

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

On the 9th day of September, 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; **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 **Kristen Barnebey**, County District Attorney; **Jeri Cox**, Tax Assessor-Collector; **Suzy Wallace**, County Auditor; **Linda Garcia Haynes**, Executive Assistant to the County Judge; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Katherine Comeaux**, Development Services Coordinator; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Linda Doane**, Human Resources Director; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Michele Bennett**, Elections Administrator; **Carrie Arrington**, Office & Contracts Manager, County District Attorney's Office; **Jacky Cockerham**, First Assistant County Auditor; **Lois White**, Chief Deputy Treasurer; **John Gutierrez**, Chief Deputy Sheriff; **Gavin Harrison** Training Coordinator for the Sheriff's Office;

Long-Term Recovery Specialists: **Randall Freeze**, Intergovernmental Coordinator; **Deanna Spruce**, Public Information Officer; **Jennifer Heard**, IA, Recovery Hotline/Volunteer & Donations Coordinator; **Vicki Foley**, PA, legal/technical research support;

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

City of Rockport Council Members: Bob Cunningham, Ward 3; Barbara Gurtner, Ward 4; Amanda Torres, Community Planner/Building & Development Department;

The Aquarium at Rockport Harbor, Inc: Jeff Hutt, President;

Aransas County Navigation District: Keith Barrett, Harbor Master;

Children's Coalition of Aransas County: Dianne Nielsen, Director;

VFW Post #3904: David "Mike" Kuertz; Katy Jackson; John Kroll; Mingo Pulido;

Aransas Pathways Steering Committee: De McLallen, Chairman; Tom Callen, Committee Member;

Texas Sea Grant at Texas A&M University: Morgen Ayers, Natural Resources Specialist; Kris Kirkwood, Texas Master Naturalist; Yvonne Sheasby, Student; Liliana Cantu, Student;

GrantWorks: Gary Smith, Senior Program Manager, Abilene, TX;

Aransas County Citizens: Pamela Meyer; Kent Myers; Kristy Schnebelen; James T. (JT) Schmink; James Lawler; Jason Fryman; Brad Holzman; Rose Ann Holzman;

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

**Brad Holzman:** My wife and I recently bought the property at 2138 Murphy Road and at the property next door, just in the last two weeks, there have been two fires and it's my understanding over the course of six months, or so, there have been four or five fires out there. As a group we are concerned that our property is going to burn down, there are some unsafe conditions and we are requesting, as the commissioners court, that you get the Fire Marshall out there to investigate these unsafe conditions. I brought some pictures, one of them that I am really concerned about is this one with the main outdoor electrical panel, this is a fire hazard in itself. They've got number 12 wires that are attached to 60 amp breakers and as an electrician, and Commissioner Chaney can also attest to, that breaker will never trip, that wire will burn completely and it will never stop, it will never trip the breaker. These wires are strung through trees, as you can see in the pictures, and those trees tangle into my trees and this last fire that we had on, I believe it was Thursday night, it nearly lit up a big tree on my yard which would have then, in turn, lit up the rest of my yard, it's super dangerous, super bad conditions out there and it's time for something to happen, it's time for this place to get cleaned up and cleared out. I'm not sure, I didn't print off anything about a County Fire Marshall but I did print off some things about a State Fire Marshall and it does say that if the Court requests a State Fire Marshall, they will come in and

investigate a property and that's what we are asking, whether it's County or State, someone needs to go out there and look at this place.

**James Lawler:** I live directly across the street from this property and there are all kinds of things that go on over there night and day and like the man was saying it is a fire hazard, we've had three fires in the last month and a half. The fire trucks have come out and I can't say for sure, but I don't think the Fire Marshall has ever come out there and investigated. We are concerned that this property is going to burn the neighborhood down and there are other things that have been going on that the Sheriff's Department has been called out there for all hours of the day and night. It's an eyesore and it concerns me about property resale values, it's just a bad situation. I'm all for everybody having their own property, doing their own thing on their property as long as it doesn't impede or bother the rest of the neighbors.

