

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - AUGUST 12, 2019

On the 12th day of August, 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; **Jack Chaney**, Commissioner, Precinct 1; **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; **Alma Cartwright**, Treasurer; **Linda Garcia Haynes**, Executive Assistant to the County Judge; **Katherine Comeaux**, Development Services Coordinator; **Russ Walker**, Senior IT Technician; **Linda Doane**, Human Resources Director; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **Valerie Gonzalez**, Environmental Health Director; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Michele Bennett**, Elections Administrator; **Rene Butler**, Maintenance Director; **Jacky Cockerham**, First Assistant County Auditor; **Lois White**, Chief Deputy Treasurer; **John Gutierrez**, Chief Deputy Sheriff;

Long-Term Recovery: **Randall Freeze**, Long Term Recovery Specialist; Members of Local City Government, Community Groups and other Interested Parties present:

City of Rockport Council Members: **Pat Rios**, Mayor; **Barbara Gurtner**, Ward 4;

Aransas County Citizens: **Tana and Jerry Neel**;

Out of County Visitors: **Alyssa and Alex Reske**;

Grant Works: Shirleen Bonacci, Client Services Consultant;

Mike Probst, Editor and Publisher of the Rockport Pilot Newspaper;

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.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Hear report and update from Another Chance RFT on saving the 1,000<sup>th</sup> dog from euthanasia in Aransas County.

**TANA NEEL:** I just want to say we are very excited to be here, some of our volunteers came and some could not be here because they work full-time. We just saved our one-thousandth dog from being put down at Animal Control and we really thank you for your help. Three years ago when we started this we really didn't know where it was going and it's proved to be a good thing for us, the County, and the dogs, we've been able to save a lot of dogs, taking them to the vet and taking care of their medical problems. We have also had donations of two exercise yards which makes them more sociable, we have some kennels that are for isolation so that we have less sickness. So all in all it's just really been a good three years and we are looking forward to working on our next thousandth, but I

do want to say that we have had great cooperation from the Court, the people in the county, and the Animal Control Department, great Veterinarians, Volunteers, everybody has worked together to do this. So if anyone is looking for a good cause, come volunteer with us, foster, donate, it's just been a good thing. Thank you for letting us share this with you.

**Judge Mills:** One of your members approached me, and you'll know who when I say this, you've worn out the last van that you got and you might need another one.

**Tana Neel:** Well we, yeah if you have something that we can check into, we put a lot of miles on it, it's made trips all over Texas and it goes to the Vet on a regular basis, so yes it's been a wonderful thing.

**Judge Mills:** Well, just to let you know the Sheriff and I are looking into that.

**Tana Neel:** Ok, that sounds great and we sure appreciate it.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

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

2. Minutes from the Meeting of August 5, 2019.
3. Resolution #R-27-2019, a Resolution authorizing publication of delinquent taxpayers' names.
4. Order #0-09-2019, Appointment of the 2019-2020 Election Judges and Alternates.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES

5. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve Resolution #R-28-2019, a Resolution of Aransas County, Texas authorizing the award of Professional Service Provider Contracts for the 2019-2020 Colonia Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Community Development Fund Project to GrantWorks, Inc. to provide application and project related administration services and John D. Mercer & Associates to provide application and project related professional engineering services.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

6. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution #R-30-2019, a Resolution of Aransas County, Texas, authorizing the award of Professional Service Provider contracts for the 2019-2020 Colonia Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Colonia Fund Planning Project to GrantWorks, Inc.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

7. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Contract Amendment with Randy Bingham, PA-C, Inmate Health Care Service Provider, per Texas Department of State Health Services Tuberculosis Standards for Texas Correctional and Detention Facilities, to allow for an increase of the current monthly fee of \$1,000 per month to \$1,500 per month.

(Inserts)

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve, adopt, and authorize the County Judge to sign an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Rockport for the Downtown Anchor Project with the revisions negotiated by the County Judge with the exception that the Architect Design be a single contract.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement between Aransas County and the City of Aransas Pass for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program improvements to the street system within the annexed portion of Banty Lane.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve re-platting the American GI Forum property located at 1911 Hardee Street, Rockport, Texas, from four lots into one lot, in order to allow for a new septic system to be installed on the property.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve allowing Environmental Health to seek bids for a Roll Off Truck to be purchased in 2020.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE**

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Optional Health Care Services Notification, for optional Indigent Health Care Services for the fiscal year September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2020. There are no changes.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve receipt of report of the 2018 General Tax Fund Levy from Aransas County Tax Assessor and record the 8% of the Gross Revenue Tax Levy (GRTL) for the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Program Fiscal Year September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2020.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

14. **Discuss, approve, or disapprove the County's financial support to Code 3 Emergency and the future longevity of the emergency facility was taken into Executive Session.**

(Inserts)

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve the proposed new job description of GIS/CAD (Geographic Information System/Computer Aided Drafting) Specialist for the Road and Bridge Department, no new monies.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

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

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

18. Discussion and possible action on 2020 Budget.

**There was no discussion, but Jacky Cockerham announced that the Public Hearing to set the Tax Rate will be on Monday, August 19, 2019 at 8:45 a.m. and the Hearing on the Budget will be at 9:00 a.m.**

(Insert)

**REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &**

**DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN**

There were none.

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*The Court entered into closed session at 9:13 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 10:06 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:*

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14. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to **TABLE** this item concerning the County's financial support to Code 3 Emergency and the future longevity of the emergency facility until the next meeting. Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

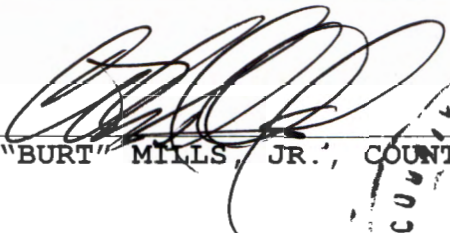
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*No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 10:07 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith.*

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*Valerie K. Amason*  
VALERIE K. AMASON,  
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

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

The seal of the Aransas County Commissioners' Court, featuring a five-pointed star in the center, surrounded by the words "ARANSAS COUNTY" and "COMMISSIONERS' COURT".