from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 16  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PRECINCT 4 ROAD  
AND BRIDGE TO DEOBLIGATE  
SAND BAG MACHINE FOR THE  
TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$14,000.00  
TO BE PAID FROM THE AMERICAN  
RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND 114

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval for Precinct 4 Road and Bridge to deobligate sand bag machine for the amount of \$14,000.00 to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Commissioner Eliberto Guerra returns back to the meeting at 11:07 a.m.**

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Agenda # 17  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE PRECINCT 4 TO  
OBLIGATE MACHINERY AND  
EQUIPMENT <\$50,000.00 TO  
BE PAID FROM THE AMERICAN  
RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND 114

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval for Precinct 4 to obligate machinery and equipment <\$50,000.00 to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 18  
DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND SELECT  
SCOTT MERRIMAN, INC. AS A  
VENDOR TO COMPLETE PROJECT  
IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE  
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT  
(ARPA) PROJECT(S). FUNDING  
ADMINISTERED BY THE U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY,  
OTHER FEDERAL OR STATE AGENCIES

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval for Scott Merriman, Inc. as a selected vendor for Willacy County District Clerk's Office to be funded by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 19  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICES FOR SCOTT MERRIMAN,  
INC. FOR THE TOTAL AMOUNT  
OF \$60,000.00 FOR WILLACY COUNTY  
DISTRICT CLERK OFFICE TO BE PAID  
BY FUND 114 AMERICAN RESCUE  
PLAN ACT (ARPA)

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of the Professional Services for Scott Merriman, Inc. for Willacy County District Clerk's Office for the total amount of \$60,000.00 to be paid by Fund 114 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Move to item number 21.**

Agenda # 20  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE 3-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION  
TO HYPER-REACH EMERGENCY  
NOTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR THE  
TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$5,800.00  
PER YEAR

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Garcia to table this item. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Return back to item number 19.**

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Agenda # 21  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE TO UTILIZE LINE ITEMS:  
01-422-380 MACHINERY AND  
EQUIPMENT <\$500.00 AND  
01-422-385 MACHINERY AND  
EQUIPMENT >\$500.00 NOT  
BUDGETED FOR FISCAL YEAR  
2022-2023. A BUDGET AMENDMENT  
WOULD FOLLOW

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval to utilize line items: 01-422-380 Machinery and Equipment <\$500.00 and 01-422-385 Machinery and Equipment >\$500.00 not budgeted for fiscal year 2022-2023. A Budget Amendment would follow. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 22  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION IN  
REGARDS TO CONSTABLE PRECINCT  
3 REQUESTING FUNDING FOR  
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT FOR  
2023 FORD F-150

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval for Constable Precinct 3 of funding for Machinery and Equipment for 2023 Ford F-150, the amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 to be paid from Capital 02 Fund. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Move to item number 24.**

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Agenda # 23  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO  
APPROVE RESOLUTION IN  
SUPPORT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
EFFORTS ON FM 1420 BETWEEN  
THE LEVEES (SOUTH) SANTA  
MONICA, TEXAS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina to table this item, until the required documentary is received to move forward. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

**Return back to item number 7.**

Agenda # 24  
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL  
OF TRAVEL REQUEST

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia that the following travel requests be approved:

1. Extension Agent, Georgina Macias to Wichita Falls, Texas on July 9-12, 2023.
2. Constable Precinct 3, Ben Vera, Constable Precinct 1, Carlos Ybarra and Constable Precinct 2, Andres Chavez to Huntsville, Texas on July 9-14,2023.

Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 25

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- (A) CONFER WITH COMMISSIONERS  
COURT LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING  
PENDING OR CONTEMPLATED  
LITIGATION AND/OR NEGOTIATIONS  
INVOLVING THE COUNTY, ITS EMPLOYEES,  
OR ITS INTERESTS, PURSUANT TO VTCA  
GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.071
  
- (B) CONFER WITH COMMISSIONERS COURT  
LEGAL COUNSEL ON POTENTIAL LITIGATION  
REGARDING THE PLANNED SUBDIVISION OF  
THE WILLACY COUNTY NAVIGATION DISTRICT,  
PURSUANT TO VTCA GOVERNMENT CODE,  
SECTION 551.071

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina that Court Adjourn to Closed Executive Session at 11:52 a.m. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina that Court Reconvene into Open Session at 12:27 p.m. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 26

ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE  
SESSION:

- (A) POSSIBLE ACTION
- (B) POSSIBLE ACTION

Motion was made by Commissioner De La Paz, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina no action taken on items A and B. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina that Court Adjourned. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

There being no further action,

Court Adjourned.