

April 11, 2024
Regular Meeting

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 11th day of April, A.D., 2024 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. Approval of Previous Minutes as follows: March 14, 2024 Regular Meeting; March 28, 2024 Regular Meeting; April 4, 2024 Special Meeting; ACTION REQUIRED.
7. TxDOT to provide Monthly Updates.
8. Spread in the Minutes Willacy County Judge Aurelio Guerra has successfully completed the "Texas College of Probate Judges – Continuing Judicial Education Program" held on March 13-15, 2024 in Austin Texas.
9. Discussion and Action for Bond approval for Willacy County Tax Assessor/Collector Elizabeth Barnhart. ACTION REQUIRED.
10. Discussion and Action to purchase up to 3 cameras for Commissioners Court Meetings. ACTION REQUIRED.
11. Discussion and Action to approve a wellness benefit (gym membership) to Willacy County Employees to include membership contract and to be paid from the Insurance Fund 07. ACTION REQUIRED.
12. Discussion and Action to approve a enhanced wellness benefit (hormone replacement therapy) to Willacy County employees and to be paid from the Insurance Fund 07. ACTION REQUIRED.
13. Discussion and Action to approve and pay bond for Ruben Cavazos, County Treasurer. ACTION REQUIRED.
14. Discussion and Action to approve purchasing flooring for County Administration Office and Justice of the Peace Office Precinct 4. ACTION REQUIRED.
15. Discussion and Action to approve to de-obligate the remaining balance from \$300,000.00 for Precinct 2 Road and Bridge to be paid by the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114. ACTION REQUIRED.

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16. Discussion and Action to obligate an estimate amount not to exceed \$64,000.00 to Precinct 2 Road and Bridge for a 2024-2025 Pick-Up Truck to be paid by the American Rescue Plan Act Fund 114. ACTION REQUIRED.
17. Approval and Action for the purchase and installation of solar lights in the community of Lasara for the total cost not to exceed \$35,000.00 to be paid from Fund 43. ACTION REQUIRED.
18. Requesting permission to install a new water meter, location of proposed bore crossing is approximately 400-feet from the NE corner of Eustolio Gonzales Drive and Highway 186. 2-inch PVC casing, 3/4-inch meter service to a 4-inch water line. Will bore east to west, 4-feet deep. Precinct 1. ACTION REQUIRED.
19. Requesting approval of a Family Partition of the Lands of Jesus Cepeda, a 3 tract family partition located on the Northeast corner of Zapata Road (CR 150) and F.M. 2629, west of Sebastian Texas, Precinct 4. ACTION REQUIRED.
20. Approval of Monthly Reports. ACTION REQUIRED
21. Approval of Travel Request. ACTION REQUIRED.
22. Approval of Treasurers Report. ACTION REQUIRED
23. Approval of Quarterly Treasurers Report. ACTION REQUIRED.
24. Approval of Budget Amendments. ACTION REQUIRED
25. Approval of Tax Collector Report. ACTION REQUIRED
26. Review of Special Claims.
27. Review monthly reports on jail count.
28. Review of monthly employee overtime report.
29. 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 (a) and (2).
 - (b) Deliberation regarding pending or contemplated litigation and/or negotiations involving the county, its employees, or its interests, pursuant to V.T.C.A Government Code, Section 551.071 (a) and (2).
30. ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:
 - (a) Possible Action.
 - (b) Possible Action.
31. Adjourn.

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THE COURT MET:
PRESENT:

Aurelio Guerra, Jr.,	County Judge,	
Eliberto Guerra,	Commissioner, Precinct 1,	
Mario Tijerina,	Commissioner, Precinct 2,	
Henry De La Paz,	Commissioner, Precinct 3,	Absent
Ernesto Garcia,	Commissioner, Precinct 4,	
Annette Hinojosa,	County Attorney,	
Maria Del Carmen Maldonado,	County Auditor,	arrives at 10:05 a.m.
Elizabeth Rios,	County Chief Deputy Clerk,	

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

PERSONS VISITING THE COURT:

Cher Montalvo	Priscilla Lee
Paul Anders	Sergio Sustaita
Oscar Gutierrez	Richard Villarreal
Gina Gutierrez	Ruben Cavazos
Jennifer Gonzales	Veronica Caballero

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

Move to item number 6.

