

March 14, 2024
Regular Meeting

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 14th day of March, 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: February 8, 2024 Regular Meeting; February 22, 2024 Regular Meeting; ACTION REQUIRED.
7. TxDOT to provide Monthly Updates.
8. Discussion and Action to canvass votes for Willacy County Primary Elections held on March 5, 2024. ACTION REQUIRED.
9. Discussion and Action to add another maintenance county cell phone for maintenance department from AT&T first responders plan for \$40 per month with a one-time fee of \$70 (for phone case and screen protector) funded from 01-407-130. Budget amendment will follow. ACTION REQUIRED.
10. Discussion and Action to approve Archer Copier Lease for Willacy County Clerk's Office. ACTION REQUIRED.
11. Discussion and Action to approve Resolution that strongly urges Mexico to comply with the terms of the 1944 Treaty and release the water due to the United States. ACTION REQUIRED.
12. Discussion and Approval on Requesting permission to use and place a tent on the courthouse lawn for annual candlelight vigil on April 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and to approve the Proclamation proclaiming April 2024 as Child Abuse Awareness Month. ACTION REQUIRED.
13. Discussion and Action to approve to de-obligate remaining balance for Precinct 4 for the total amount of \$2,072.05 from ARPA Fund 114 American Rescue Plan Act. ACTION REQUIRED.
14. Discussion and Action to approve to de-obligate remaining balance for ARPA Project #2304-A for Elections Department for the total amount of \$34,065.83 from Fund 114 the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF). ACTION REQUIRED.

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15. Discussion and Action to approve to de-obligate remaining balance for ARPA Project #2305-A for the total amount of \$8,320.50 from Fund 114 the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) ACTION REQUIRED.
16. Discussion and Action to approve Resolution adopting the FEMA approved Willacy County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan and appointing the County Judge as the Chief Executive Officer and authorized representative to act in all matters in connection with their portion of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. ACTION REQUIRED.
17. Discussion and Action to consider approval of bid in regards to recommendation from Guzman & Munoz Engineering on TWDB Texas Water Development Board Project #40096 (Lyford Trunk line). ACTION REQUIRED.
18. Discussion and Action to approve and sign grant resolution for State and Local Cybersecurity Grant (SLCGP) and if awarded to be accepted by Willacy County, Resolution attached. ACTION REQUIRED.
19. Discussion and action to approve the NCIC Correctional Communications Service Subscriber Agreement between NCIC Inmate Communications and the Willacy County Sheriff's Office. 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 Budget Amendments. ACTION REQUIRED
24. Approval of Tax Collector Report. ACTION REQUIRED
25. Review of Special Claims.
26. Review monthly reports on jail count.
27. Review of monthly employee overtime report.
28. 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 tis interests, pursuant to V.T.C.A Government Code, Section 551.071 (a) and (2).

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29. ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- (a) Possible Action.
- (b) Possible Action.

30. 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,

ABSENT

ARRIVES AT 10:14 A.M.

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

PERSONS VISITING THE COURT:

Paul Anders
Priscilla Lee
Martha Martinez

Cher Montalvo
Gilbert Gonzales
Ronnie Canales (sic)

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

Move to item number 6.

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Agenda # 5
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF CLAIMS

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

Return back to item number 11.

Agenda # 6
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES AS FOLLOWS:
FEBRUARY 8, 2024 REGULAR
MEETING AND FEBRUARY 22, 2024
REGULAR MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of previous minutes as follows: February 8, 2024 Regular Meeting and February 22, 2024 Regular Meeting. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 7
TXDOT TO PROVIDE
MONTHLY UPDATES

As per the Presiding Chairman Guerra, there is no one present from TxDOT to provide monthly updates.

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Agenda # 8
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
CANVASS VOTES FOR WILLACY
COUNTY PRIMARY ELECTIONS
HELD ON MARCH 5, 2024

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

Agenda # 9
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
ADD ANOTHER MAINTENANCE
COUNTY CELL PHONE FOR
MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT
FROM AT&T FIRST RESPONDERS
PLAN FOR \$40 PER MONTH WITH
A ONE-TIME FEE OF \$70 (FOR
PHONE CASE AND SCREEN PROTECTOR)
FUNDED FROM 01-407-130. BUDGET
AMENDMENT WILL FOLLOW

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner De La Paz for approval to add another maintenance county cell phone for Maintenance Department from AT&T first responders plan for \$40.00 per month with a one-time fee of \$70.00 (for phone case and screen protector) funded from 01-407-130. Budget Amendment will follow. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Motion Amended: Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner De La Paz for approval for the amount to read \$45.00 per month instead of \$40.00. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 10
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE ARCHER COPIER
LEASE FOR WILLACY COUNTY
CLERK'S OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Archer Copier Lease for Willacy County Clerk's Office. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Move to item number 5.

Agenda # 11
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE RESOLUTION THAT
STRONGLY URGES MEXICO TO
COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF
THE 1944 TREATY AND RELEASE
THE WATER DUE TO THE UNITED
STATES

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Resolution that strongly urges Mexico to comply with the terms of the 1944 Treaty and release the water due to the United States. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 12
DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL
ON REQUESTING PERMISSION
TO USE AND PLACE A TENT ON
THE COURTHOUSE LAWN FOR
ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT VIGIL ON
APRIL 3, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M. AND
TO APPROVE THE PROCLAMATION
PROCLAIMING APRIL 2024 AS
CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of permission to use and place a tent on the Courthouse Lawn for Annual Candlelight Vigil on April 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and to approve the Proclamation proclaiming April 2024 as Child Abuse Awareness Month. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 13
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE TO DE-OBLIGATE
REMAINING BALANCE FOR
PRECINCT 4 FOR THE TOTAL
AMOUNT OF \$2,072.05 FROM
ARPA FUND 114 AMERICAN
RESCUE PLAN ACT

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval to de-obligate remaining balance for Precinct 4 for the total amount of \$2,072.05 from ARPA Fund 114 American Rescue Plan Act. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

County Auditor, Maria Del Carmen Maldonado arrives at the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

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Agenda # 14
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE TO DE-OBLIGATE
REMAINING BALANCE FOR ARPA
PROJECT NUMBER 2304-A FOR
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT FOR THE
TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$34,065.83
FROM FUND 114 THE LOCAL
ASSISTANCE AND TRIBAL
CONSISTENCY FUND (LATCF)

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner De La Paz for approval to de-obligate remaining balance for ARPA Project Number 2304-A for Elections Department for the total amount of \$34,065.83 from Fund 114 the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF). Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 15
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE TO DE-OBLIGATE
REMAINING BALANCE FOR ARPA
PROJECT NUMBER 2305-A FOR
THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$8,320.50
FROM FUND 114 THE LOCAL
ASSISTANCE AND TRIBAL CONSISTENCY
FUND (LATCF)

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval to de-obligate remaining balance for ARPA Project Number 2305-A for the total amount of \$8,320.50 from Fund 114 the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF). Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 16
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE RESOLUTION ADOPTING
THE FEMA APPROVED WILLACY
COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTION
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AND
APPOINTING THE COUNTY JUDGE
AS THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
TO ACT IN ALL MATTERS IN CONNECTION
WITH THEIR PORTION OF THE HAZARD
MITIGATION PLAN

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of Resolution Adopting the FEMA approved Willacy County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan and appointing the County Judge as the Chief Executive Officer and authorized representative to act in all matters in connection with their portion of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 17
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
CONSIDER APPROVE OF BID
IN REGARDS TO RECOMMENDATION
FROM GUZMAN & MUNOZ
ENGINEERING ON TWDB TEXAS WATER
DEVELOPMENT BOARD PROJECT
NUMBER 40096 (LYFORD TRUNK LINE)

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of bid in regards to recommendation from Guzman and Munoz Engineering on TWDB Texas Water Development Board Project Number 40096 (Lyford Trunk Line). Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 18
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE AND SIGN GRANT
RESOLUTION FOR STATE AND
LOCAL CYBERSECURITY GRANT
(SLCGP) AND IF AWARDED TO
BE ACCEPTED BY WILLACY COUNTY,
RESOLUTION ATTACHED

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval and sign grant resolution for State and Local Cybersecurity Grant (SLCGP) and if awarded to be accepted by Willacy County, Resolution attached. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 19
DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE THE NCIC CORRECTIONAL
COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE
SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT BETWEEN
NCIC INMATE COMMUNICATIONS
AND THE WILLACY COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of the NCIC Correctional Communications Service Subscriber Agreement between NCIC Inmate Communications and the Willacy County Sheriff's Office. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners 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 Tijerina for approval to be effective March 29, 2024. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Move to item number 9.

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Agenda # 20
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF MONTHLY REPORTS

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

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. Justice of the Peace Judge, Rudy Cantu to Fort Worth, Texas on June 24-28, 2024.
2. Juvenile Department, Raul Garza to College Station, Texas on April 7-10, 2024 and Fidencio Cacique to San Antonio, Texas on April 7-12, 2024. Texas Juvenile Justice Department funding will be used to satisfy these travel expenses.
3. Auditor's Office, Rebecca Saenz to Olmito, Texas on March 27, 2024 to be paid from Fund 01-496-150, meals only, non-overnight stay.
4. Sheriff's Department, Sargent Investigator Sandra Tamayo and Investigator Felix Tamez, Jr. to Pharr, Texas on May 20-21, 2024. Meals and Registration only, non-overnight stay.

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

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Agenda # 23
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of Budget Amendments, as received and presented. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners 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 Tijerina for approval contingent upon Department Heads' signatures. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 24
IN REGARDS TO APPROVAL
OF TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

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

Agenda # 25
IN REGARDS TO REVIEW
OF SPECIAL CLAIMS

As per Presiding Chairman Guerra, Review of Special Claims.

Agenda # 26
REVIEW OF MONTHLY REPORTS
ON JAIL COUNT

As per Presiding Chairman Guerra, Review of Monthly Report on Jail Count. There was a total of 75 Inmates.

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Agenda # 27
REVIEW OF MONTHLY EMPLOYEE
OVERTIME REPORT

As per Presiding Chairman Guerra, Review of Monthly Employee Overtime Report.

Agenda # 28

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)

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner De La Paz that Court Adjourn to Closed Executive Session at 10:58 a.m. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Presiding Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia that Court Reconvene into Open Session at 11:07 a.m. Motion was put before the Court by the Presiding Chairman. Chairman Presiding Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina, De La Paz and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 29
ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION:

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

As per Presiding Chairman Guerra, no action taken on these items.

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

There being no further action,

Court Adjourned.