

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING - MARCH 26, 2012

On the 26th day of March, 2012, 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; Russel Cole, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and Peggy L. Friebele, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were Richard Bianchi, County Attorney; Lezlie Kirk, County Auditor; Gene Johnson, Airport Manager; David Reid, Drainage Engineer; Jerry Brundrett, County Surveyor; Alma Cartwright, County Treasurer; Bill Mills, Sheriff; Pam Heard, District Clerk; Gene Johnson, Airport Manager; and Richard Thompson, Project Manager.

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.

ITEMS FOR DELIBERATION AND/OR ACTION

MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Cole to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2012.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONTRACT - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve and authorize County Judge to sign contract with J. J. Fox Construction, Inc. for the Kossuth and Sabinal area sanitary sewer grant improvements for the Texas Community Development Program Contract numbers 710019 and 710205.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

SURPLUS - SEIZED EQUIPMENT

County Attorney Bianchi recommended keeping the equipment and letting the Agrilife Extension Building use it rather than declare it surplus and give it to the State.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to disapprove declaring as surplus certain seized equipment by the Sheriff's office and award it to the Aransas County Extension Agent for use at the new Agrilife Extension

building.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(List inserted)

ANNUAL BUDGET - THE AQUARIUM EDUCATION CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve annual budget for The Aquarium Education Center.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Budget inserted)

MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT - THE AQUARIUM EDUCATION CENTER

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Cole to approve renewal of The Aquarium Education Center Management Agreement with revisions effective this date.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Agreement inserted)

FUNDING - THE AQUARIUM EDUCATION CENTER

After discussion as to whether the Education Center was to be funded out of venue tax rather than hotel occupancy tax, motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Cole to approve authorize funding of The Aquarium Education Center at Rockport Harbor, Inc. from hotel occupancy tax for the remainder of the year.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

FUNDING CHANGES - THE AQUARIUM AT ROCKPORT HARBOR, INC.

Commissioner Chaney asked Project Manager Thompson if the other entities were also assisting in funding The Aquarium, Mr. Sheets stated the City of Rockport does, however, they failed to contact the Town of Fulton so they are not participating. Commissioner Chaney reiterated that the other entities collecting hotel-motel tax should be participating in projects such as this.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to authorize funding changes for The Aquarium at Rockport Harbor, Inc. from hotel occupancy tax.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Budget inserted)

CONTRACT - LIVE OAK NATURE AND EDUCATION TRAIL

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Cole to approve and authorize County Judge to sign a contract detailing terms of a grant from the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP) in the amount of \$58,800.00 for the Live Oak Nature and Education Trail contingent on County Attorney signing off on breakout of budget only.

Commissioner Chaney suggested that a signature line for the County Attorney be added to all contracts prior to coming before the Court; thus showing the Court the contract had been read and approved by the County Attorney.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Contract inserted)

ARANSAS FIRST - SERVICE AGREEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to table approval service agreement with Aransas First (a land trust) for Dr. Earl Matthew, Aransas First President, to serve as Project Manager for the grant-funded Live Oak Nature and Education Trail.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

OFFICIAL BONDS

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve public official bond on Richard Thompson, Project Manager; and bond continuation certificate on Julie Kay Gifford, Deputy County Treasurer.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Bonds inserted)

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

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

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Cole to approve the accounts payable presented by County Auditor, including workman's compensation invoice of \$37,866.00

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

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

County Auditor Kirk read the fee reports received from Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2, District Clerk, County Clerk and Sheriff for the month of February 2012.

(Report inserted)

County Clerk Friebele reported voter registration cards had been mailed.

REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

There were none.

PRESS QUESTIONS

Pat Blair from The Herald verified the Court was keeping the items the Sheriff was going to declare surplus. Sheriff Mills stated he wanted the items to come off his inventory and that was the reason for putting them on the agenda.

Norma Martinez from The Rockport Pilot asked Sheriff Mills what items he was talking about. He replied a variety of items that the Extension Agent stated she could put to good use.

Ms. Martinez also stated that the Aquarium Education Center was approved by the voters to be paid out of venue tax but the Court is now funding from hotel-motel tax and asked how much money were they approving. Judge Mills replied it was in their budget.

The Court entered into closed session at 9:39 a. m. as authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.071 to discuss real estate negotiations, including Tiger Field; 551.072 to discuss and review current litigation issues; and resumed Open Meeting at 9:56 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:

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

C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr. COUNTY JUDGE

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