

COMMISSIONERS COURT
Aransas County, Texas
Ray A. Garza, County Judge

Jack Chaney
Commissioner, Pct. 1-1A

Leslie Casterline
Commissioner, Pct. 2



Pat Rousseau
Commissioner, Pct. 3

Robert Dupnik
Commissioner, Pct. 4

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING AND AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that a **Regular Meeting** of the above named Commissioners Court will be held on the **11th DAY of SEPTEMBER, 2023, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS, IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM IN THE ARANSAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 2840 HWY. 35 N., ROCKPORT, TEXAS, 78382.** Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need assistance should contact the County Judge's office at (361) 790-0100 two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. **To watch the meeting, visit:** here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTxprR-CFvaZfapOVcLeDWQ/live>. The following subjects will be discussed at this meeting:

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGES

II. INVOCATION

III. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

IV. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

At this time, comments will be taken from the audience on any subject matter that is not on the Agenda. To address the Commissioners, please sign the Public Participation Form located at <https://actxgov.seamlessdocs.com/w/ccpublicparticipation> or sign the Public Participation Form located on the table outside of the County Courtroom and deliver to the County Clerk before the meeting begins. Citizens who wish to speak on a matter included in this Agenda will be invited to speak when that particular matter is being deliberated by the Commissioners Court. Each member of the public who appears before the Commissioners Court shall be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes to make his/her remarks. Please note, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Commissioners may not discuss or take action on any item that is not on the agenda.

V. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Presentations are scheduled in advance of the meeting and limited to fifteen (15) minutes unless other arrangements have been made with the Court.

1. Presentation from Another Chance RFT regarding its role in providing services to Aransas County Animal Care – Bob Dupnik

2. Proclamation P-11-2023 recognizing September 15th as National POW/MIA DAY – Judge Garza
3. Proclamation P-12-2023 recognizing September 19th as “Texian Navy Day” – Judge Garza

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

All Consent Agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the Commissioners Court and will be enacted by one motion and no separate discussion of these items will occur unless a Commissioner or the County Judge so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.

4. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the August 28, 2023 Regular Meeting - Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
5. Acknowledge receipt of, and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court, a Certificate of Completion for Rene Butler from OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) having completed the OSHA 30-Hour General Industry Safety and Health Certification Course – Rene Butler/Judge Garza

DONATIONS

6. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of a canopy, valued at \$80.00, from Builders FirstSource to Aransas Pathways for use during events, including Hummerfest – Jennifer Heard/Rene Butler/Judge Garza
7. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$75.00 for cat and dog food from Ernie Salathe for Aransas County Animal Care – Lori Cesar/Judge Garza
8. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of puppy supplies valued at \$50.00 from Nora Katon for Aransas County Animal Care – Lori Cesar/Judge Garza
9. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$75.00 for kitten supplies from Karen Small for Aransas County Animal Care – Lori Cesar/Judge Garza
10. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of puppy supplies valued at \$100.00 from Noelle Myska for Aransas County Animal Care – Lori Cesar/Judge Garza
11. The following donations totaling \$15,873.00 have been made toward the purchase of temporary kennels for Aransas County Animal Care:
 - a. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$500.00 from Thomas Shank
 - b. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$20.00 from Lorrie Harrington
 - c. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$100.00 from Janet Gammon

- d. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$2,000.00 from E & J Towing Service
- e. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$10,000.00 from The Storage Place
- f. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$2,003.00 from City by the Sea Community
- g. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$1,000.00 from Coastal Bend Waste
- h. Acknowledge and accept a Donation of \$250.00 from Gary Nobles
– Lori Cesar/Judge Garza

VII. COUNTY ROADS AND FLOODPLAIN

- 12. Discuss, approve or disapprove Change Order #4 to the Construction Contract between Aransas County and KC Lease Service, Inc. d/b/a Matagorda Construction & Materials for the Copano Heights Project funded through the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Program, which grant is administered by the Texas General Land Office (“GLO”) as set forth in CBDG-DR Contract No. 20-065-098-C270 to extend the term of the contract to allow an additional 28 calendar days to complete the project – David Reid/Judge Garza

VIII. PLANNING AND BUDGET

- 13. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Report for August 2023 – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza
- 14. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the 2022-2023 End of Year Report for the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Program – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza
- 15. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the creation of a new position for a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor (“LCDC”) in Group 15 of the pay schedule, to provide services to juveniles in Aransas County in order to comply with the requirements of the Juvenile Justice & Truancy Prevention Grant for 2023-2024 which has been awarded to Aransas County in the amount of \$57,247.00 – Judge McGinnis/Judge Garza
- 16. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the August 2023 Auditors Monthly Report – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
- 17. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Aransas County Navigation District (ACND) 2023-2024 Tax Rate Levy of NO-NEW-REVENUE RATE of 0.034041/\$100 VALUATION (\$0.025471/\$100 VALUATION for Maintenance and Operations (M & O) and \$0.00857/\$100 VALUATION for Interest and Sinking (I & S) – Judge Garza
- 18. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the list of Changes to the Proposed 2024 Budget that the Commissioners Court consider Warranted by Law and Required by the Interest of the Taxpayers – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

19. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Adopting the 2024 Budget – THIS BUDGET WILL RAISE MORE TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES THAN LAST YEAR’S BUDGET BY AN AMOUNT OF \$3,212,223, WHICH IS A 23.20% INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR’S BUDGET. THE PROPERTY TAX REVENUE TO BE RAISED FROM NEW PROPERTY ADDED TO THE TAX ROLL THIS YEAR IS \$559,528.00 –
Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
20. Discuss, approve, or disapprove 2024 Salaries, Expenses and other allowances of Elected Officials – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
21. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the adoption of Resolution #R-24-2023, a Resolution for the 2023 Tax Roll, Levy and Rate. The total tax rate to be levied for the County of Aransas for the Tax Year 2023, be and is hereby set at \$0.358411 per \$100 valuation with an assessment ration of 100 percent, to be assessed and collected by the Tax Assessor-Collector for Aransas County as follows:
 - a) \$0.269534 per \$100 valuation for the purpose of the County Ad Valorem Maintenance and Operations fund;
 - b) \$0.039815 per \$100 valuation for the purpose of the County Ad Valorem Interest and Sinking fund;
 - c) \$0.042572 per \$100 Valuation for the purpose of the County Farm to Market/Flood Control Maintenance and Operations with the resulting levy being split on a percentage basis: 79.11% designated for the County’s Road and Bridge Maintenance and Operations fund and 20.89% designated for the Flood Control Maintenance and Operations fund;
 - d) \$0.006490 per \$100 valuation for the purpose of the County Farm to Market/FLOOD ONLY Interest and Sinking fund.
22. Discuss, approve, or disapprove adopting the 2023 Tax Roll and Levy –
Anna Marshall/Judge Garza
23. Discuss, approve or disapprove Ratifying the Property Tax Increase reflected in the 2024 Budget – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
24. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Budget Line Item - Transfers for the 2023 Budget –
Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
25. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities –
Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

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

At this time, Commissioners will provide reports or updates on committee assignments and Elected Officials and Department Heads may provide reports or updates related to advisory boards, fee reports, and more.

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

At this time, Commissioners Court will receive reports and updates from Commissioners, County Judge, and County staff related to items of community interest such as: expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolences; information regarding holiday schedules or closures; honorary or salutatory recognition of a public official, employee, or a citizen; reminders about upcoming events; reports on public events attended by Commissioners, County officials, and/or employees; and any announcement involving an emergency or imminent threat to public health and safety that arose after the posting of this Agenda.

XI. CLOSED SESSION

26. 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:

- a. *Aransas County Texas v. Endurance American Specialty Insurance Company, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 23-0021; and
- b. *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
- c. *Aransas County v. Kathleen Hicks, in her official capacity as Director of the Regional Pool Alliance*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 23-0069.

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 –Jen O’Steen/Judge Garza

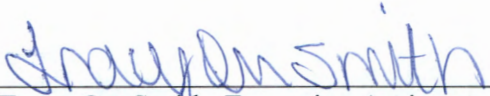
XII. OPEN SESSION

27. Reconvene into Open Session
28. Discuss and take action on matters discussed in closed session – Jen O’Steen/ Judge Garza

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby affirmed that this **NOTICE OF MEETING and AGENDA** was duly posted at the Aransas County Courthouse at least seventy-two (72) hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting on enclosed bulletin boards outside of the Courthouse that are readily accessible to the general public twenty-four (24) hours each day and also on the Aransas County website, in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and Texas Government Code §551.043.



Tracy Orr Smith, Executive Assistant
Aransas County Judge's Office
Tel: 361-790-0100

FILED FOR RECORD
AT 3:22 P.M.

SEP 07 2023

MISTY KIMBROUGH
COUNTY CLERK, ARANSAS CO., TEXAS
posted By 3:35p