

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING - JULY 23, 2012

On the 23rd day of July, 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; Charles Smith, Commissioner, Precinct 3; Russel Cole, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and Peggy L. Friebele, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were Richard Bianchi, County Attorney; Lezlie Kirk, County Auditor; David Reid, Drainage Engineer; Jerry Brundrett, County Surveyor; Alma Cartwright, County Treasurer; Gene Johnson, Airport Manager; Jeri Cox, Tax Assessor-Collector; David Vyoral, Road Administrator; 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

Ronald Lamb complained about the septic maintenance contracts. He said inspections reported everything was alright when, in fact, they were not.

(Participation form inserted)

PRESENTATIONS

Judge Mills, on behalf of the Texas Historical Commission, presented a 2011 Distinguished Service Award to the Aransas County Historical Commission in recognition of its outstanding preservation accomplishments.

(Award inserted)

Jack Stoffregen, Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases, made a presentation on the Capital Defender Program which was started in 2007 with a pilot program in Amarillo, Lubbock and Midland. The County would have to pay \$8,518.00 in 2012 and \$11,358.00 in 2013. The budget year runs from October through September. If the County does not pay for 2012 and 2013, they will have to wait until 2014 in get in the program. This program is a risk pool. At present the state is paying 100% of the cost but is requiring counties to pay to participate.

(Report inserted)

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 July 9, 2012 and Special Meeting of July 18, 2012.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

SECOND QUARTER 2012 HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX - CHAMBER

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce Second Quarter 2012 hotel occupancy tax funds expended.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

THE AQUARIUM AT ROCKPORT HARBOR, INC - OCCUPANCY TAX REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve The Aquarium at Rockport Harbor, Inc. Second Quarter 2012 hotel occupancy tax (HOT) funds expended.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

ARANSAS PATHWAYS - TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEYS

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve retaining Griffith & Brundrett Surveying & Engineering, Inc. to assist Aransas Pathways in topographic surveys, boundary determinations and construction controls for site-specific projects and to authorize County Judge to sign contract for the same.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Contract inserted)

ARANSAS PATHWAYS - WEBSITE

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve retaining Nancy Paulson dba Rockport Web Sites to assist Aransas Pathways in upgrade and maintenance to existing website (Aransas Pathways Project #004) and to authorize County Judge to sign contract for same.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Contract inserted)

WAYFINDING SIGNS - AGREEMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to table approval of agreement with the City of Rockport and the Town of Fulton for installation of new wayfinding signs (polling places, AgriLife, Environmental Health and Transfer Station) to allow time for preparation of agreement.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

ARANSAS PATHWAYS - HISTORIC DISTRICT SIGNAGE

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to table approval of agreement with the City of Rockport and the Town of Fulton for installation of replacement wayfinding signs of Aransas Pathways Project #003 Historic District Signage to allow time for preparation of agreement.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize County Judge to sign advance funding agreement for voluntary local government contribution to transportation improvement projects with no required match.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Agreement inserted)

AMENDMENT - PROPERTY ACCESS AND DRAINAGE POLICY

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve an amendment to the current "Property Access and Drainage Policy" as follows: "All new driveways installed along roads that have a speed limit in excess of 45 m.p.h. shall be equipped with safety end treatments on both ends. The end treatments shall be installed at the owner's expense and can be precast or cast-in-place as long as they meet TXDOT standards. Owners shall have 120 days from the installation of the pipes in which to have the end treatments installed. If the ends are not installed by the end of that period, County crews will remove the pipes for the safety of the driving public."

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

AIRPORT - GASOLINE

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve improvements to aviation gasoline self-serve terminal and installation of a jet-A self-serve termination at the Aransas County Airport paid out of the ramp grant program.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

FY2013 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - REGULAR EMPLOYEES

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Cole to approve FY2013 holiday schedule for regular Aransas County employees.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Schedule inserted)

FY2013 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - TRANSFER STATION EMPLOYEES

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve FY2013 holiday schedule for Transfer Station employees.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Schedule inserted)

STERLING PERSONNEL, INC.

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve and authorize County Judge to sign a staffing agreement with Sterling Personnel, Inc.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Agreement inserted)

OFFICIAL BOND

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve public official bond on Kristin Guerra, Deputy Tax Assessor-Collector.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Bond inserted)

TREASURER'S QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report for the second quarter of 2012.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Cole to approve budget line item transfer presented by County Auditor Kirk.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Transfers inserted)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve the accounts payable presented by County Auditor including invoice presented by Project Manager Thompson.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PRELIMINARY 2013 BUDGET

County Auditor Kirk presented a preliminary budget for discussion. Ms. Kirk also presented the health care costs for next year. According to the Treasurer's Office, the Court will need to make a decision as to which plan they want by this week. The Court was not happy about the short time frame on this big budget item.

(Reports inserted)

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

County Clerk Friebele reported early voting for the Primary Runoff began today. She also reported the County received Justice Department approval to consolidate all the precincts for election day.

County Auditor Kirk read fee reports received from District Clerk, County Clerk, Sheriff, and Justices of the Peace, Precincts 1 and 2 for the month of June 2012.

(Report inserted)

REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

There were none.

PRESS QUESTIONS

There were none.

The Court entered into closed session at 11:05 a. m. as authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.071 to discuss real estate negotiations, including Pathways Projects; and 551.072 to discuss and review current litigation issues; and resumed Open Meeting at 11:20 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve property acquisition contract for property located at 4041 Hwy. 35N, Fulton, TX, comprising approximately four (4) acres further described as Project 23 on the Aransas Pathways inventory list and authorize expenditure of funds as required by the contract from the venue tax bond proceeds and authorize the moving of this project into the 2012 Aransas Pathways work program. Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

(Photo inserted)

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

C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr., County Judge

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