



# MINUTES

## Aransas County Commissioners Court

9:00 AM – Monday, July 10, 2023

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on Monday, July 10, 2023, 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 \(aransascountytx.gov\)](https://www.aransascountytx.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

### I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGES

The meeting convened at 9:00 AM

### II. INVOCATION

### III. ROLL CALL was taken and Quorum was declared, and the following proceedings were had and done, to wit:

### IV. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

*None to be heard*

### V. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Presentation by Aransas County and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension – Progress and Development – Virginia Easton Smith/Megan Glidden/Pat Cruz

<p><b>Presented by:</b> Megan Glidden, and Pat Cruz, Ginger Easton was not present <b>No questions</b></p>
--

### VI. CONSENT AGENDA

2. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Minutes from the June 30, 2023 Special Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
3. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the June 30, 2023 Workshop Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
4. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the June 26, 2023 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
5. Acknowledge and accept a donation of dog food/cat food valued at \$3,000 (2 pallets) from Chewy and the Humane Society of United States for Aransas County Animal Care – Lori Cesar/Judge Garza
6. Acknowledge and accept a donation of dog food value \$40.00 from Todd Kocian for Aransas County Animal Care – Lori Cesar/Judge Garza

7. Acknowledge and accept a donation of dog food, valued at \$35.00 from Carmen Hernandez for Aransas County Animal Care – Lori Cesar/Judge Garza
8. Acknowledge and accept a donation of dog food, valued at \$600.00 from Tractor Supply/Darrell Norris, Store Manager, for Aransas County Animal Care – Lori Cesar/Judge Garza
9. Acknowledge receipt of, and record in the minutes of the Commissioners Court, a Certificate for Continuing Education for Alma Cartwright from the Texas Association of Counties from the 2023 Conference of the County Investment Academy – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza
10. Acknowledge receipt of, and record in the minutes of the Commissioners Court, a Continuing Education Credit Form of 11 hours for Commissioner Jack Chaney from the South Texas Judges and Commissioners Association Conference – Commission Chaney

**Motion to accept the consent agenda:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

**Discussion followed:** Commissioner Dupnik asked Lori Cesar, Director of Animal Care how the donated dog food compares to what we are able to purchase? Lori Cesar right now we are going through about 500 lbs. of food per month so this really the two pallets this should cover approximately two months. Tractor Supply also stepped up, he would like us to have an adoption event every month inside his store. One of my ACOs is going to take that over. He will help with food when he can. The food donated is a higher quality. We will mix it with the food we have on hand to make last longer. The higher quality of food means less clean up. Commissioner Chaney asked if we have banners we could put on the fence out there to mention these donors out there. If those who donate consistently want to put a small banner up out there I think that should be allowed.

Lori Cesar, I'm not sure, but I will visit with Daryl.

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

## VII. COUNTY REPORTS

11. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Rockport Center for the Arts Report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2023 – Luis Purón/Judge Garza

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

**Discussion followed:** Commissioner Rousseau would like to thank you, your reports are always tremendous and the information they present and in the results that you're achieving and I would say that the \$10,000 you invest in the Texas Society Association of Executives is a very wise investment. I used to work for the Convention and Visitors Bureau in Corpus Christi and this association is made up of executives from all of the State associations and if you attract them you attract all of their members associations.

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

## VIII. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

12. Discuss, approve, or disapprove entering into a Service Agreement with the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) County Information Resources Agency (CIRA) to provide service including webhosting, design, migration, management, and support services with an initial cost of \$5,500.00 and an additional amount not to exceed \$20,000 and a recurring

annual cost of approximately \$6,000.00 with the Agreement being in effect from the date of execution until December 31, 2023 and for up to Four (4) renewals of One (1) Year – Commissioner Rousseau

**Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, eliminating the additional amount not to exceed \$20,000, with an explanation to follow, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

**Discussion followed:** Commissioner Rousseau – I would like to explain that the additional amount that was projected on extra services needed to migrate from our current website to the new website are not to be charged to us because of the level we are committing to which is the ultimate website. If we were going with the standard we would have to pay the migration services. But, they are included and I had that confirmed for me on Friday.