Agenda # 5
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF CLAIMS

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

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Continue with item number 8.

Agenda # 6
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES AS FOLLOWS:
MARCH 14, 2024 REGULAR MEETING,
MARCH 28, 2024 REGULAR MEETING
AND APRIL 4, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of previous minutes as follows: March 14, 2024 Regular Meeting, March 28, 2024 Regular Meeting and April 4, 2024 Special Meeting. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

County Auditor, Maria Del Carmen Maldonado arrives at the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Agenda # 7
TXDOT TO PROVIDE
MONTHLY UPDATES

Presentation by Sergio Sustaita with TxDOT to provide monthly updates on FM 180, FM 186 and FM 490 Project.

Return back to item number 5.

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Commissioner Eliberto Guerra steps out of the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Agenda # 8
SPREAD IN THE MINUTES
WILLACY COUNTY JUDGE
AURELIO GUERRA HAS
SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED
THE "TEXAS COLLEGE OF
PROBATE JUDGES – CONTINUING
JUDICIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM"
HELD ON MARCH 13-15, 2024 IN
AUSTIN, TEXAS

As per the Chairman, spread in the minutes Willacy County Judge Aurelio Guerra has successfully completed the "Texas College of Probate Judges – Continuing Judicial Education Program" held on March 13-15, 2024 in Austin, Texas.

Agenda # 9
DISCUSSION AND ACTION FOR
BOND APPROVAL FOR WILLACY
COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR
ELIZABETH BARNHART

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Bond for Willacy County Tax Assessor/Collector Elizabeth Barnhart. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Commissioner Eliberto Guerra returns back to the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

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Agenda # 10
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
PURCHASE UP TO 3 CAMERAS
FOR COMMISSIONERS COURT
MEETINGS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of the purchase of three (3) cameras for Commissioners Court Meetings, not to exceed \$1,050.00 from the General Fund from Account 407-380 additionally the \$140.00 for Maintenance Fees under the General Fund 401-205. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Motion Amended: Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of the purchase of cameras that was said for \$1,050.00 to be amended to \$1,100.00 to include the memory card to be paid from General Fund Account 407-380. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 11
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE A WELLNESS BENEFIT
(GYM MEMBERSHIP) TO WILLACY
COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO INCLUDE
MEMBERSHIP CONTRACT AND
TO BE PAID FROM THE INSURANCE
FUND 07

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for approval of a Wellness Benefit in the form of (Gym Membership) to Willacy County Employees through the existing Asserta Health Care Contract. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 12
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE A ENHANCED WELLNESS
BENEFIT (HORMONE REPLACEMENT
THERAPY) TO WILLACY COUNTY
EMPLOYEES AND TO BE PAID FROM
THE INSURANCE FUND 07

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of a Enhanced Wellness Benefit in the form of (Hormone Replacement Therapy) to Willacy County Employees as part through the existing Asserta Health Care Agreement with Willacy County. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 13
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE AND PAY BOND FOR
RUBEN CAVAZOS, COUNTY
TREASURER

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval to pay Bond for Ruben Cavazos, County Treasurer. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 14
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE PURCHASING FLOORING
FOR COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE AND JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
OFFICE PRECINCT 4

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for approval of purchasing flooring for County Administration Office and Justice of the Peace Office Precinct 4. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 15
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE TO DE-OBLIGATE THE
REMAINING BALANCE FROM
\$300,000.00 FOR PRECINCT 2
ROAD AND BRIDGE TO BE PAID
BY THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
ACT FUND 114

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval to de-obligate \$64,000.00 for ARPA Project 2382 Building Shed for Precinct 2 Road and Bridge to be paid from Fund 114 American Rescue Plan Act. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 16
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
OBLIGATE AN ESTIMATE AMOUNT
NOT TO EXCEED \$64,000.00 TO
PRECINCT 2 ROAD AND BRIDGE
FOR A 2024-2025 PICK-UP TRUCK
TO BE PAID BY THE AMERICAN
RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND 114

