

MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Aransas County Commissioners Court



9:00 AM – Monday, January 13, 2025

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on 13th day of JANUARY, 2025, at 9:00am at the AQUARIUM EDUCATION CENTER LOCATED AT 706 NAVIGATION CIRCLE, ROCKPORT, TEXAS. The meeting video recordings are available by following this link: [Commissioners Court Minutes and Agendas \(aransascourttx.gov\)](https://aransascourttx.gov), then scroll to the bottom of the page and select the date you wish to view.

Present: **Ray A. Garza**, County Judge
Jack Chaney, Commissioner Precinct 1-1A
Leslie Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Robert Dupnik, Commissioner, Precinct 4-4A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Video Time 0:00

II. INVOCATION

Video Time 0:12

III. PLEDGES

Video Time 1:33

IV. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Video Time 2:01

✪ **Judge Garza, struck item # 17 and item # 9**

Video Time 2:13

V. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Video Time 3:05

- ✪ Jack Wright
- ✪ Kristi Rutledge – read by Commissioner Rousseau
- ✪ Debra Stephens – read by Commissioner Dupnik
- ★ Matt Oker
- ✪ Koleen Quattlebaum-no participation form
- ✪ Leslie Austin – Superintendent RFISD
- ✪ Emails from and in support of appointment of Jeff Hutt, item # 9:
 - Matteh Wallace
 - Josh Setterbo
 - Patrick Kane
 - Mark Waters
 - Kathy Kane
 - Mike Socha
 - Jonette Childs
 - Dominic Dominguez

- Laura Dominguez
- Skip Carrier
- Bron Rorex
- Carl Brown
- Martin
- Brodie Riley
- Dahlia A. Dominguez
- Jack Vogel
- Christine Ritter
- Email name: Salty Sailor Rebel Rouser
- Michael Manjarris
- Reuben Garcia
- Alexander Pikas
- Bev McFadden Touns
- Jason Followell
- Jennifer K. Shaw
- Carmen A. Calderone, Jr.
- Pamela Meyer
- Tommy Moore
- Lynne Kiley
- Sheryl Matlock
- Oliver Robertson
- Elise Chacon
- Andrew Nunez
- Agent Varnell
- Wendy Laubach spoke to Judge Garza

VI. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Smithsonian Museum on Main Street Crossroads Exhibit Presentation – Jennifer Day
Video Time 26:55

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

2. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the December 18, 2024 Special Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
3. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the December 23, 2024 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
4. Acknowledge and accept the 2025 Historical Commissioners for Aransas County for the Texas Historical Commission – Doreen Bronner/Judge Garza
5. Acknowledge and accept the following donations for Aransas County Animal Care:
 - Anonymous donation of animal supplies – estimated total of \$196
 - Kenneth Raymond – donation in the amount of \$50
 - John Sullivan – donation in the amount of \$750

Caitlan Frazier/Judge Garza

Video Time 41:48

- ☛ **Motion to accept the consent agenda:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
- ☛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

VIII. COUNTY REPORTS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

6. Discuss, approve, or disapprove reappointments to the Aransas Pathways Steering Committee of Richard Connell and Alyssa Massengill for a three-year term per Resolution R-30-2023A – Commissioner Rousseau

Video Time 42:44

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

7. Discuss, approve or disapprove the reappointment to the Aransas County Tree Committee of Shelly Steckler and the appointment of Robert Ruf (to replace Ed Hegen), for two-year terms – Judge Garza

Video Time 43:47

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

8. Discuss, approve or disapprove allowing ACTS Aviation to host a Fly-In event at the airport on November 14-16, 2025, and to allow the airport manager to close the airport or sections of it as needed during the event – Mike Geer/Judge Garza

Video Time 44:18

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

9. Discuss, approve or disapprove correcting Jeff Hutt's appointment to the Appraisal District Board of Directors to complete a two-year term bringing his appointment into compliance with State law – Judge Garza

✪ **Struck from agenda**

10. Discuss, approve or disapprove Resolution #R-01-2025 designating County Judge, Ray Garza, as the Authorized Official for Aransas County's existing FY 2024 Homeland Security Operation Stonegarden Grant Program, Grant Number 3171810, effective March 1, 2025 - Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 45:26

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

11. Discuss, approve or disapprove Resolution #R-02-2025 Designating Authorized Signatories for Contractual Documents and Documents for Requesting Funds Pertaining to the CDBG-MIT Grant for Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Program – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 46:12

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

12. Discuss, approve or disapprove Order #O-01-2025, an Order of the County of Aransas, Texas, Prohibiting Outdoor Burning for a Period of up to Sixty (60) Days – Judge Garza

Video Time 47:36

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

IX. COUNTY ROADS AND FLOODPLAIN – None

- ★ **Judge Garza called for a break at 9:50 AM**

[Video Time 49:48](#)

- ★ **Judge Garza called into session at 9:58 AM**

[Video Time 57:42](#)

Moved item #19 and item #20 in front of item #13

X. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

13. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing solicitation of Invitation for Bids (IFB) for road materials for the County of Aransas and authorize the County Judge to sign all necessary documents – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

[Video Time 1:07:37](#)

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

14. Discuss, approve or disapprove Change Order No. 5 of construction contract for the Holiday Beach Road Improvements Project in the County’s General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270. LCR Total Transport, LLC requests a decrease in the contract amount by \$117,949.45 – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

[Video Time 1:08:19](#)

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

15. Discuss, approve, or disapprove FEMA disaster recovery project No. DR-4332-0069-TX Hurricane Harvey Phase II, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Sub-Grant Award for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), for the Aransas County Little Bay Drainage Improvements – Phase II authorizing the County Judge to sign and execute all necessary documents – Elle Moralez/Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

[Video Time 1:09:31](#)

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

16. Discuss, approve or disapprove DLF Two, Inc.’s Change Order No. 010 for the Aransas County Community Building/Plaza/Parking Lot, General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270 – Adding 2 Days. Change Order No. 08 extended the contract time by 19 days to January 19, 2025. This Change Order No. 010 extends the contract time by two (2) days to January 21, 2025. Therefore, the Community Center building and interior parking lot substantial completion date will be January 21, 2025 - Elle Moralez/Judge Garza

[Video Time 1:14:17](#)

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

17. Discuss, approve or disapprove DLF Two, Inc.'s Change Order No. 011 for the Aransas County Community Building/Plaza/Parking Lot General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270 – Adding \$128,668.38 to the contract for a total contract price with all approved change orders of \$4,773,828.00. The projects substantial completion date will be March 2, 2025 – Elle Morales/Judge Garza

✪ **Struck from agenda**

X. PLANNING AND BUDGET

18. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Report for December 2024 – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:17:51

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

19. Discuss, approve or disapprove the listing of available organizations and/or programs, to present to attending Jurors, for possible Juror Donations as allowed by Government Code, Chapter 61.003, which includes the addition of The Well Rockport, allowing any said donations to supplement that program's normal budget. This organization qualifies per Texas Government Code, Chapter 61 (3) – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 57:57

✪ Moved this item in front of item # 13

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

20. Discuss, approve or disapprove appointing Darrell Siebert as the Aransas County Engineer – Commissioner Casterline

Video Time 1:05:11

✪ Moved this item in front of # 13

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

21. Discuss, approve or disapprove the appointment of Katherine Comeaux as the Aransas County Floodplain Administrator – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:19:20

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

22. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Budget Line Items Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:21:04

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik

✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

23. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:21:34

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

XI. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND DEPARTMENT HEADS – NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Video Time 1:25:36

- ★ Commissioner Rousseau
- ★ Mike Geer
- ★ Commissioner Chaney 10:30 AM
- ★ Misty Kimbrough
- ★ Sheriff Mills

XII. REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST – NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

- ★ **There were none**

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

24. Convene into a Closed Session to consult with counsel and receive legal advice about insurance matters related to Aransas County’s projects and insurance claims from Hurricane Harvey, including the following pending litigation:

- Aransas County Texas v. Endurance American Specialty Insurance Company, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 23-0021; and
- Northstar Recovery Service, Inc. v. Aransas County Independent School District and Aransas County*, Aransas County, District Court Cause No. 23-0066 consolidated with *Northstar Recovery Services, Inc. v. HR&R, LLC, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 20-0159; and
- Western Steel Company v T2J Partners, LLC DIE/A FPS Recovery, LLC and Aransas County, Texas; Cause No. 24-0072*, in the 36th District Court of Aransas County, Texas; and
- Oldcastle Building Envelope, Inc. dba Graham Architectural Products v. Sharp Glass, LLC, et.al.*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 24-0099; and
- iWorQ Systems, Inc.*, a Utah Corporation v Aransas County, Texas Case No. 240100226, in the District Court of the First Judicial District County of Cache, Utah; and
- Wendt Services, Inc.* Public Information Act request.

pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, which authorizes closed sessions for a governmental body to consult with its attorney(s) regarding advice on legal matters pertaining to “Pending or Contemplated Litigation; or a Settlement Offer; or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with” the Open Meetings Act –Amanda Oster/Adela Martinez/Judge Garza

- ★ **There was no closed session**

XIV. OPEN SESSION

25. Reconvene into Open Session
- ★ **There was no closed session**

26. Discuss, approve or disapprove taking action or issuing instructions to the County Attorney's Office to act on the County's behalf regarding any of the pending matters identified for Closed Session and authorizing County Attorney's Office to act accordingly
– Amanda Oster/Adela Martinez/Judge Garza

⊛ **There was no closed session**

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Video Time 1:37:40

⊛ **Motion to adjourn:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik

⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

⊛ **Meeting adjourned at 10:38 AM**

ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT



Misty Kimbrough

**Misty Kimbrough,
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court**

1/27/25

Date signed and attestation.

Ray A. Garza

Ray A. Garza, County Judge

1/27/2025

Date signed.

