

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - MARCH 26, 2018

On the 26th day of March, 2018, there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioners' Court in the Commissioners' Courtroom in the County Courthouse, located at 2840 Highway 35 North, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, with the following members present: **C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr.**, County Judge; **Jack Chaney**, Commissioner, Precinct 1; **Leslie "Bubba" Casterline**, Commissioner, Precinct 2; **Brian Olsen**, Commissioner, Precinct 3; **Betty Stiles**, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and **Valerie K. Amason**, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were **Jeri Cox**, County Tax Assessor-Collector; **Alma Cartwright**, Treasurer; **Suzy Wallace**, County Auditor; **Bill Mills**, Sheriff; **Latisha Murphy**, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge; **Sue Pash**, Chief Deputy Treasurer; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Rene Butler**, Maintenance Director; **Jacky Cockerham**, Assistant County Auditor; **Tana Taylor**, Assistant Auditor; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Linda Doane**, Human Resources Director; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **Valerie Gonzalez**, Environmental Health Director; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Roman Cortez**, Deputy Chief/Jail Operations and Grievance Officer; **Mike Koerner**, Long-Term Recovery Specialist;

Members of Local City Government, Community Groups and other Interested Parties present:

Aransas County Appraisal District: **Michael Soto**, RPA, Chief Appraiser; De McLallen, Board of Directors Chairman;

Aransas County Navigation District: **Keith Barrett**, Harbor Master;

City of Rockport Council Members: **C. J. Wax**, Mayor; **Pat Rios**, Ward 3 and Mayor Pro Tem;

Aransas County Historical Commission: **Pam Stranahan**, Chair; **Mike Geer**, Vice Chair; **Sherry Collins**;

Russel Cole and **Wendy Laubach**; Primary Run-Off Candidates for Commissioner, Pct. 4;

Mike Probst, Editor and Publisher of the Rockport Pilot Newspaper;

The Meeting was convened at **9:00 a.m.** at which time a quorum was declared by Judge Mills, WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had and done to wit:

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were none.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve:

1. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 12, 2018.
2. Official Public Bond Continuation Certificate for **Collin Jackson**, Aransas County IT Director.
3. Official Public Blanket Bond adding County Deputy Clerks, **Jesusa Delgado** and **Deana Kay Maurice**.

(Inserts)

4. Public Official Rider for **Rene Butler**, Facilities Director and Maintenance Supervisor.
5. **Resolution #R-05-2018**, a Resolution of the Aransas County Commissioner's Court, Texas, supporting the Aransas County Navigation District's request to annex to the Hazard Mitigation Action Plan.
6. **Resolution #R-06-2018**, a Resolution of the Aransas County Commissioner's Court approving the proposal by the Aransas County Appraisal District relating to the purchase of land and improvements for an Appraisal office.
7. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a Certificate of Participation from the V.G. Young Institute of County Government Awarded to Commissioner **Brian C. Olsen** for successfully completing 20.00 hours of Educational Training during the 60th Annual V.G. Young School for the County Commissioners Courts February 20-22, 2018 in College Station, TX.
8. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a Commissioners Education Certificate of Completion from the County Judges & Commissioners Association of Texas certifying that Aransas County Commissioner **Brian C. Olsen** has successfully completed the continuing education provisions of Article 81.0025 of the Texas Local Government Code, 2017.
9. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a Commissioners Education Certificate of Completion from the County Judges & Commissioners Association

(Inserts)

of Texas certifying that Aransas County Commissioner **Leslie Casterline** has successfully completed the continuing education provisions of Article 81.0025 of the Texas Local Government Code, 2017.

10. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a Commissioners Education Certificate of Completion from the County Judges & Commissioners Association of Texas certifying that Aransas County Commissioner **Betty Stiles** has successfully completed the continuing education provisions of Article 81.0025 of the Texas Local Government Code, 2017.
11. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a 2017 Certificate of Membership in the County Investment Academy from the Emmett & Miriam McCoy College of Business Administration for Aransas County Treasurer, **Alma Cartwright** who successfully completed Investment Education that satisfies Section 2256.008 of the Texas Public Funds Investment Act issued by the Texas Association of Counties December 31, 2017.
12. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a **check received from AEP in the amount of \$1,884.50 for City Smart Rebate Program** initiated by the Public Facilities Director. This rebate is a result of converting existing lights to LED lights for smart energy cost savings.
13. Approve a Policy setting new GASB 34 Percentages of Uncollectible Receivables per the Statements on Auditing Standards (No. 122).

(Inserts)

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

COUNTY REPORTS

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve accepting a donation made to Aransas County for the Juvenile Case Manager Fund for clothing for the students of Aransas County I.S.D. & C.I.S., received from Prosperity Bank in the amount of \$250.00.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Clsen and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve accepting a donation of **\$6,000.00 from the Texas Ornithological Society** represented by **Susan Foster** for Hurricane Harvey repairs to Aransas Pathway's venue Tule Marsh East. The money will be used to install fencing, plant new trees and plants and build a bird drip.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the Aransas County Historical Commission Report for 2017.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the February 2018

(Inserts)

Treasurer's Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

18. This item went into closed session.

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve Budget Line Item Transfers of which there were none.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &

DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Jeri Cox: I just wanted to give a quick report on collections through February, the total collected was 89.67% which is down 1.55% compared to this time last year. We ended up with the number of properties under the disaster payment plan at 479, and the number of disabled and/or over 65 quarter payments at 258. Last year that over 65 was at 341, so this year we are at 737 which is a total of 396 more on the payment plan than last year which could account for that 1.55 . I also wanted to give you an update on our building repairs, we are covered in plastic, we have no flooring, I talked to the project manager on Thursday evening and he has asked me about the possibility of closing the

tax office for one week between two weekends for when the roof goes on, so before people can come in, move the furniture out, I told them that we couldn't do it this week or next week, just because those are busy times, the end of the month and the rollover. So I told him maybe the 2nd week in April and he was going to get with the roofers and see when that is going to happen.

Judge Mills: And as we discussed last week, it is a necessity so....

Jeri Cox: They just feel like when they came in they told us 7 - 10 days it would be done, we are at 8 weeks now. They have been working 7 days a week and they spend a lot of their time just moving us out of the way on the weekends and then moving stuff back so we can work and wait on the public, so we just feel like that would get us done faster. I told them I need a heads up so I can advertise that in the paper.

Commissioner Stiles: Is there any other mode of operation, like Facebook, that we could put it on, Collin? The public is going to be beating her door down.

Collin Jackson: Yes.

Jeri Cox: So that's just kind of where we are at now.

Judge Mills: Alright, thank you very much, anyone else?

Suzy Wallace: We had our outside Auditor, Beyer and Company, in last week, that is complete and I just want to thank all of those who contributed with the information needed and participated in the interviews.

The Court entered into closed session at 9:14 a.m. to discuss and review potential litigation issues and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1)(a); and to discuss real estate negotiations, including Pathways Projects pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072; and resumed Open Meeting at 10:16 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:

18. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve establishing a position in the Jail by rank for employee assigned to assemble Pen Packets and other administrative paperwork assignments and recommend that we use the job description provided by the Sheriff.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 10:17 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Stiles.



Valerie K. Amason

VALERIE K. AMASON,
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr.

C. H. "BURT" MILLS, JR., COUNTY JUDGE