**Pamela Meyer:** I live at 2411 Murphy Road, I think Jesse Tucker is the owner of that property, I'm not sure if he's mentally competent, but I've heard he's not, so I'd like to request that somebody does an evaluation on him, he's the person that supposedly owns that property. Since the hurricane there has been prostitution out there, sex in the ditch on the side of the road, people passed out in the ditch, trespassing on numerous properties, including mine, where people have come from there, either high or drunk, and have broken into my property, gotten into the Redmond's property next door to me which wasn't occupied because of the hurricane, people have told me that these people opened my refrigerator and took stuff out of it

when we were not occupying the property after the hurricane and I called the police on them and they received restraining orders against entering my property. They are making drugs, you can smell it quite frequently when they are making crack, it smells like cat piss really hot and burning, there are drug sales that take place there obviously, beautiful cars that pull in there and you know that's not who lives there if you look at the pictures, there are dogs at large on the street, unhealthy living conditions, if you look at the pictures there should not be children, or dogs, or anyone on that property. There are garbage and sewage problems, there have been physical knife and sword fights on that property, stabbings where people have had to go to the hospital, guns shooting, ammunition that blew up, I don't know how there could have been any left there after the meth lab blew up, but you could hear it. I've called in on numerous fires, just last night there was a fire going over there and we are in a burn ban. The Sheriff and the Police cruise that street regularly, it's past where I should even be having to call. About two weeks ago, my husband was going to Lowe's first thing in the morning, like 6:45 a.m., and there were three police cars photographing an automatic weapon laying in the middle of the street, there had been a drive by shooting there at 4:30 in the morning, and they threw the weapon out in the middle of the street. There are fires constantly there, major and minor, I think that's all, but that's just since the hurricane, since I moved here 14 years ago there has been ongoing problems on that property that escalate and die down, escalate and die down, and I've made I don't know how many calls to the Sheriff, I've gone into the office and I have just applied for the paperwork that said how many incidents have

happened since Harvey, but that's supposed to take 10 days so it should be here in about 7 days, but I would like to present it to you, for any and all calls to that property. So it's a huge problem, you can't walk down the street at night or even during the day, people are shooting from cars, it's a major problem for us, so I would like you guys to figure out what you can do.

**J. T. Schmink:** I live at 2111 Murphy Road, which the property is right there across from it, I sit in my living room to watch TV and I look at that every day out of my front window. I appreciate the conversations that myself and Mr. Chaney have had, I believe it was you that came up to my property the other day, (addressing one of the County officers), and I just want to say thank you for coming out and seeing for yourself.

Everything that the others have just spoken to, I could sit here and say again, but I would be wasting your time, at the end of the day I do believe that the owner of the property is the problem, you can pull the records and see who has been arrested out there, sorry, it's like a bunch of roaches, you turn the lights on they all scatter, you turn the lights off, they all come back. She's absolutely right when she talks about the vehicles, you don't have to be in law enforcement to understand what's really going on over there. I think one thing that I've tried to illustrate with you guys talking to you beforehand, it's about the frustration, it's beyond frustration, it's to the point now that it's almost being helpless because the conversations I've had with you about getting code enforcement out there, you've talked about the possibility of a septic tank. That gentleman right there, (Brad Holzman), is an electrician, I'm not, I wouldn't be able to recognize that fire hazard. So it's not just the drug problem, you've got a serious, serious,

problem and if the municipality is not going to take care of it, who does? I don't want anyone's Civil Rights or Civil Liberties violated, but I don't want mine violated and as Mr. Lawler said, I don't care what you do on your property as long as it doesn't affect me or other people, that's your business, but when it spills out into the street, where you find hypodermic needles in your ditch it's beyond frustrating right now. Another point to add to this, I know you guys are not here to talk about the annexation that going on, on Murphy road, but you come down four houses, coming from I-35, Murphy road really gets split so my taxes are going to go up but my property value is going down and I still have to deal with that, I move out to the County because I understood that the City had stricter enforcements but I think for those of you that have been on my property, I just like it out there because of the space, it's not to get away with anything, I maintain my property. But at the end of the day, these people, (referring to Mr. & Mrs. Holzman), just bought their house and they are going to have a hard time selling their house, my property value, if I decide to sell, is going down the drain. I don't know if Dave is here, from the property next door, but by the way, there has been four major fires in two months, three of them happened during the burn ban, people out in the County are going to burn trash, but if you can't do it responsibly then why do it at all? Not only that, the municipality that came out as fire fighters, who are mostly volunteers from what I understand, so if they get called during the day they have to leave their job sites, maybe the employer pays them but the employer loses the service of an individual to go fight a fire, then you put the personal risk of these people on the line, just the heat and the equipment that they wear, and

again, the Fire Marshall hasn't been out there one time and I'm sure if he knows anything about electrical he would have found what that man, (Mr. Holzman), found. It's a bunch of Jerry-Rigged stuff out there and at some point something's got to give. Thank you.

