

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - OCTOBER 27, 2014

On the 27th day of October, 2014, there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioner' Court in the Courthouse, 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; Betty Stiles, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and Joy M. Dias, Chief Deputy County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were Lezlie Kirk, County Auditor; Alma Cartwright, County Treasurer; Richard Bianchi, County Attorney; Pat Rousseau, HR Director; Kristen Blanford, Assistant County Attorney; Collin Jackson, IT Director; John Strothman, Project Manager; Bill Mills, Sheriff; Jerry Brundrett, County Surveyor; and David Reid, Drainage Engineer.

The Meeting was convened at 9:00 a.m. at which time a quorum was declared by County Judge Mills, WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had and done to wit:

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were none.

PRESENTATION

Sheriff Mills thanked the Commissioners for budgeting to keep the jail in compliance after thanking his jail staff and reading the certificate of compliance from the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. The County has received this certificate for seven (7) years in a row. Inspections are unannounced.

ITEMS FOR DELIBERATION AND/OR ACTION

MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 13, 2014.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PROCLAMATION -INTERNATIONAL SCHOENSTATT FAMILY MONTH

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve Proclamation #P-09-2014 declaring the month of October 2014 as "International Schoenstatt Family Month in Aransas County" in recognition of the 100th Jubilee Celebration of the International Schoenstatt Family.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Proclamation inserted)

VOTING SYSTEM - "VERITY"

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to table approval of the new "Verity" voting system from Hart InterCivic.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

MARITIME MUSEUM - THIRD QUARTER REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve the Texas Maritime Museum Third Quarter 2014 Hotel Occupancy Tax Funds Expended.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT - ANIMAL CONTROL

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize County Judge to sign an intergovernmental cooperation agreement with the City of Rockport and Town of Fulton extending the transfer and division of animal control's property and assets from the County to the City of Rockport.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Agreement inserted)

JUVENILE PROCESSING OFFICE - TEMPORARY DETENTION

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve and authorize County Judge to sign designated places of juvenile processing office for temporary detention while in police custody.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Designated places)

ARANSAS PATHWAYS WORK PROGRAM - REPORT

De McLallen presented charts and graphs of the Aransas Pathways projects. Commissioner Casterline commented we need to "nudge" the State to upgrade the roadside rest stop on the North end of the County suggesting Pathways could help. In conclusion, all agreed the County needs to keep enough money to maintain what has been done.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Aransas Pathways Work Program and budget for

2015, the maintenance and operations budget for 2015, and future Pathways funding for trails.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Budget inserted)

FORT WORTH STREET - CLEARING

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve granting permission to Billy Lazcano to clear Fort Worth Street right-of-way to access his property at 1019 Fort Worth Street described as Block 293, Lot 5, Manning Addition.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

RESIGNATION - COUNTY ATTORNEY/APPOINTMENT NEW COUNTY ATTORNEY

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to accept resignation of Richard Bianchi as County Attorney and approve appointment of Kristen Blanford as Aransas County Attorney effective November 1, 2014.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONSULTANT - COMMISSIONERS' COURT/COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve retaining Richard Bianchi as a consultant to Commissioners' Court and the County Attorney's Office through December 31, 2014.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

COUNTY CLERK - OVERTIME FOR ELECTION PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve request of County Clerk to authorize overtime pay for elections personnel.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

ALLOCATION OF ASSISTANCE FUNDS

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve allocation of remaining County assistance funds to non-profit organizations, subject to legal approval.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

BIDS - BANK DEPOSITORY

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to accept bid from Prosperity Bank to be

Aransas County Bank Depository effective this date; four (4) year contract.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Bids inserted)

PUBLIC OFFICIALS BOND

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve Public Official Bond continuation certificate on Denise W. Ovalle, Administrative Secretary/County Judge's Office.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Bond inserted)

CONTINUING EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Judge Mills reported receipt of Certificate of Completion for Pam Heard, District Clerk, from the Texas District Court Alliance to the 14th Annual TDCA Workshop held October 14-16, 2014 for recording in the Commissioners' Court Minutes.

(Certificate inserted)

COUNTY TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve County Treasurer's Third Quarter Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

There were no budget line item transfers presented by the County Auditor.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the accounts payable presented by County Auditor.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &
DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

County Auditor Kirk presented the collection comparison report for the month of September 2014.

(report inserted)

County Attorney Bianchi thanked the Court for their support and for allowing Ms. Blanford to transition to the County Attorney position. He added that is has gone well and Ms. Blanford is prepared to take over.

REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

There were none.

PRESS QUESTIONS

Norma Martinez with The Rockport Pilot asked if December 31st is still the goal for the City of Rockport to take over Animal Control. Court replied yes.

Ms. Martinez also asked what Mr. Bianchi's consultant fee would be and was told \$1,000.00 per month.

Ms. Martinez also questioned the overtime for the election asking if this was a statewide situation; the Court replied the extra hours were due to a petition.

The Court did not hold closed session.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned on a motion made by Commissioner Smith duly seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

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

PEGGY L. FRIEBELE, COUNTY CLERK &
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT