

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - OCTOBER 28, 2019

On the 28th day of October, 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; **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; **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; **Elizabeth Guerra**, Human Resources Assistant; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Michele Bennett**, Elections Administrator; **Rene Butler**, Facilities Director; **Carrie Arrington**, Office & Contracts Manager, County District Attorney's Office; **Jacky Cockerham**, First Assistant County Auditor; **Lori Cesar**, Animal Control Director; **John Gutierrez**, Chief Deputy Sheriff; **Gavin Harrison**, Training Coordinator for the Sheriff's Office;

Long-Term Recovery Specialists: **Kim Foutz**, **Randall Freeze**, **Vicki Foley**, Executive Secretary; **Jennifer Heard**, IA, Recovery Hotline/Volunteer & Donations Coordinator; **Deana Spruce**, Public Information Officer;

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

Texas General Land Office: Simone Sanders, Community Outreach Coordinator, Intergovernmental Relations;

Aransas County Medical Services, Inc: Patricia Arnold;

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

Chamber of Commerce: Diane Probst, President/CEO;

Rockport Maritime Museum: Kathy Roberts-Douglas;

Rockport Pilot Newspaper: Mike Probst, Editor and Publisher;

Aransas County Citizens: Betty Stiles; Harriet Layne; Joe Layne;

Department of Public Safety: Marvin Baker, Sergeant;

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.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

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

1. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 14, 2019 and the Special Meeting of October 18, 2019.

2. Resolution #R-39-2019, a Resolution of Aransas County for Pavement Improvements Project at the Aransas County Airport.
3. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court, a Certificate of Completion of Commissioners Court Advanced Curriculum to Leslie Casterline, County Commissioner Precinct 2, dated October 9, 2019 from the County Judges & Commissioners Association of Texas and conferring to Leslie Casterline the designation "Certified County Commissioners' Court Member".
4. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court, a Certificate of Completion from the Texas District Court Alliance to Pam Heard, District Clerk, for satisfactory participation in the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual TDCA Workshop held October 15-17, 2019.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

#### COUNTY REPORTS

5. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly 2019 Report for the Texas Maritime Museum.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

6. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve option one, presented by DPS Sgt. Marvin Baker, combining the duties of the Department of Public Safety Administrative Assistants for

**(Inserts)**

Aransas County and Refugio County with current Refugio County employee assuming this position January 1, 2020 and Aransas County will contribute \$20,000 towards the contract employee pending an Interlocal Agreement. Current Aransas County Employee, Sharon Loflin, is scheduled for retirement at the end of "December", 2019. (correction to agenda item pointed out by Officer Baker)

[Item Previously Tabled 10/14/19]

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

#### COUNTY POLICY & PROCEDURES

7. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve a Procurement Policy to assure Aransas County is in compliance with all Federal, State, and Local procurement regulations.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

#### COUNTY ROADS & FLOODPLAIN

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Order #0-18-2019, an Order Closing, Abandoning, and Vacating an Alleyway (a portion of Oak Street between Lots 47 & 49, in Market Street Homes Subdivision, Section Two, Aransas County, Texas).

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve and authorize County Judge to accept and sign an Amended Drainage Easement from the Dry Docks Boat & Trailer Storage, LTD; said Amended Drainage Easement modifies the location of the Easement on the property and increases its width from a twenty-foot (20.0') to a fifty-foot wide (50.0') Drainage Easement.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES**

10. Approval of a Contractual Agreement between Aransas County and Code 3 Emergency for monthly financial support guaranteeing that said subsidies will be disbursed only as physician compensation **went into closed session.**

11. Approval and authorization of the County Judge to execute a Real Estate Option Contract to secure a future Micro-Hospital site to serve the citizens of Aransas County in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 **went into closed session.**

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign an Independent Contractor Agreement with William Whitson and Kim Foutz to continue the Long Term Recovery consulting for Aransas County.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Laubach and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to TABLE revisions to the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Interlocal Agreement for the Aransas County Alliance Local Government Corporation (previously approved by Commissioners' Court on May 13, 2019) made by the Aransas County Navigation District.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE**

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to TABLE creating a new Full-time Floater Position in Human Resources to cover temporary needs for administrative and clerical jobs in lieu of using temporary agencies to be paid for by departments requesting assistance.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the September 2019 Treasurer's Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the Treasurer's 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Investment Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

17. Approval of the County's October 2019 monthly financial support to Code 3 Emergency based on new Contractual Agreement went into closed session.

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

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

19. 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.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &

DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

**Suzy Wallace** read the fees report.

**Kristen Barnebey** stated that she would like to add Agenda Item #7 to closed session.

**David Reid** announced that Road & Bridge is up and running in their new office.

**Commissioner Casterline** announced that Environmental Health had a very successful operation this last Friday and Saturday (October 25-26) collecting derelict boats during the Vessel Turn-In Program, 31 boats from around the county were taken to the drop off site.

(Insert)

**Judge Mills:** That's great, one of them was a kayak, believe it or not.

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*The Court entered into closed session at 9:38 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 10:09 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:*

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**Judge Mills:** Ok, we are back in session, there is no action on Item #7, that was discussion only.

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to TABLE a Contractual Agreement between Aransas County and Code 3 Emergency for monthly financial support guaranteeing that said subsidies will be disbursed only as physician compensation. Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to execute a Real Estate Option Contract to secure a future Micro-Hospital site to serve the citizens of Aransas County in an amount not to exceed \$35,000. Question. Motion carried with three voting for and Commissioner Laubach voting against. It is so ordered.

**(Insert)**



October 28, 2019

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve the County's October 2019 monthly financial support to Code 3 Emergency based on new Contractual Agreement.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

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*No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 10:11 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline.*

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



VALERIE K. AMASON,

EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT