

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - FEBRUARY 11, 2019

On the 11th day of February, 2019, 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; **Leslie "Bubba" Casterline**, Commissioner, Precinct 2; **Brian Olsen**, 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; **Pam Heard**, District Clerk; **Bill Mills**, Sheriff; **Suzy Wallace**, County Auditor; **Latisha Murphy**, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Linda Doane**, Human Resources Director; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **Valerie Gonzalez**, Environmental Health Director; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Rene Butler**, Maintenance Director; **Carrie Arrington**, Office & Contracts Manager, County District Attorney's Office; **Jacky Cockerham**, First Assistant County Auditor; **Ronell Burke**, Animal Control Supervisor; **Misty Kimbrough**, Collections Specialist; **Iris Sanchez**, Librarian; **Melodee Field**, Assistant Librarian;

Long-Term Recovery: **Randall Freeze**, Long Term Recovery Specialist;

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

City of Rockport Council Members: Barbara Gurtner, Ward 4;

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

Discovery Learning Center: Kathryn Stephenson, Principal; Linda
Erwin, Librarian;

Rockport Fulton High School & Middle School: Nelda Blaschke,
Librarian;

Aransas County 4-H: Ginger Easton-Smith, County Extension Agent;

Megan Glidden, County Extension Agent; Darla Zuniga, 4-H

Assistant; 4-H Members: Champ Kuenstler; Madden Kuenstler;

Sienna Goad; Parents: Carlos & Susanna Goad;

Citizens: Betty Stiles; Mickey Casterline;

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 Showcase & Home
Makers Show by Ginger Easton-Smith, Megan Glidden, and Darla
Zuniga. **Ginger Easton Smith:** The kids had a great show this
year, we had 38 kids that showed live-stock and about 30 kids
that did homemaking projects of all kinds with lots of prizes
awarded as a result. (Showing a Power Point) We had three
entrants for the Queens contest, Kayla Ramos, Megan Leur, and

Trinity Sifuentes. Megan got first runner up, we are very proud of all of them. We also had great success in the poultry show, Megan Leur received Grand Champion with her Roaster, she also got it last year with her Roaster. Kendall Isabel received Reserved Grand Champion with her Roaster. Kinsley Knight who is new this year received Grand Champion with her Single Fryer Rabbit and Nikki Rae Allen got Intermediate Poultry Showmanship, which I think is really awesome because they are not just showing their animal, they are answering the Judge's questions, showing that they know how to raise the animal, how to feed them, and various other things. Trenton Flowers got Intermediate Rabbit Showmanship, he also received this award last year. **Megan Gliddon:** Kaitlin Carruth got Reserved Sweepstakes in the Clothing Division and also won the Cotton Award which the project has to be 100% cotton to receive that award and she had to write up a little thing on that to be able to win that award. Champ Kuenstler won Reserved Sweepstakes with her knife that she forged out of a railroad spike in the Handy Craft Division and that was in the recycle, repurpose section of that division. She also won the Cotton Award for some pillows that she made. Layla Flowers made a hanging quilt and won a Society Award with a dress that she made. In the turkey show there are Broilers, Roasters, and Turkeys and we had kids entering in all of those divisions. Noah Purdue, Sienna Goad, and McKayla Mills Goad showed in all of these divisions and they all have to help each other hold up the birds and transfer them around to each other while they are being judged, some of these turkeys weigh about 18 pounds. Brothers, Tyler and Ethan Gregory entered goats, we got a good picture of them walking out together. We also have two sisters

Kate and Kara Hill, in a category against each other. Other entrants shown were McKenna McPherson, Kaidra Bennett. Lexi Villa showed Lambs, and got first prize in her weight class. Jane Longino showed two different pigs entered in different classes, then we have Adam Lamb, a senior, showing his pig for the very first time. Champ and Madden Kuenstler showed steers and this is a first for steers from Aransas County in a while. There were a total of about 450 Rabbits entered in the Rabbit Show this year so that was a very long show. In the AG Mechanics Division, Megan Hillis made a hanging light fixture, Kendall Isabel made this sofa table and her cousin and brother made this dining room table, two kids made BBQ Pits. Sydney Lopez entered fourteen projects in the Homemaking Event. Madison Peterek entered a starfish cake, and two wreaths. Andrew Martin entered three pictures, he is eight years old and this was his first time entering, he did very well, one placed 6th over-all and he was fourth out of getting a belt buckle. All of these projects would not be possible without the support of Aransas County and 4-H Members, their parents, volunteers, all helping each other out.

2. Annual Profile Report related to 2018 Traffic Stops as required by Texas Commission on Law Enforcement by **Sheriff Bill Mills**. What I have brought to the court this morning is a report mandated by the Legislature that we report on profiling every year. This is not the complete report, what we have found when we got ready to submit it is, 2018 CJIS changed reporting guidelines which is a much more detailed report,

(Insert)

it's information that we have but we did not have it in the computer system. Odyssey did not update our system last year with the changes so we are having to go back manually and count through the different places where we have the information. The report before you breaks down the citations only, going forward they are going to have us list the number of warning citations that were issued as well, breaking it down by gender, the type of road it was written on, time frames of the day, it will include whether there were drugs and the types of drugs that were confiscated in the arrests that were made, it's just a much more detailed report. A lot of the stuff that we have in our Stonegarden reporting, we also have it in other reports that we accumulate but it wasn't entered into Odyssey when we put the tickets in monthly and that's generated a whole other issue with Tyler Technologies, asking why we didn't receive an updated version for the profile reports where at the end of the year we could have pushed a button and had all of the information that we needed on the report. But it is required that we bring it before the court, an explanation of what we do with our citations broken down by ethnic groups, whether or not a search was conducted, was consent given in the search, whether or not it was on probable cause, and that could be from an officers observation due to what he might smell or use of the canines as well, but it is required that the court receive that report to satisfy that statute.

(Insert)

CONSENT ITEMS

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

3. Minutes from the Public Hearing and the Regular Meetings of January 28, 2019.
4. Recommendation for the Appointment of Reverend George Haynes to the Advisory Council of Aging of the Coastal Bend Council of Governments to fill the current vacancy from Aransas County.
5. Appointment of Judy Vlasek as the Aransas County Navigation District representative to the Stormwater and Floodplain Management Advisory Committee.
6. Appointment of Ric Young as an at-large member to the Stormwater and Floodplain Management Advisory Committee.
7. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court.
8. Resolution for Aransas County Public Servants. Commissioner Laubach read into the record the following: "Whereas on February 6, 2019, Nathan Hecht, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas, delivered a "State of the Judiciary Address" to a joint session of the Texas Legislature, in which he single out State District Judge, Janna Whatley, Aransas County District Clerk, Pam Heard, and Deputy Clerk, Stephanie Abbott, for praise for their extraordinary efforts to assure the continuity and integrity of the county's judicial process in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, "Now, therefore, the Commissioners Court of Aransas County adds its appreciation to

(Inserts)

that of Chief Justice Hecht, acknowledges the county's gratitude to these skillful and dedicated public servants, and also gratefully acknowledges the contributions of all of the many other county employees who worked to ensure the continuity of all public services in Aransas County in the emergency conditions after the storm."

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

COUNTY LIBRARY

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve donation from the Les and Mary Puckett Children's Foundation to the Aransas County Library in the amount of \$1,000. The donation is to be used for children's books and programs.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve allowing the Aransas County Library Director to seek and apply for grants to be used for improvements to the outside grounds of the Aransas County Library, to include a Discovery Garden and seating area.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve allowing the Aransas County Library Director to seek and apply for \$500 HEB grant(s) to be used for summer programs and other children programs.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve allowing the Aransas County Library Director to seek and apply for \$500 Wal-Mart grant(s) to be used for summer programs and other children programs. Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve Proclamation #P-02-2019 proclaiming March 01, 2019 as "Read Across Aransas County Day". Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve accepting Mulching bids for Aransas County Transfer Station. Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve awarding Mulching bid to Dawson Recycling for Aransas County Transfer Station. Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve accepting and awarding bids for Vector Control Insecticides for 2019 as recommended by the Environmental Health Director. Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve allowing Environmental Health to demolish 110 Perch Lane, Rockport, TX, 78382 with a legal description of Lots 3 & 4, Copano Cove, Unit 11, due to the health and safety of Aransas County residents at a cost of approximately \$10,000.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

COUNTY ROADS

18. Discussion for authorizing the County Engineer to obtain professional services for the acquisition of drainage easements went into closed session.

COUNTY LEGAL

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve the Court's position about the appropriate or approved use of the temporary Courthouse, District Clerk's office and other areas owned and/or operated by Aransas County and a Commissioner's lack of ability to grant exclusive use of County property for private gain. This discussion may also include the County's current property status, the running of a private business from County property, a free leasehold of county property, using the District Clerk's office as a private office and use of County resources for private gain.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, & LEASES

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Amended Resolution #R-18-2018-A, a Resolution of Aransas County, Texas, clarifying Resolution #R-18-2018 with the Court's intent to include the Texas Department of Agriculture's TXCDBG 2019-2020 Community Development Fund in the selection of a service provider for application services, awarded to GrantWorks, Inc. for administrative services.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

21. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve Resolution #R-05-2019, a Resolution of Aransas County, Texas, authorizing the award of a professional service provider contract for the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TXCDBG) 2018 Disaster Relief Project, awarded to Hanson Professional Services, Inc. for professional engineering services.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

22. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen 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.

(Inserts)

23. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve a Service Agreement between Aransas County and Wings Rescue Center.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

24. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve January 2019 Indigent Healthcare Report.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.
25. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve renewing Property and Casualty Insurance Coverage for Aransas County with GSM Insurers/Regional Pool Alliance and authorizing payment of invoice for same.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.
26. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve Budget Line Item Transfers.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.
27. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities with the addition of a correction to the shipping charge to KEGCO INC KEITH E. GREER DIST. CO. being an additional \$4.00.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &

DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Valerie Gonzalez: I want to recognize Bob Doane, he's not here, but he did a great job this weekend working with "Keep Aransas County Beautiful", I got a wonderful e-mail saying what a great job he did.

Suzy Wallace: Read the Fee Report.

The Court entered into closed session at 9:37 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 9:40 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:

18. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve and authorize the County Engineer to obtain professional services for the acquisition of drainage easements.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Insert)

*No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 9:41 a.m. on a motion made by
Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Laubach.*



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



VALERIE K. AMASON,

EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT