

# MINUTES

## Aransas County Commissioners Court



9:00 AM – Monday, June 24, 2024

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on Monday, June 24 2024, at 9:00 AM, in the Aransas County Courthouse, 2840 Hwy 35 N, Rockport, Texas. Aransas County Commissioner's Court meeting video recordings are available by following this link: [Commissioners Court Minutes and Agendas \(aransascountytexas.gov\)](#), 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 0:09](#)

### III. PLEDGES

[Video Time 1:40](#)

### IV. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

[Video Time 2:06](#)

### V. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

[Video Time 2:20](#)

- ✪ Blanch Dean
- ✪ John Murray, President of Teal Construction

### VI. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

[Video Time 13:42](#)

1. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing County Judge to renew the Disaster Declaration of June 21, 2024, created in response to Tropical Storm Alberto –Judge Garza

**NOTICE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 551.045 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, NOTICE OF AN EMERGENCY ADDITION TO THE JUNE 24, 2024, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA IS HEREBY GIVEN. THE ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT WILL DELIBERATE OR TAKE ACTION ON THE EMERGENCY OR URGENT PUBLIC NECESSITY FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES IN RESPONSE TO TROPICAL STORM ALBERTO. THIS NOTICE IS PUBLISHED WITH AT LEAST ONE HOURS' NOTICE BEFORE THE MEETING IS CONVENED.**

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

## VII. CONSENT AGENDA

### Video Time 15:13

Judge Garza Struck 3. Minutes for May 30, 2024 due to an error

2. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the May 28, 2024 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
3. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the May 30, 2024 Workshop Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
4. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the June 10, 2024 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
5. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the June 17, 2024 Workshop Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
6. Discuss, approve or disapprove allowing the Aransas County Public Library to donate (171) discarded books to the Friends of the Aransas County Public Library for their book sales – Iris Sanchez/Judge Garza

### **Donations**

7. Acknowledge and accept donations from the following:  
Anonymous \$20 donation  
Caitlan Frazier/Judge Garza
  - ⊛ **Motion to accept the consent agenda:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
  - ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

## VIII. COUNTY REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

8. Discuss, approve or disapprove ordering a large bronze plaque from the Alamo Letter Society which contains Col. William Barrett Travis's Alamo "Victory or Death" letter; the mission of the Alamo Letter Society is to educate current and future Texans about their forefathers' armed struggle for Freedom and Liberty and to honor the two leading Tejanos of the Texas Revolution, Jose Antonio Navarro and Juan Seguin, and to place these plaques in all 254 Texas Courthouses; money will be raised through donations for the cost of the plaque – Judge Garza

### Video Time 16:22

- ⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
  - ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
9. Discuss, approve or disapprove the appointment of Alyssa Massengill to the Aransas Pathways Steering Committee - Commissioner Rousseau

### Video Time 21:53

- ⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
  - ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
10. Discuss, approve or disapprove R-13-2024, a Resolution approving the Aransas County Investment Policy (No Changes – Annual Review and Update) – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

### Video Time 22:31

- ⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

11. Discuss, approve or disapprove R-14-2024, a Resolution appointing Alma Cartwright, County Treasurer, as Investment Officer to invest Aransas County's funds in accordance with the foregoing Investment Policy – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 23:05

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

12. Discuss, approve or disapprove R-15-2024, a Resolution acknowledging the Brokers/Dealers List as being authorized to provide services as required to Aransas County – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 23:36

- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
- ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

#### IX. COUNTY ROADS AND FLOODPLAIN – NONE

#### X. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

13. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign a Confirmation Form confirming that HALO-Flight provides Emergency (911) and/or Emergency Transfer Services for Aransas County – Judge Garza

Video Time 24:07

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

14. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Children's Coalition of Aransas County (CCAC) for space at the Aransas County Airport to store supplies and equipment in the event of a disaster or emergency – Mike Geer/Judge Garza

Video Time 24:56

- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

15. Discuss, approve or disapprove seeking Requests for Proposals (RFP) for construction of the Detention Center Water Tank Project – Sheriff Mills/Judge Garza

Video Time 26:20

- ✪ **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 authorizing the County Judge to execute an order form for AT&T Dedicated Ethernet (ADE) Services under Texas Contract # DIR-TELE-CTSA-002 to replace existing AT&T ADE under a new 24 month term, significantly reducing the current service rate from \$2,745.00/month reduced down to approximately \$627.20/month – Collin Jackson/Judge Garza

Video Time 37:23

- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
  - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
17. Discuss, approve or disapprove seeking Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for a Shelter Needs Assessment for Aransas County Animal Care – Caitlan Frazier/Judge Garza  
Video Time 38:41
- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
  - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
18. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing Judge Garza to sign the “Professional Services Agreement” with Tyler Technologies, for a records request from Texas File Land & Mineral Data; there is no cost to the County – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza  
Video Time 40:17
- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau , motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
  - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
19. Discuss, approve or disapprove the contract between Kofile and Aransas County for Records Storage of the County’s permanent and historical records – Misty Kimbrough /Judge Garza  
Video Time 40:53
- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
  - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
20. Discuss, approve or disapprove Hiring Resolution R-16-2024, a Resolution to select BLS Construction, Inc., to provide construction services for the installation of three (3) standby generators – Airport Field Lighting DR-4332-0197, Road and Bridge DR-4332-0202, and Transfer Station DR-4332-0203 – Hazard Mitigation Grant Project (HMGP); the generators are FEMA Disaster Recovery-Approved Projects with funding and sub-award agreements through the Texas Division of Emergency Management – Elle Moralez /Judge Garza  
Video Time 42:01
- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
  - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
21. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing County Judge to execute Notice to Proceed between Aransas County and BLS Construction, Inc. to mobilize and begin construction for three (3) Standby Generator Installation Projects for Aransas County, Texas consisting of the Airport Field Lighting DR-4332-0197, Road and Bridge Office DR-4332-0202, and Transfer Station DR-4332-0203 Hazard Mitigation Grant Project (HMGP); the generators are FEMA disaster recovery-approved projects with funding and sub-award agreements through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)- Elle Moralez/Judge Garza  
Video Time 43:10
- ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
  - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

22. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Courthouse furniture purchase and authorizing the County Judge to sign necessary documents – Elle Morales/Judge Garza  
Video Time 44:18  
⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau  
⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
23. Discuss, approve or disapprove Change Order No. 3 of construction contract for Southeast Aransas County Drainage Improvements in the County’s General Land Office Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270; Brizo Construction, LLC, requests an increase in the Contract amount by an additional \$127,216.00 for additional excavation (500 CY), 18” RC Pipe (738 LF), 24” RCP (32 LF), 3’ x 3’ Inlet (7 EA), 4’ x 4’ inlet (4 EA) – David Reid/Judge Garza  
Video Time 46:18  
⊛ **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 Change Order No. 4 of construction contract for Loop 1781 in the County’s General Land Office Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270, to LCR Total Transport, LLC; Change Order #04 decreases the contract amount by \$59,084.40 for underruns in bid quantities for Prime Coat (\$25,061.40), Excavation for Erosion Control (\$10,270.00), Construction Exits Install (\$1,705.00), Construction Exits Remove (852.50), Work Zone Pavement Markings (\$10,593.50), and Remove & Re-Lay Pipe – David Reid/Judge Garza  
Video Time 48:00  
⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney  
⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

**XI. PLANNING AND BUDGET**

25. Discuss, approve or disapprove the May 2024 Treasurer’s Report – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza  
Video Time 50:18  
⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline  
⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
26. Discuss, approve or disapprove Aransas County’s Texas Association of Counties (TAC) Health and Employee Benefits Plan Year 2025 Renewal and authorize the County Judge to enter into and sign the Renewal Agreement with Texas Association of Counties (TAC) – Desiree Upton/Judge Garza  
Video Time 50:45  
⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik  
⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

27. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Budget Line Items - Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 55:17

- ⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

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

Video Time 55:44

- ⊛ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
- ⊛ **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 58:21

- ⊛ Commissioner Chaney
- ⊛ Mike Geer
- ⊛ Commissioner Dupnik

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

Video Time 1:03:04

- ⊛ Caitlan Frasier

**XIV. CLOSED SESSION**

Video Time 1:03:50

**NO CLOSED SESSION**

29. 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:

- 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 36<sup>th</sup> District Court of Aransas County, Texas;*

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/Judge Garza

**XV. OPEN SESSION**

30. Reconvene into Open Session

**NO CLOSED SESSION**

- 31. Discuss and take action on matters discussed in closed session – Amanda Oster/Judge Garza  
**NO CLOSED SESSION**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Video Time 1:03:58

- ⊗ **Motion to adjourn:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
- ⊗ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- ⊗ **Meeting adjourned at 10:04 AM**

**ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT**



Ray A. Garza, County Judge

7/12/2024

Date signed.



Misty Kimbrough,  
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

7/12/24

Date signed and attestation.