Jennifer O'Steen, may I ask if you are wanting to approve the contract as written by CIRA or with my edits incorporated. I don't believe they have responded to my request for edits.

Commissioner Rousseau – the information I received on page 10, 3.1 I think you had a question about the inner main domain name, that we authorize CIRA to obtain or host this services is provided for free if we do not choose to use it we do not have to. That is what they told me. The other item was about the selected service the website service description we selected that in error and we do not need to pay that because of the level that we're purchasing with the ultimate website package. As for the items I know you were requesting additional time for notification of cancellation of the agreement and a couple of other items, they are going to take that to their board because they have a new board that has been appointed and hey will be meeting, I think, on July 26<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>, and they will ask them. They said that previous boards refused to change those amounts but they have never discontinued working with the county on a 30-day notice. I apologize for the late notice, I only had that conversation late on Friday.

Jennifer O'Steen – did they every respond to the question regarding timeline?

Commissioner Rousseau – no. They said that depends on how quickly we get them the information that are really the ones that determine the amount of time it takes. They will respond to us as we get them information.

Commissioner Casterline – suggest that you amend you motion to that the approval be contingent on approval from the County Attorney's Office of the contract.

Commissioner Rousseau – it's just in the past I thought we didn't want to approve contracts contingent upon

Commissioner Casterline – we've done that numerous times with final approval from the County Attorney.

Commissioner Rousseau – I'm fine with doing that

Commissioner Casterline – it sounds like a lot of issues here that need to be ironed out, I think we can approve it

**Commissioner Rousseau – I'll amend my motion to still eliminate the \$20,000 and to say that it will be approved following the approval of the County Attorney's Office.**

**Commissioner Casterline – I'll second that again.**

Commissioner Rousseau – thank you

Commissioner Chaney – what all did we look at in doing this? I've got a spreadsheet

here that says we looked at several things. Is this the easy task?

Commissioner Rousseau – it's hosted by or the software was written by but I can tell you that the ARPA Committee spent two plus years working and looking at different options and this was by far the very best selection.

Commissioner Dupnik – would you speak to that too, it says staff is requesting approval with a cost, have ya'll had opportunity to look at other

Collin Jackson – in the ARPA Committee we did look at several different options. Both from presentation of what they can provide but also technical aspects. From a technical perspective with Easy Task the company that CIRA contracts with, they don't do truly customized components on their website. So if a feature is not available we have to host it somewhere else. So that can start adding up when you have to add and acquire them elsewhere.

Judge Garza – what are some of those features?

Collin Jackson – the jail's data page that lists who's in jail. Our current employee directory through our current platform and while they have a work around to it it's not as real time as our current set up. It would be a couple of days or hours behind. We would have to send data to them and they process it. Our employee opportunity page is also something that we custom wrote. Those are components that they don't have on their page, but we can still host them ourselves. They do have their Communicator module allows you to put prominent news messages on your front page, and that's something we don't have on our current platform. We looked at the features that they offer which they do offer a build it, called "What you see is what you get." You drag and drop and put your page together by dragging boxes around and putting the text out there. They do have a content management solution. That's the software that drives what shows up on your web page

Commissioner Chaney – is that an additional cost?

Collin Jackson – that is built into the cost of their hosting plus the Easy Task software.

Commissioner Chaney – I wasn't on the committee so I don't really know what all went on but I followed this thing with Tyler Technology and I realized Tyler is a different issue but whenever we bought it we committed to a long-term and it has not been a good deal. I don't want to be a cookie cutter website, I want us to be able to move things in and out at reasonable cost. But I don't want to get in another issue like Tyler Technology. If we want to go somewhere else but they want to keep our data like Tyler Technology that really concerns me.

Commissioner Casterline – this is a probably the least expensive option that we looked at and they do websites all across the State.