**Jason Fryman:** I live at 2185 Murphy Road, I've got five kids at my home most of the time and I live three driveways down from that place, last year at the end of the school year I was loading up kids to take them to school and as we pulled out of the driveway there was a lady bleeding in the ditch across the street. When I got back she was still there, still no law enforcement on the site, the guy that stays behind me was treating her when law enforcement showed up. I'm really here on the safety aspect, I think I have the most kids on that block and live closer than anybody else when it comes to children, it's very dangerous over there. The drive-by shooting that they were talking about, I don't know all of the details, but I know that it is factual, a guy got shot when he was in his pick-up truck from another guy shooting down the road. Two kids, 17 & 18 years old, stay about 12 feet from where he was shooting right across the street, they woke up and looked out their door and saw him shooting at this truck down the road, that's directly in the line of fire of my house and all of my kids stay on that side of the house. Thank God I didn't wake up that night because I'd would of went to prison, I've got and AR 15's and plenty of other weapons to defend myself. I'm not going to make any threats here, I don't want to hurt anybody, but if I would have woken up that night I feel like I would have went to jail because I would have felt like I had to defend my family. I could see plain as day that officers came out, took pictures,



put indicators, there was broken glass, it was easy to tell what they were looking at and what they were seeing. Nobody said nothing, I spoke with a few of the neighbors, found out what had happened, some eye witnesses, they helped the police and gave them some information as well but nothing came of it, I didn't see anybody get hauled off out of there. The next action I saw out of there was three cops showing up to take off a red Dodge 1500, I don't know what it was about, I don't know what had happened, I don't know anything that goes on over there because I don't participate in that, but I do know that violence pours out into the streets and I have kids. I pay my taxes, I do what I'm supposed to do, and I'm not out in the middle of the road shooting at people, self-admittedly, the guy that shot those rounds is still over there walking around with a gun in plain daylight. So, I hope somebody out there on the safety aspect, the fires, the shootings, the violence, I put my hands on somebody in self-defense in my back yard, I called the Sheriff, I made a report about it, I led a crack head out of my back yard at gun point, I called the Sheriff and as soon as I left my property and held the flashlight on her and stayed there until the Sheriff showed up to arrest her and he wouldn't arrest her until he found out she had a warrant. I put a restraining order on her so if she shows back up in the next three hundred and sixty some odd days she'll go to jail, but if she shows up one day after that she won't. You know what she said, walking by the day after? Three hundred and sixty four days, that's all I've got to say.

**Rose Ann Holzman:** We bought the property two weeks ago, the day before we were going to close there was a fire on that property and it spilled over onto our property, we called Mr. McLester

and he said that the only way that he could investigate is if it is requested by the Fire Department, a death, or arson. Last Thursday we were out there working on the property, we don't live there yet, and there was another fire, that fire did again spill over onto our property. I am formally requesting an Investigation by the Fire Marshall, according to the State Fire Marshall Code, "The Fire Marshall shall immediately investigate a fire occurring in this state if it is requested by a property owner if he sustained a fire loss". We did sustain fire loss, it was not a physical structure, but it was our fence, several trees, and our grass. And it does say that if a building or other structure, because of lack of repair, age, dilapidated condition, or other reason, is susceptible to fire and is so located or occupied that fire would endanger persons or property in the building or structure. Again, we do not live there but I am concerned for my personal property and other lives around that area, either in that property itself, because they are leasing, there are several RV's there, I don't know if there are children there, but somebody is going to die if they don't get this taken care of. Again, I just want to formally request an investigation by the Fire Marshall. Thank you for your time.

**Judge Mills:** As you know we cannot discuss this because it wasn't on the Agenda, but believe me you have been heard. I've been out there with the Sheriff's Department myself and I'll discuss this with them, they have done a lot of things out there that you don't know about, but they have. That being said, this will be looked into, thank you.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Recognize Texas Sea Grant Natural Resources Specialist, Master Naturalists Volunteers and Undergraduate Students for their dedication and support of the Aransas County Pathways. Morgan Ayers, CFM, Kris Kirkwood, Ray Kirkwood, Neli Spurrell, Liliana Cantu, Carinne Johnston and Yvonne Sheasby assisted this summer with intensive manual removal of invasive grasses, transect data collection, plant species identification, planting and protecting pollinator gardens and protective native plants.

