

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - FEBRUARY 10, 2020

On the 10th day of February, 2020, there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioners' Court in the Commissioners' Courtroom, 2840 Hwy 35 N, 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; **Charles Smith**, Commissioner, Precinct 3; **Wendy Laubach**, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and **Valerie K. Amason**, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were **Jerry Brundrett**, County Surveyor; **Kristen Barnebey**, County District Attorney; **Alma Cartwright**, Treasurer; **Bill Mills**, Sheriff; **Diana McGinnis**, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2; **Barbara Hanson**, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge; **Jacky Cockerham**, Interim County Auditor; **Tana Taylor**, First Assistant County Auditor; **Latisha Murphy**, Assistant Auditor; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **Valerie Gonzalez**, Environmental Health Director; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Rene Butler**, Facilities Director; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Linda Doane**, Human Resources Director; **Michele Carew**, Elections Administrator; **Lois White**, Chief Deputy Treasurer; **Melodee Field**, Assistant Librarian I; **Lori Cesar**, Animal Control Director; **Lora Rios**, Juvenile Case Manager;

Long-Term Recovery Specialist: Randall Freeze;

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

City of Rockport: Kevin Carruth, City Manager;

Aransas County Navigation District: Keith Barrett, Harbor Master;

Aransas County Extension Office: Ginger Easton Smith, Extension Agent; Megan Glidden, Extension Agent; Darla Zuniga, 4-H Assistant;

Aransas County Citizens: J. Mark Wagnon, Attorney At Law; Melissa Esquivel; Linda Erwin; Nelda Blaschke; Susanna & Carlos Goad;

Aransas County Historical Commission: Betty Stiles, Chair; Mike Geer, Vice Chair; Collin Jackson, Secretary; Other members: Pat Rousseau; Wendy Laubach, Court Appointed Liaison; Pam Wheat Stranahan; Linda Haynes;

Friends of the History Center: Pam Wheat Stranahan; Linda Haynes;

The Rockport Pilot Newspaper: Mike Probst, Editor and Publisher;

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.

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Agrilife Extension Office 4-H Agriculture and Homemakers Show. Ginger Easton-Smith, Megan Glidden, and Darla Zuniga

delivered a Power Point Presentation for the recent involvement and entries of the Aransas County 4-H Members in the San Patricio and Aransas County Agriculture and Homemaking Show.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve:

2. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 27, 2020.
3. Amendment of Order #0-09-2019, Appointment of the 2019-2020 Election Judges and Alternates.
4. Authorizing the County Judge to sign the Texas Association of Counties Cybersecurity Course Enrollment Form for Counties to comply with Texas House Bill (HB) No. 3834.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**COUNTY LIBRARY**

5. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Proclamation #P-01-2020 - proclaiming March 2, 2020 as "Read Across Aransas County Day".

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**COUNTY REPORTS**

6. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly 2019 Report for the Aransas County Historical Commission.

**(Inserts)**

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

7. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly 2019 Report for the Friends of the History Center for Aransas County.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve the Sheriff's Office to accept a check for \$800.00 from the 100 Club for the cost of a vest for a new employee and at no cost to the county.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES**

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a one year In-Kind Lease Agreement with South Texas Substance Abuse Recovery Services, Inc. (STSARS) to use the Aransas County Aquarium Education Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM [tabled from 1/27/20].

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve soliciting Requests for Qualifications (RFQ's) for Engineering Support

**(Inserts)**

Services to provide final engineering for shoreline resiliency project Bay Shore Drive Funding Restore Act Bucket 1, through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Grant Contract from the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) for Phase I Hazardous Mitigation Project Little Bay with the stipulation that we have approval of the MOU from the Navigation District on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Grant amount is \$1,582,056.00.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign an updated Interlocal Agreement with Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS) to implement revised provisions of the Texas Transportation Code Chapter 706 pertaining to the Failure to Appear Program.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a one-year Video Magistrate Services Agreement with NetProtec LLC.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the January 2020 Indigent Health Care Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve amending the Aransas County (AC) Procurement Policy to include requirements of the State of Texas Procurement and Contract management Guide, Statewide Procurement Division: AC Procurement Policy Required Contract Provisions Section 4.3 will include the BOYCOTT ISRAEL CHECK: A governmental entity may not enter into a contract with a company for goods or services unless the contract contains written verification from the company that it (1) does not boycott Israel and (2) will not boycott Israel during the term of the contract. Prior to award, the Contract Developer (purchaser) must check the divestment lists to determine if the potential awardee is in violation of this requirement. The divestment lists are maintained by the Texas Safekeeping Trust Company and posted to the CPA website located at Comptroller.Texas.Gov. If the potential awardee is on the list, the contract may not be awarded to that vendor. 86<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session of Texas House Bill (HB) 793.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve amending the Aransas County (AC) Procurement Policy to include requirements of the State of Texas Procurement and Contract Management Guide, Statewide Procurement Division: AC Procurement Policy Required Contract Provisions Section 4.3 will include the Iran, Sudan, & Foreign Terrorist Organization Check: Governmental entities may not contract with a company doing business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization. Prior to award, the Contract Developer (purchaser) must check the divestment lists to determine if the potential awardee is in violation of this requirement. The divestment lists are maintained by the Texas Safekeeping Trust Company and posted to the CPA website located at Comptroller.Texas.Gov. If the business is in violation, the contract may not be awarded to that vendor. TEX. GOV'T. CODE 2252.001(2) and TEX. GOV'T. CODE 2252.152.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve and authorize the County Treasurer to apply for and receive the 2020 distribution of proceeds from the Tobacco Settlement Fund from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) based on the County's unreimbursed health care expenditures for calendar year 2019.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

18. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve a policy setting a new Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 34 Uncollectible Receivables.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve new job description to change Environmental Health Administrative Secretary; pay group 11 to an Environmental Health Executive Assistant; pay group 14 due to increased job responsibilities - no new monies.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Budget Line Item Transfers. Due to unforeseen emergencies with disaster recovery, it is necessary to amend the Aransas County 2019 Budget.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

21. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**



REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &  
DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

**Michele Carew:** Early Voting starts next Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, in our office at 602 E. Concho Street, we will be open Tuesday - Saturday the first week and Monday - Friday the following week. All of the by-mail ballots have been sent out and in regards to campaign signage, I would like to remind all of the candidates to get the property owners permission before placing the signs on their property. Lastly, a few weeks ago it was brought to our attention that the maps on our County website were inaccurate so Jerry Brundrett and I have been working together to get the maps ready and we are almost to the point where we can get them back up and this time we are going to include precinct maps.

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*No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 9:50 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney.*

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*Valerie K. Amason*

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

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