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval to obligate a 2024-2025 Pick-up Truck for Precinct 2 Road and Bridge for the total amount not to exceed \$61,361.58 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 and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 17
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
AND ACTION FOR THE PURCHASE
AND INSTALLATION OF SOLAR
LIGHTS IN THE COMMUNITY OF
LASARA FOR THE TOTAL COST
NOT TO EXCEED \$35,000.00 TO
BE PAID FROM FUND 43

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of the purchase and installation of solar lights in the Community of Lasara for the total cost not to exceed \$35,000.00 to be paid from Fund 43. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Commissioner Mario Tijerina steps out of the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Agenda # 18
IN REGARDS OF REQUESTING
PERMISSION TO INSTALL A NEW
WATER METER, LOCATION OF
PROPOSED BORE CROSSING IS
APPROXIMATELY 400-FEET FROM
THE NE CORNER OF EUSTOLIO
GONZALES DRIVE AND HIGHWAY
186. 2-INCH PVC CASING, 3/4-INCH
METER SERVICE TO A 4-INCH WATER
LINE. WILL BORE EAST TO WEST,
4-FEET DEEP. PRECINCT 1

Motion was made by Commissioner Guerra, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of permission to install a new water meter, location of proposed bore crossing is approximately 400-feet from the NE Corner of Eustolio Gonzales Drive and Highway 186. 2-inch PVC Casing, 3/4-inch meter service to a 4-inch water line. Will bore East to West, 4-feet deep. Precinct 1. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 19
IN REGARDS OF REQUESTING
APPROVAL OF A FAMILY PARTITION
OF THE LANDS OF JESUS CEPEDA, A
TRACT FAMILY PARTITION LOCATED
ON THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF
ZAPATA ROAD (CR 150) AND F.M.
2629, WEST OF SEBASTIAN, TEXAS.
PRECINCT 4

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for approval of a Family Partition of the Lands of Jesus Cepeda, a 3 tract Family Partition located on the Northeast Corner of Zapata Road (CR 150) and FM 2629, West of Sebastian, Texas. Precinct 4. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 20
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF MONTHLY REPORTS

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

Commissioner Mario Tijerina returns back to the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

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Agenda # 21
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF TRAVEL REQUEST

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

1. Court Bailiff, Eliazar Mendez to Crockett, Texas on April 18-20, 2024.
2. Tax Assessor/Collector, Elizabeth Barnhart to Roundrock, Texas on August 24-28, 2024.
3. County Treasurer, Ruben Cavazos to Irving, Texas on June 9-12, 2024.
4. County Treasurer, Ruben Cavazos to Austin, Texas on August 27-30, 2024.

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

Agenda # 22
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for approval of Treasurer's Report, as presented. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 23
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF QUARTERLY TREASURERS
REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of Quarterly Treasurers Report, as presented. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 24
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Budget Amendments, as received and presented. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 25
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Guerra for approval of Tax Collector's Report, as presented. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 26
IN REGARDS TO REVIEW
OF SPECIAL CLAIMS

As per the Chairman, Review of Special Claims.

Agenda # 27
REVIEW OF MONTHLY REPORTS
ON JAIL COUNT

As per the Chairman, Review of Monthly Report on Jail Count. There was a total of 69 Inmates.

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Agenda # 28
REVIEW OF MONTHLY EMPLOYEE
OVERTIME REPORT

As per the Chairman, Review of Monthly Employee Overtime Report.

Agenda # 29
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 (A)
AND (2)

(B) DELIBERATION REGARDING PENDING OR
CONTEMPLATED LITIGATION AND/OR
NEGOTIATIONS INVOLVING THE COUNTY,
ITS EMPLOYEES, OR ITS INTERESTS,
PURSUANT TO V.T.C.A. GOVERNMENT
CODE, SECTION 551.071 (A) AND (2)

Agenda # 30
ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION:

(A) POSSIBLE ACTION
(B) POSSIBLE ACTION

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina to take no action on item numbers A and B. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Guerra, Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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

There being no further action,

Court Adjourned.