Commissioner Rousseau – they do about 174 Counties in Texas and about 10 Special Districts like water districts.

Commissioner Casterline – We've been talking about upgrading the website for years.

Collin Jackson – The software they utilize is used in less than 1% of the internet. One of the other packages we looked at has a 42% usage.

Commissioner Casterline – so would you like us to get a half a million dollar website? Is that what you are talking about?

Collin Jackson – not necessarily. The comparable alternative that we brought up while we were waiting on CIRA, was company that uses WordPress, but one of the biggest factors of the Easy Task component that has been a bad taste is marrying us to a proprietary software. Like Tyler Technologies if we end up not liking Easy Task sometime in the future we have to completely redesign and start with a new company

we cannot take our page anywhere else at that point. That is the biggest takeaway, we are married to that software forever. Until we decide to do it.

Commissioner Casterline – Can I get back to the same point, we've been about upgrading our website for years and years. We need to move on, if we don't like this one we can get another one. For the things we do here this is an inexpensive option and from looking at other sites that they have at other counties this is way better than what we have.

Commissioner Dupnik – I agree our website needs help dramatically, it seems for \$500 a month for web hosting and support services is a good

Commissioner Casterline – they'll actually teach each department to do their own

Commissioner Rousseau – if they want too, our website is a disaster and I hear about that almost as much as I hear about the Nav. District and complaints from the community. We did a tremendous amount of research, we looked at other websites, talked to other counties who are using this website and other websites. This is by far the very best deal.

Commissioner Chaney – have there been other counties in your research that has this that has had issues that were difficult to change something that really needed to be changed.

Commissioner Rousseau – not the ones that we talked to who were using this program.

Commissioner Chaney – so the majority of the folks that you talked to would make that same decision again?

Commissioner Rousseau – I would say that everyone we talked to who was using this program would make the same decision again.

Commissioner Chaney – that's good research, okay.

Sheriff Mills – question about the jail page

Collin Jackson – we will still have to host that ourselves

Commissioner Dupnik – is there a cost to host that ourselves?

Collin Jackson - we will be paying for two sets of hosting so it will about double our existing hosting costs. Our existing host is contracted through 2025 and will have to be renewed. It is renewed about every three years.

Commissioner Casterline – I think in the process you can work with the tech platform and see if can change that.

Collin Jackson – we have discussed with them they will not host or migrate custom written code like that. They don't do custom writing programs to implement those kinds of things. If we provided data to them they could format it if we were able to provide a data feed but we would have to host that data feed, pull it and send it to them somehow. Anything they do we still have to provide them the data and the only way to provide the data is to provide hosting for them to plug in and pull that data. Any way we shake it we are still going to pay for our hosting to get them data that they need in order to process it. There is not a way for them to reach into our Tyler productions servers and pull that data. Tyler won't allow them to do that either. We have to have an intermediate hosting provider to do that.

Commissioner Dupnik – what is the additional cost?

Collin Jackson – our current hosting is about \$1,900.43 a year.

**Vote:** Motion carried 4-1: it was so ordered, Commissioner Chaney voted no

13. Discuss, approve, or disapprove authorizing the IT Department to advertise for proposals for leased fleet printing and maintenance services – Collin Jackson/Judge Garza

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

**Discussion followed:** Commissioner Casterline – What is that?

Collin Jackson – This will be replacement of all copiers and most of all the printing hardware. This refreshing the printer fleet as well as the big copiers. Most of these that we have survived Harvey and are in desperate need of being replaced. Our current contract expired last year and this would be a renewal with going out for an RFP and finding a new company as well as replace our fleet all across the County that are ageing and showing their wear and tear.

Commissioner Chaney – who do we lease from now?

Collin Jackson – Xerox Business Solutions Southwest

Commissioner Chaney – is that who you would anticipate that we will lease with again?

Collin Jackson – They would be a contender if they submit a bid

Commissioner Chaney – Have they done a good job in the last four to five years?

Collin Jackson – Hit and miss. Some printers they have taken really good care of and others it's like pulling teeth. It depended on the department, some devices they just could not keep up with on the service. We had to request them to replace those devices and that was difficult to get them to honor the replacement clause.

Commissioner Chaney – Who else is out there that we could look to

Collin Jackson – there are a dozen different ones. But, some of the local ones in the area do Toshiba devices, there are several office supply companies in the area that can move into this and supply different brands

Commissioner Chaney – the Jitsu or whatever that is

Collin Jackson – Fujitsu scanners, Toshiba, HP printers

Commissioner Chaney – so we're not stuck with just one

Jacky Cockerham – A lot of those are on the co-ops, in the State contracts without having to go out for an RFP. Have you looked at those?

Collin Jackson – we are. That is part of the intent that we will advertise out and if we get proposals back from companies that are on the co-ops then we can look at them as well.

Jacky Cockerham – it sure would save a lot of headache if you didn't do that.

Collin Jackson – I is our intention to stick to the co-ops for that reason. To get a better deal from a group negotiator.

Commissioner Dupnik – we wouldn't see any of this until the 2024 budget. Is that correct?

Collin Jackson – Correct.

Commissioner Rousseau – You noted on the memo that any new contract will allocate the devices to individual departments for better tracking of printer utilization and budgeting. I think is a great idea. Since we are in a process of looking at the budget for next year, have those departments informed that they need to put in some kind of projected estimate?

Collin Jackson – It has not been done yet. Currently it is sitting in non-departmental. Until we have an outlay of their individual usage, which right now is very difficult to calculate, it makes it hard to break that out. We may have to do a budget amendment

after the first of the year to move that from non-departmental. Once we have an idea of the new printer fleet.

Commissioner Dupnik – that will probably take a quarter?

Collin Jackson – it will probably take a quarter, that is typically how they bill by the quarter. After the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter we can do a budget amendment to move it from non-departmental to the individual departments

Commissioner Rousseau – Okay, I was just curious how that was going to be handled

Commissioner Chaney – We've looked at putting IT stuff into the departments.

Commissioner Casterline – It's been there before and it's been taken out.

Collin Jackson – from an IT perspective if we put it in the departments, they're going to spend it on something other than IT related. We run into that especially in building maintenance.

Commissioner Casterline – but it takes a line item transfer to do that.

Collin Jackson – if it's already in their budget it doesn't take a line item transfer

Commissioner Rousseau – doesn't it?

Jacky Cockerham – With the size of our County we do not have to do a line item transfer as long as our bottom line is okay. We don't normally do it as long as the bottom line of the department is alright.

Commissioner Casterline – That sounds like a good reason to leave it in non-departmental.

Jacky Cockerham – could be

Commissioner Chaney – One of the reasons we decided to leave it in non-departmental is it gave one department a look at all the equipment. Then the individual department heads to give feedback. We've done that several times. Is there any real detriment other than the minute item in the right place? It still give us the same amount, right?

Jacky Cockerham – It still the same amount. I think part of it would be the number of copies or the charge for color copies because the individual offices may use more color when they are not seeing that cost that actually hits their budget. That is an additional cost over the black and white. To me that would be one of the biggest expenses.

Commissioner Casterline – Couldn't that be tracked just by the serial number of the machine in each department?

Collin Jackson – That is a goal of the new upcoming contract.

Commissioner Casterline – I don't see the reason of having it in an individual budget rather than departmental, it sounds like it's just some bookkeeping for the company or us.

Commissioner Dupnik – historically when departments are more aware of what they are paying for printing it brings the excessive printing costs down. That's the biggest advantage because you are more aware of costs.

Commissioner Casterline – But, with what Collin is saying, that they spend it anyway, at least some of them.

Commissioner Chaney – they are metered by individual printer aren't they

Collin Jackson – right, the devices are metered. Typically a contract comes with 300,000 black and white copies per quarter and a 100,000 color copies per quarter.

We would have to divide that up amongst all the devices in the fleet. If they have say 5 printers in the office we can give them a portion of that amount. If they go over their allotment then we can charge back to them. Because we'll get an overage bill every quarter

Commissioner Chaney – We have historical data on that don't we? They usage across the years is fairly flat, right?

Collin Jackson – It's not. We do get plenty of overage bills. That is one of the reasons we are looking at new companies because of our current contract rate and we are getting overage bills

Commissioner Chaney – The overage bill is based on the number of copies, right?

Collin Jackson – it is based on the number of copies

Commissioner Chaney – so if I use 10,000 color copies over the last 3-4 years we should be able to project forward what that increase is per year

Collin Jackson – we kind of can project it, but it's very hard to predict on their scale with way it is tracked currently. We just get a lump sum, not per device right now. They send us a bill and they're not itemizing it

Commissioner Casterline – are you going to be able to negotiate it better in the contract with the new company?

Collin Jackson – That'll be something we can negotiate into it. An itemized per device kind of count.

Commissioner Casterline – most of those machines have counter on them

Collin Jackson – they do, and they are keeping track of that but they are not itemizing it out. In the new contract we will make sure that happens so we can keep track of it.

Commissioner Chaney – I would think they could put a keynote or an indicator in each copy to know if it was black and white or color

Collin Jackson – If there is a speck of color it is counted as a color copy.

Commissioner Casterline – I think we are getting off track from the agenda item

Collin Jackson – the gist of this it's time to replace our fleet and just want permission to do so. To go out and seek it.

Alma Cartwright – Since we are moving into the new courthouse are you going to get the same number printers? My department is on both floors in the new courthouse and will have closed offices. Are we going to be given opportunity to rearrange how many printers, personal printer or big printers?

Collin Jackson – The plan is to make sure we have easy move add and deletion clause in the new contract but we are going to try to stick with the current count of devices we have. The types of devices may be flexible but to get solid numbers for the bidding and a contract process we want to keep the current count. Known issues like yours being split on two different floors we can make sure we include counts for the add device where needed. There are some office that we won't know if a printer will fit until we pick out the furniture. If you purchase a large printer and don't have a place to put it, it's an issue. Some of these issues we'll have can't really be decided until we know everything going into those offices. We do want to be cognizant and make sure we have enough counts to take care of those known spaces where you will need a couple more printers downstairs versus a couple of printers upstairs.

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



14. Discuss, approve, or disapprove a letter of recommendation from Mott MacDonald Engineering recommending Orion Construction LLC to provide shoreline erosion mitigation services and shoreline stabilization for the Bay Shore Drive Project, a project funded with RESTORE ACT Program funds administered by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and included in Contract No. 582-22-22184 – John Strothman/Judge Garza

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

**Discussion followed:** Commissioner Rousseau – question for the Asst. County Attorney. We need to amend that to show the amounts we’re approving and that it’s for the base bid and additive alternatives one and two.

Jennifer O’Steen – in the next item it’s a companion item that does list the amount and this letter you are accepting does recommend that those are the two options that be chosen.

Commissioner Rousseau – I didn’t know you wanted us to put it in the motion?

Jennifer O’Steen – I think it’s ok this way, because the next item does list the amount.

Commissioner Dupnik – I thought it was being replaced by a different contract number by that (582-2010597 ?) I had that in the Box. So I wasn’t sure which contract.

Jacky Cockerham – I know there was a difference in the contract number, I did not bring anything with me to tell you which one is which we will double check and make sure we have the right contract number on there

Commissioner Dupnik – Is the one in the Box the latest one Tracy.

John Strothman – I took it off the original contract. Okay.

Tracy Orr Smith – spoke off mic about the contract numbers and it was not clear what was said.

Commissioner Chaney – there’s no change in the contract, just the number?

John Strothman – This project has been around since 2015. This is the final leg until we go to construction. We had six bidders on June 29<sup>th</sup>, the numbers varied quite a bit. This was the best bid overall and the contractor met all the requirements. A base bid with five alternates or add alternates that were part of the bid. We tried to add as many of the add alternates to the budget. We came up with two add alternates which is a continuation of the project and brought it up to \$1,782,025. That means we still have \$217,000 left over. And talking to TECQ about using it as the City raises the remaining funds. Roughly \$600,000 or if they use the \$217,000 they need to raise \$449,000. They have some money to raise to finish the three remaining that would be 3A, 3B & 3C. This gets most of the project finished.

Judge Garza – This started in 2015?

John Strothman – we started in 2015 as part of the Shoreline Resiliency. We prepared about 9-11 projects then submitted them to the Restore Act and out of all those projects this is the only one that got approved.

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

15. Discuss, approve or disapprove the adoption of Resolution R-19-2023, a Resolution of the Commissioners Court of Aransas County, Texas, Selecting and Hiring Orion Construction LLC to Perform Work Necessary for the Bay Shore Drive Shoreline Erosion Mitigation Services and Shoreline Stabilization for the Bay Shore Drive Project for the amount of \$1,782,025.00, which project is funded with RESTORE ACT Program Funds administered

by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and included in Contract No. 582-22-22184; Authorizing the County Judge to Execute Necessary Documents; Providing for Severability; and Confirming Compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act –  
John Strothman/Judge Garza

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

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

**IX. PLANNING AND BUDGET**

16. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the June 2023 Indigent Health Care Report –  
Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

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

**Discussion followed:** Commissioner Rousseau – what does the dentistry include?  
Alma Cartwright – We include most all emergency extractions, that type of dental. I don't think it goes into like dentures or any kind of other dentistry.

Commissioner Rousseau – okay, thank you

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

17. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the June 2023 Auditor's Monthly Report –  
Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

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

**Discussion followed:** Jacky Cockerham – point out that we are running a little bit behind on some of our revenues. Expenditures is running at 50.55%, 50% would be ideal.

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

18. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Budget Line Item - Transfers for the 2023 Budget –  
Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

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

**None at this time**

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

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

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

**Discussion followed:** Jacky Cockerham – everything is normal, noted there was a 3<sup>rd</sup> payroll for June. Mentioned payments for contractors.

Commissioner Rousseau – the payment for PGAL, is that for a specific percentage?

Jack Cockerham – no, just some expenses that they had, I would have to double check and tell you exactly what it was for, but it was \$1,800.

Judge Garza – I can't recall but they did on that same invoice they did give us a \$10,000 credit.

Commissioner Rousseau – could I get a copy of that please.

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

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

Judge Garza – something will come out this week about a committee for Animal Care, that I’ve been working on for the last couple of months. I know who’s going to be on it and I’ll be sending invites shortly. Also, I’m going to take possibly Wednesday, but Thursday and Friday off for sure, Bubba will be in charge. Thursday will be attending a funeral for a close friend. Next week my wife starts work so we’re going on a little trip.

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

There were none

**XII. CLOSED SESSION at 10:16 AM**

20. Consider convening into 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 Services, Inc. v. Aransas County Independent School District and Aransas County, Aransas County, District Court Cause No. 23-0066; 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 –Jennifer O’Steen/Judge Garza

**Motion to move into closed session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik  
Jennifer O’Steen – I just want to note we are going into closed session so I can consult with Commissioner’s Court about three currently pending legal cases involving our insurance claims.  
Commissioner Chaney asked for a 10 minute break before the closed session starts.  
**Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

**XIII. OPEN SESSION**

21. Reconvene into Open Session at 10:48 AM


**Motion move into open session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline  
**Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

22. Discuss and take action on matters discussed in closed session – Jennifer O’Steen/ Judge Garza

**Motion to discuss and take action:** by Commissioner, motion was seconded by Commissioner  
**Judge Garza - No action to take per matters discussed in closed session**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ray A. Garza, County Judge

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

