

MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Aransas County Commissioners Court



9:00 AM – Monday, February 10, 2025

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on **10th DAY of FEBRUARY, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW COURTROOM IN THE ARANSAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 2718 HWY. 35 N., ROCKPORT, TEXAS, 78382.** The meeting video recordings are available by following this link: [Commissioners Court Minutes and Agendas \(aransascourttx.gov\)](https://aransascourttx.gov), then scroll to the bottom of the page and select the date you wish to view.

Present: **Ray A. Garza**, County Judge
Jack Chaney, Commissioner Precinct 1-1A
Leslie Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Robert Dupnik, Commissioner, Precinct 4-4A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Video Time 0:00

II. INVOCATION

Video Time 0:14

III. PLEDGES

Video Time 1:48

IV. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Video Time 2:15

V. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Video Time 2:26

🗳️ Jeff Hutt – ACAD Board appointment

VI. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

🗳️ There were none.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the January 22, 2025 Special Meeting (originally scheduled for January 21, 2025 but delayed due to weather) – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
2. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the January 27, 2025 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
3. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the February 3, 2025 Special Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
4. Acknowledge and accept donation of \$375 donated to Aransas Pathways from Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute (REWI) to be used for Linda S. Castro site projects – Melissa Zieschang/Judge Garza
5. Acknowledge and accept donation of \$10,000 donated to Aransas Pathways by Matt Corpora to be used for Linda S. Castro site projects – Melissa Zieschang/Judge Garza
6. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court the V.G. Young Institute of County Government Certificate awarded to Pat Rousseau for Completion of 24 hours of Educational Training – Pat Rousseau

Video Time 7:48

- ✪ **Motion to accept the consent agenda:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
- ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

VIII. COUNTY REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

7. Discuss, approve or disapprove appointing Janet Leah Hasty to the Aransas County Appraisal Board of Directors until the end of 2025 – Judge Garza

Video Time 9:14

- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ✪ Discussion about legality of the process followed for this appointment
 - ✪ Agreed to accept motion, but will do more study to make sure this is the right action, if not the court will amend their actions.
 - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
8. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the 4th Quarter 2024 Report from the Friends of the Fulton Mansion – Jane Hill/Judge Garza

Video Time 13:06

- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
9. Discuss, approve or disapprove the 4th Quarter 2024 Report from the Aransas County Historical Commission – Dave Hattman/Judge Garza

Video Time 20:11

- ✪ **Struck from agenda by Judge Garza**
10. Acknowledge Friends of the History Center 4th Quarter 2024 Report – Eric Koenig/Judge Garza

Video Time 20:19

- ✪ Delayed until the presenter can make it to court

Video Time 39:55

- ✪ Presenter Eric Koenig is now present

IX. COUNTY ROADS AND FLOODPLAIN

11. Discuss, approve, or disapprove accepting the roads and drainage infrastructure in the Lucas Ranch Subdivision for maintenance by the County and approving Resolution #R-04-2025, a Resolution accepting infrastructure for County Maintenance – Kat Comeaux/Judge Garza

Video Time 20:11

- ✪ **Struck from agenda by Judge Garza**

X. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

12. Discuss, approve or disapprove rejecting all responses for the Brush Grinding Services Request for Proposals advertised and opened on December 19, 2024, and resoliciting the project – Anthony Van Meter/Judge Garza

Video Time 22:13

- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
13. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing Environmental Health – Transfer Station to seek new bids for a 2025 Brush Grinding Contract – Anthony Van Meter/Judge Garza

Video Time 23:51

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

14. Discuss, approve or disapprove Construction Change Request #111, Credit for Tree Grate, and Construction Change Order #112 to furnish and install power supply and relay necessary to trip the breaker inside the elevator machine room in case of fire – Judge Garza

Video Time 25:57

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

15. Discuss, approve or disapprove accepting and approving As-Built drawings and authorize the County Judge to sign the As-Built Acceptance Letter and the Certificate of Construction Completion for the Holiday Beach Road Improvements Project, in the County's General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (DBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270 – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

Video Time 35: 44

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

16. Discuss, approve or disapprove accepting and approving As-Built drawings and authorize the County Judge to sign the As-Built Acceptance Letter and the Certificate of Construction Completion for Ruby Allen & Traylor Ditch Improvements Project, in the County's General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270 – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

Video Time 37:40

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

17. Discuss, approve or disapprove accepting and approving As-Built drawings and authorize the County Judge to sign the As-Built Acceptance Letter and the Certificate of Construction Completion for the Southeast Aransas County Drainage Improvements Project, in the County's General Land Office Community Development Block Grant- Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270 – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

Video Time 38:45

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

- ✧ Judge Garza – back to item # 10 for the presentation

Video Time 39:55

18. Discuss, approve or disapprove DLF Two, Inc.'s Aransas County Change Order No. 25 for the Aransas County Downtown Anchor Project fiber and hydro trenching for conduit installation. The cost of the 30x48x36 box is \$8,917.10 paid by Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds (LATCF) – Elle Morales/Judge Garza

Video Time 46:09

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

- ✦ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
19. Discuss, approve or disapprove FEMA Disaster Recovery Project No. DR-4332-0195-TX Hurricane Harvey Phase, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Sub-Grant Award for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), for the Aransas County Detention Center Generator – authorizing the County Judge to sign and execute all necessary documents – Elle Morales/Judge Garza
[Video Time 48:40](#)
- ✦ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ✦ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
20. Discuss, approve or disapprove FEMA Disaster Recovery Project No. DR-4332-0199-TX Hurricane Harvey Phase, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Sub-Grant Award for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), for the Aransas County Environmental Health Facility Generator – authorizing the County Judge to sign and execute all necessary documents – Elle Morales/Judge Garza
[Video Time 52:03](#)
- ✦ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ✦ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
21. Discuss, approve or disapprove FEMA Disaster Recovery Project No. DR-4332-0200-TX Hurricane Harvey Phase, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Sub-Grant Award for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), for the Aransas County Fulton Elementary Generator – authorizing County Judge to sign and execute all necessary documents – Elle Morales/Judge Garza
[Video Time 53:49](#)
- ✦ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
- ✦ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
22. Discuss, approve or disapprove FEMA Disaster Recovery Project No. DR-4332-0196-TX Hurricane Harvey Phase, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Sub-Grant Award for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), for the Aransas County Public Safety EOPS Generator – authorizing the County Judge to sign and execute all necessary documents – Elle Morales/Judge Garza
[Video Time 54:48](#)
- ✦ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
- ✦ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- ✦ **Judge Garza called for a ten-minute break.**
[Video Time 55:55](#)
- ✦ **Judge Garza called the meeting back in session**
[Video Time 1:04:46](#)
23. Discuss, approve or disapprove entering into the Interlocal Project Cooperation Contract for the General Land Office (GLO) Contract No. #25-047-000-E868 between Aransas County and the GLO and authorizing County Judge to sign the necessary documents – Adela C. Martinez/Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
[Video Time 1:04:53](#)

- ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
- ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 24. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Attorney to agree to the proposed terms of settlement in the iWorQ Systems, Inc. contract dispute in Civil No. 240100226 and authorizing County Judge to sign any necessary documents – Adela C. Martinez/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:06:44
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 25. Presentation of OR2025-003486, an Order to Aransas County from the Office of the Attorney General regarding the Wendt Services, Inc. Public Information Act Request – Amanda Oster/Adela C. Martinez/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:08:26
 - ✧ Commissioner Casterline read the item agenda memo
 - ✧ Presentation no vote needed
- 26. Discuss, approve or disapprove ordering authorizing the County Attorney to file a challenge to OR2025-003486 in the District Court of Travis County – Amanda Oster/Adela C. Martinez/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:30:47
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau**Video Time 1:31:35**
 - ✧ Commissioner Rousseau pulled the motion**Video Time 1:39:37**
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Judge Garza
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 0-5 all voted nay: it was so ordered
- 27. Discuss, approve, or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign an agreement with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center, a 501c(3) non-profit organization, to provide interpreting services to persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, low vision or deaf/blind on an “as needed” basis – Judge Garza
Video Time 1:40:29
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- XI. PLANNING AND BUDGET**
- 28. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Report for January 2025 – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:43:03
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 29. Discuss, approve or disapprove the renewal of the program agreement with Texas Association of Counties (TAC) for the Affordable Care Act Reporting & Tracking Service (ARTS) and authorizing the County Judge to execute necessary documents – Desiree Upton/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:43:41

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

30. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Budget Line Items Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:44:23

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

31. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:45:10

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

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

Video Time 1:48:45

✧ Commissioner Rousseau

✧ Judge Garza

✧ Collin Jackson

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

Video Time 1:51:32

✧ There were none

XIV. CLOSED SESSION

32. Convene into a Closed Session to consult with counsel and receive legal advice about pending or contemplated litigation or other attorney-client privilege matters, including insurance matters related to Aransas County's projects and insurance claims from Hurricane Harvey, various contract disputes and the Wendt Services, Inc. Public Information Act Request:

i. *Aransas County Texas v. Endurance American Specialty Insurance Company, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 23-0021; and

ii. *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

iii. *Western Steel Company v. T2J Partners, LLC DIE/A FPS Recovery, LLC and Aransas County, Texas*: Cause No. 24-0072 in the 36th District Court of Aransas County, Texas; and

iv. *Oldcastle Building Envelope, Inc. D/B/A Graham Architectural Products v. Sharp Glass, LLC, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 24-0099; and

v. *iWorQ Systems, Inc., a Utah Corporation v. Aransas County, Texas*, Case No. 240100226, in the District Court of the First Judicial District County of Cache, Utah; and

vi. *Wendt Services, Inc. Public Information Act Request*

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 –Amanda Oster/Adela Martinez/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:51:42

- ⊛ Commissioner Casterline requested to go into closed session to discuss Item # 7
- ⊛ **I motion to move into closed session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

- ⊛ Judge Garza called for ten-minute break before starting the Closed Session

Video Time 1:53:05

XV. OPEN SESSION

33. Reconvene into Open Session

Video Time 2:39:37

- ⊛ **Motion to reconvene into open session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
34. Discuss and take action on matters discussed in closed session – Jennifer O’Steen/ Judge Garza
- ⊛ There was no action to be taken

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Video Time 2:39:52

- ⊛ **Motion to adjourn:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
- ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- ⊛ **Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM**

ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS’ COURT



Misty Kimbrough
Misty Kimbrough,
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

2-24-25
Date signed and attestation.

Ray A. Garza
Ray A. Garza, County Judge

02/24/2025
Date signed.

