

February 27, 2025

Regular Meeting

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 27th day of February, A.D., 2025 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. Update from Guzman & Munoz Engineering regarding the Willacy County Project 40020 – Watershed Study.
7. Presentation by Soluna Holdings regarding possible tax abatement for Project Kati.
8. Renewal of 2025 ARTS (Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Services) annual subscription. ACTION REQUIRED.
9. Discussion and Action to approve the Copier/Lease Agreement with Archer Business Systems for Reber Memorial Library. ACTION REQUIRED.
10. Discussion and Action to prohibit the use of Gas/Electric stoves in County Offices. ACTION REQUIRED.
11. Discussion and Authorization to allow District Attorney's Office to apply for Victim Coordinator and Liaison Grant (VCLG) and Other Victim Assistant Grant (OVAG) through the Office of the Attorney General for Fiscal Years 2026 & 2027, and approve Resolution. ACTION REQUIRED.
12. Discussion and Action to approve Constable Precinct 4 funding the remaining balance of \$1,009.36 for the EForce, Records Management Software purchase of \$15,000.00 which \$13,990.64 will be paid from Records Management Software Grant #4978601. ACTION REQUIRED
13. Discussion and Action to approve the Willacy County Sheriffs Office apply for participation in the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) program. Supporting documents requiring signatures attached. ACTION REQUIRED.
14. Discussion and Action to consider paying Beto's Garage & Towing invoice in the amount of \$2059.00 for the towing of sheriff's department patrol unit of capital funds. ACTION REQUIRED.

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15. Discussion and Action to purchase a Vehicle for the Willacy County Sheriffs Department to replace damaged patrol unit and to discuss Funding Account. ACTION REQUIRED.
16. Discussion on the 2022 TxCDBG Colonia Fund Planning & Needs Assessment project for Willacy County (partnering county) and the service provider activities to be performed. NO ACTION REQUIRED
17. Discussion and Action to approve funding source for Hyper-Reach Technology annual payment for the total amount of \$5,800.00 for service date 02/01/25 to 01/31/26. ACTION REQUIRED.
18. Discussion and Action to approve to de-obligate remaining balance of \$284.00 from Project #2410-A Patrol Rifle for Deputy Constable Pct. 4 funded by the Local Assistance & Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF). ACTION REQUIRED.
19. Discussion and Action to approve to obligate \$6,672.66 to LATCF Project #2409-A for Willacy County Technology Infrastructure funded by the Local Assistance & Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF). ACTION REQUIRED.
20. Discussion and Action to approve final design plans for RFQ Construction Bid for 2021 CDBG-Community Resilience Project No. 70800001014. ACTION REQUIRED.
21. Discussion and Action on Preliminary & Final approval for re-plat of Lot 4 Dos Lupes Subdivision, an (8) Lot re-plat in Willacy County (Sebastian) on the intersection of I-69 & 8th Street. ACTION REQUIRED.
22. Approval of Travel. ACTION REQUIRED.
23. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
 - (a) Confer with Commissioners Court legal counsel regarding pending or contemplated litigation and/or negotiations involving the county, its employees, or its interest, 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).
24. ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:
 - (a) Possible Action
 - (b) Possible Action.
25. Adjourn.

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THE COURT MET:

PRESENT:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Aurelio Guerra, Jr., | County Judge, | |
| Micaela "Kelly" Zamorano-Alaniz, | Commissioner, Precinct 1, | ABSENT |
| Mario Tijerina, | Commissioner, Precinct 2, | |
| Henry De La Paz, | Commissioner, Precinct 3, | ABSENT |
| Ernesto Garcia, | Commissioner, Precinct 4, | |
| Annette Hinojosa, | County Attorney, | ABSENT |
| Maria Del Carmen Maldonado, | County Auditor, | |
| Elizabeth Rios, | County Chief Deputy Clerk, | |

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

PERSONS VISITING THE COURT:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Melissa Muniz | Oscar Rivera |
| Yesenia Zamarron | Rodrigo Guzman |
| Frances L. Najera | Leticia Martinez |

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

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 Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 6

UPDATE FROM GUZMAN AND
MUNOZ ENGINEERING REGARDING
THE WILLACY COUNTY PROJECT
40020 – WATERSHED STUDY

Update from Jose Munoz with Guzman and Munoz Engineering regarding the Willacy County Project 40020 – Watershed Study.

Agenda # 7

PRESENTATION BY SOLUNA
HOLDINGS REGARDING POSSIBLE
TAX ABATEMENT FOR PROJECT
KATI

Presentation by John Tunison with Soluna Holdings regarding possible Tax Abatement for Project Kati.

Commissioner Mario Tijerina steps out of the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

No Quorum Established.

Commissioner Mario Tijerina returns back to the meeting at 10:41 a.m.

Quorum is Established.

Agenda # 8

IN REGARDS TO RENEWAL OF
2025 ARTS (AFFORDABLE CARE
ACT REPORTING AND TRACKING
SERVICES) ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of Renewal of 2025 ARTS (Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Services) Annual Subscription. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 9

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE THE COPIER/LEASE
AGREEMENT WITH ARCHER
BUSINESS SYSTEMS FOR REBER
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of the Copier/Lease Agreement with Archer Business Systems for Reber Memorial Library. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 10

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
PROHIBIT THE USE OF GAS/ELECTRIC
STOVES IN COUNTY OFFICES

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval to discontinue the use of Gas/Electric Stoves in County Offices. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners 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 exception being Agrilife using it for the Function – Health Cook. The stove being properly ventilated and passes the Fire Marshall's Inspection. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 11

DISCUSSION AND AUTHORIZATION
TO ALLOW DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S
OFFICE TO APPLY FOR VICTIM
COORDINATOR AND LIAISON
GRANT (VCLG) AND OTHER
VICTIM ASSISTANT GRANT (OVAG)
THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR FISCAL
YEARS 2026 AND 2027, AND
APPROVE RESOLUTION

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

Agenda # 12

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE CONSTABLE PRECINCT
4 FUNDING THE REMAINING
BALANCE OF \$1,009.36 FOR THE
EFORCE, RECORDS MANAGEMENT
SOFTWARE PURCHASE OF \$15,000.00
WHICH \$13,990.64 WILL BE PAID
FROM RECORDS MANAGEMENT
SOFTWARE GRANT NUMBER 4978601

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of Constable Precinct 4 funding the remaining balance of \$1,009.36 for the EForce, Records Management Software purchase of \$15,000.00 which \$13,990.64 will be paid from Records Management Software Grant Number 4978601, the amount of \$1,009.36 to be paid from Capital Fund. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 13

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE THE WILLACY COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE APPLY FOR
PARTICIPATION IN THE LAW
ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE
(LESO) PROGRAM. SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS REQUIRING
SIGNATURES ATTACHED

Motion was made by Commissioner Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner Garcia for approval of the Willacy County Sheriff's Office to apply for participation in the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) Program. Supporting documents requiring signatures attached. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 14

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
CONSIDER PAYING BETO'S
GARAGE AND TOWING INVOICE
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,059.00
FOR THE TOWING OF SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT PATROL UNIT OUT
OF CAPITAL FUNDS

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of paying Beto's Garage and Towing invoice in the amount of \$2,059.00 for the towing of Sheriff's Department Patrol Unit. Sheriff's Department to pay half of the amount and the other half to be paid from Capital Fund. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 15

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
PURCHASE A VEHICLE FOR THE
WILLACY COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT TO REPLACE
DAMAGED PATROL UNIT AND
TO DISCUSS FUNDING ACCOUNT

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval to authorize the Sheriff's Department to begin looking for a replacement used vehicle not to exceed \$40,000.00, to be paid from Capital Fund. The moneys that will be receive are going to replenish back into the Capital Fund. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 16

DISCUSSION ON THE 2022
TXCDBG COLONIA FUND
PLANNING AND NEEDS
ASSESSMENT PROJECT FOR
WILLACY COUNTY (PARTNERING
COUNTY) AND THE SERVICE
PROVIDER ACTIVITIES TO BE
PERFORMED

Rodrigo Guzman and Leticia Martinez with Texas A&M Colonias discusses on the 2022 TxCDBG Colonia Fund Planning and Needs Assessment Project for Willacy County (partnering county) and the service provider activities to be performed.

Move to item number 20.

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Agenda # 17

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE FUNDING SOURCE FOR
HYPER-REACH TECHNOLOGY
ANNUAL PAYMENT FOR THE TOTAL
AMOUNT OF \$5,800.00 FOR
SERVICE DATE FEBRUARY 1, 2025 TO
JANUARY 31, 2026

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of funding source for Hyper-Reach Technology annual payment for the total amount of \$5,800.00 for service date February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2026, to be paid from GOMESA. However, would like to look into disengaging for next year. It will give the Court a year to start off to see how it works. If the Court cannot get it done that year then think of disengaging the next year. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners 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 payment of invoice number 340498. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Return back to item number 25.

Agenda # 18

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE TO DE-OBLIGATE
REMAINING BALANCE OF \$284.00
FROM PROJECT NUMBER 2410-A
PATROL RIFLE FOR DEPUTY
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 4 FUNDED
BY 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 of \$284.00 from ARPA Number 2410-A for Patrol Rifle for Deputy Constable Precinct 4 funded by the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF). Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

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Agenda # 19

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE TO OBLIGATE \$6,672.66
TO LATCF PROJECT NUMBER 2409-A
FOR WILLACY COUNTY TECHNOLOGY
INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDED BY THE
LOCAL ASSISTANCE AND TRIBAL
CONSISTENCY FUND (LATCF)

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval to obligate remaining balance of \$6,672.66 to (LATCF) Project Number 2409-A for Willacy County Technology Infrastructure funded by the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF). Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Commissioner Mario Tijerina steps out of the meeting at 11:56 a.m.

No Quorum Established.

Commissioner Mario Tijerina returns back to the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

Quorum is Established.

Continue with item number 21.

Agenda # 20

DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO
APPROVE FINAL DESIGN PLANS
FOR RFQ CONSTRUCTION BID
FOR 2021 CDBG-COMMUNITY
RESILIENCE PROJECT NUMBER
70800001014

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of final design plans for RFQ Construction Bid for 2021 CDBG-Community Resilience Project Number 70800001014. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Return back to item number 17.

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Agenda # 21

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON
PRELIMINARY AND FINAL APPROVAL
FOR RE-PLAT OF LOT 4 DOS LUPES
SUBDIVISION, AN (8) LOT RE-PLAT
IN WILLACY COUNTY (SEBASTIAN)
ON THE INTERSECTION OF I-69
AND 8TH STREET

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina for approval of Preliminary and Final approval for Re-Plat of Lot 4 Dos Lupes Subdivision, an (8) Lot Re-Plat in Willacy County (Sebastian) on the intersection of I-69 and 8th Street. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Agenda # 27

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. Tax Assessor/Collector, Melissa Missy Muniz to Conroe, Texas on March 17-19, 2025.
2. Sheriff Department Tele Communicator, Anyssa Bermea for travel reimbursement of registration fee for TCOLE State Exam.
3. Sheriff, Jose Salazar to Austin, Texas on March 3-4, 2025.
4. Sheriff, Jose Salazar to Austin, Texas on March 24-25, 2025.
5. Sheriff, Jose Salazar to Austin, Texas on April 27-30, 2025.
6. Maintenance Supervisor, Adolfo Mata to Austin, Texas on April 22-25, 2025.
7. County Auditor, Maria Del Carmen Maldonado and First Assistants, Yarim Enriquez, Rebeca Saenz and Rebecca Lopez to Pharr, Texas on March 5-6, 2025. (non overnight meals to be funded from Account Number 01-496-150).
8. County Treasurer, Ruben Cavazos to San Marcos, Texas on April 21-24, 2025.
9. Extension Agent, Georgina Macias to Houston, Texas on March 18-21, 2025.
10. Extension Agent, Georgina Macias to Mercedes, Texas on March 6-16, 2025.
11. Commissioner Precinct 4, Ernie Garcia to Refugio, Texas on February 27-28, 2025. (to be paid out of Account Number 64-400-150).

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

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Agenda # 23

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- (A) CONFER WITH COMMISSIONERS
COURT LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING
PENDING OR CONTEMPLATED
LITIGATION AND/OR NEGOTIATIONS
INVOLVING THE COUNTY, ITS EMPLOYEES,
OR ITS INTEREST, 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 # 29

ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION:

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Tijerina to table item numbers 23 and 24. Motion was put before the Court by the Chairman. Chairman Guerra, Commissioners Tijerina and Garcia voting AYE. NAYS NONE. Motion was declared carried.

Return back to item number 17.

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

There being no further action,

Court Adjourned.