**John Strothman:** Good morning, Aransas Pathways has five or six venues that we maintain, what we found after the hurricane is the sites were overgrown, we had evasive plants that were blown in from the sea and in with the storm, and we had no money. We lost our volunteer base, most of our older volunteers have moved out of town and all of the sudden these beautiful sites needed work and there was no one to do it. So, we made an effort to reach out to Universities for help and help came, via The Texas Sea Grant Program and I'm going to let Deanna explain this program because she basically handled it, Deanna Spruce is our Public Information Officer with the Long Term Recovery Team.

**Deanna Spruce:** Throughout the summer of 2019 three students worked alongside Master Naturalists and Texas Sea Grant. The three students were Liliana Cantu, Carinne Johnston, and Yvonne Scheasby. Texas Master Naturalists included Kris Kirkwood, Ray Kirkwood, and Neli Spurrell. They provided field assistance along with the Texas Sea Grant Natural Resource Specialist, Morgan Ayers. The

responsibilities included intensive manual removal of invasive grasses like St. Augustine and Guinea Grass, they transacted data collection of plant species; identification, planting, and protecting pollinator gardens; and protecting data plants. Today we have with us Morgan Ayers who is going to give us a quick power point presentation of what they did.

**Morgan Ayers:** Thank you for your time this morning, this is a pretty concise summary of what we did and thank you to the Long Term Recovery Office for working with us.

**Deanna Spruce:** Thank you Morgan, we have some Certificates of Appreciation to hand out for their dedication and support of Aransas County Pathways. (Recognized the three named students, the three Master Naturalists, and Morgan Ayers, named above).

2. Recognize and Present Proclamation #P-09-2019, Proclaiming that Aransas County observe September 20, 2019 as National POW/MIA Day.

**(Proclamation was read by Linda Garcia Haynes)**

**David "Mike" Kuertz, Katy Jackson, John Kroll, and Mingo Pulido, of VFW Post #3904 presented the Court with a new POW/MIA flag.**

**(Power Point Insert)**

CONSENT ITEMS

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

3. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 26, 2019.
4. Proclamation #P-09-2019, Proclaiming that Aransas County observe September 20, 2019 as National POW/MIA Day.
5. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court, a Completion of Certification Program, Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA), offered through the Election Center with academic instruction by Auburn University, and for excellence in professional practices and standards as set forth by the Professional Education Program Certification Board of the Election Center, the profession's highest designation was awarded to Michele Bennett Carew, Aransas County Elections Administrator, during the Election Center's Annual Conference on August 20, 2019.
6. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court, a Certificate of Completion from Election Center presented to Julie Gifford, Assistant Elections Administrator, for successfully completing Course XI: Election History 1: Ancients to 1781, equaling 12.00 hours of educational training during the Election Center Annual Conference on August 17-18, 2019.
7. Consolidation of all election day vote centers for the November 5, 2019 Constitutional Amendment Election with Election Day Voting to be held at the Elections and Voter

**(Inserts)**

Registration office located at 602 E. Concho Street,  
Rockport, Texas.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**COUNTY ROADS & FLOODPLAIN**

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve a variance for the re-platting of 304 Estes Drive, combining three lots into one, in order to allow for the construction of an accessory building.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve a variance for the re-platting of 122 Channelview Road, re-platting three and a half lots into three lots, to allow for future development of single-family homes.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve, with conditions, the Concept Plan for Southwind Harbor Subdivision development on Cape Velero Drive.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Order #0-16-2019, an

**(Inserts)**

Order of Aransas County, Texas amending development regulation outlined in Aransas County Subdivision Regulations (Adopted October 2009) and the Aransas County Floodplain Management & Watershed Protection Order (#0-12-2016), Article II, Section I - Final Plat, Subsections 1(k), 3 & 4 - Subdivision Procedures and the Aransas County Floodplain Management & Watershed Protection Order, Article III - General Provisions, Section F(2) - Permitting Procedures, to update County development regulations in accordance with House Bill (HB) 3167.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to TABLE approval or disapproval of adopting a flat administrative fee of \$100 for Floodplain Development Permits for development permitted through municipal building departments due to location in Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ).

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES**

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Resolution #R-34-2019, a Resolution of Aransas County, Texas authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) application to the Texas Department of Agriculture

**(Inserts)**

(TDA) for the 2019-2020 Community Development Fund-Colonia Construction Fund (CFC) and authorizing the County Judge to act as the County's Executive Officer and Authorized Representative in all matters pertaining to the County's participation in the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Rockport for a 2019-2020 Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program - Colonia Fund Construction (CFC) contract to construct a sewer system improvements project on behalf of the City of Rockport benefitting the Colonia areas served by the City of Rockport if such grant is awarded to Aransas County by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve Resolution #R-35-2019, a Resolution of Aransas County, Texas authorizing a contract amendment request to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) for the modifications to its Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Contract 7218085 Performance Statement described in Attachment A.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**



16. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Interlocal Cooperation Agreements for 2019-2020 Property Tax Assessment/Collection to be signed by County Judge upon return of signed agreements by Local Taxing Entities.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Pipeline Easement granting BESCO, L.P. a 20-foot pipeline easement in the Port Bay Road Right-of-Way.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

18. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Contract for Professional Services with Allison, Bass & Magee L.L.P. for 2021 Redistricting of Commissioner Court, Justice of Peace and Election Precincts based on data received from the 2020 Census.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve authorizing the purchase of .796 acres commonly known as 181 Deer Run Lane in Rockport, Texas from Diane Thorton Wallace for a purchase price of \$30,250.00 as a part of the Club Lake Drainage Project and authorizing the County Judge to execute the documentation

**(Inserts)**

necessary to consummate said purchase including but not limited to the signing of: an earnest money contract, a waiver of inspection, a deletion of arbitration and a settlement statement. Said payment of 30,250.00 is to be made payable to Stewart Title.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to TABLE approval or disapproval of the Downtown Anchor Governmental Services Facilities Project Contract with the jointly selected architecture firm, PGAL, and the County.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

21. Approval or disapproval of the County's hiring of legal representation for procurement process through any and all State and Federal agencies and grants to pursue in part Texas Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief (TxCDBG-DR) funding through the Texas General Land Office (GLO) of over \$50,000,000 went into closed session.

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

22. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve request from the Elections Administrator to set standard pay rate for Part-Time Election Workers, Early Voting Clerk's, Election Day Judges, Alternate Judge, and Election Day Clerks hourly increases at the rates reflective of the reimbursement matched by the Texas Secretary of State's

Primary Finance Fund, not to exceed Elections Department budgeted maximum.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

- 23.** Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the Aransas County Navigation District (ACND) Tax Rate Levy for 2019 (Total Effective Tax Rate Levy of \$0.052008/\$100 valuation).

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

- 24.** Jeff Hutt - Presentation of Activity Program and Budget for remainder of 2019 and all of 2020 for the Aquarium Education Center.

- 25.** Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve Funding Activity Program for the Aquarium Education Center for remainder of 2019 and all of 2020 from the Venue Tax Maintenance Fund.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

- 26.** Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign Onsite Service Agreement with Catapult Health to provide Health Screenings for employees, 100% covered by Blue Cross Blue Shield for BCBS insured employees, during the 2019 Employee Health Fair (with minimum employee participation of 25 - otherwise service will be canceled).

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

27. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Walgreens Community Off-Site Clinic Agreement covering the administration of immunizations at the County's Annual Health Fair.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

28. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve paying for Immunizations at the Annual Aransas County Employee Health Fair for employees not covered by health insurance, an estimated cost of \$1500 already budgeted for from the Health Care Sales Tax.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

29. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Budget Line Item Transfers of which there were none.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

30. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities with an erroneously overlooked additional payment of \$4,000 to Richard Beck.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

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

**Commissioner Chaney:** I attended a Legislative Conference last week and there are a lot of changes coming out, major and minor, but the biggest thought that was before everybody was, of course, unfunded mandates and how we are going to pay for it with the 3.5% increase in property tax. There is a lot of talk about different ways to structure the way that we pay for things but it looks like this next budget year may have a whole different complexion from what this year looked like. Again, I want to thank all of the department heads and elected officials that stayed within the budget that we had, I appreciate them, as I'm sure we all do.

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*The Court entered into closed session at 10:03 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 10:27 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:*

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**21.** Approval or disapproval of the County's hiring of legal representation for procurement process through any and all State and Federal agencies and grants to pursue in part Texas Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief (TxCDBG-DR) funding through the Texas General Land Office (GLO) of over \$50,000,000 (No action taken)

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*No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 10:27 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline.*

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. H. Mills, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

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



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Valerie K. Amason", written over a horizontal line.

VALERIE K. AMASON,

EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT