

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF CAMERON §

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 31st day of October, 1995, there was conducted a REGULAR PUBLIC Session of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Cameron County, Texas, at the Courthouse thereof, in the City of Brownsville, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same.

THE COURT MET AT:

1:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

LUCINO ROSENBAUM, JR
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1

CARLOS H. CASCOS
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2

JAMES R. MATZ
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3

HECTOR PEÑA
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

LUPITA RAMIREZ Deputy
COUNTY CLERK

ABSENT:



The meeting was called to order by Judge Gilberto Hinojosa. He then asked Mr. Bob Clark, Brownsville resident, for the invocation and Commissioner Cascos to lead the Court and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on October 27, 1995, 2:15 P. M.:

(1) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, reported that the "Purchases without Purchase Orders" had decreased and recommended approval of the Claims.

Commissioner Cascos moved that the County Claims be approved as presented by the County Auditor.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried as follow:

AYE: Commissioners Rosenbaum, Cascos, and Matz

NAY: None.

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Peña as to the claim of:

HECTOR PEÑA
Warrant No. 128192 - \$61.05

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**(2) IN THE MATTER OF THE BUDGET
AMENDMENTS AND SALARY SCHEDULES
(NO ACTION TAKEN)**

The County Auditor stated that there were no Budget Amendments or Salary Schedules for approval at this time.

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(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Matz moved that the Minutes for the Regular Meetings held on September 26, 1995, at 1:30 P.M. and October 3, 1995, at 1:30 P.M. be approved, subject to the minor corrections noted.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

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**(4) IN THE MATTER OF THE SAN BENITO LIGHTS
OF UNIFIED VISION COMMITTEE TO INSTALL
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ON COUNTY BUILDING
IN SAN BENITO (TABLED)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED** for one (1) week.

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(5) APPROVAL TO HIRE THREE (3) ROAD AND BRIDGE TECHNICIANS FOR PRECINCT NO. 4

Commissioner Peña moved that three (3) Road and Bridge Technicians be retained for Precinct No. 4.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

NOTE: COMMISSIONER ROSENBAUM JOINED THE MEETING AT THIS TIME

(6) APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE SANTA MARIA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Santa Maria Independent School District was approved.

The Agreement is as follows:

(7) APPROVAL FOR COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 4 TO MANAGE COMMUNITY PARKS IN HIS PRECINCT

At this time, Commissioner Peña reported that the Parks had been neglected for many years and preferred to have the responsibility of management and maintenance under his supervision. He added that he discussed the matter with the Parks System Director and that he did not have a problem with the situation.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that Commissioner Peña and the Parks System Director, met to discuss the management of the Parks and the result was that the Commissioner was in the best position to manage the Parks and the suggestion was made to bring the matter before the Court.

There was some discussion concerning the matter of assigning the County Parks to the Parks System Director, in order to take advantage of the potential money available from the State, and if the management of the Parks was the responsibility of the Commissioners then the Parks might not qualify. The suggestion was made to continue to work with the Parks System Director towards developing a Master Plan and seeking Grant monies.

Judge Hinojosa suggested that the Prisoners at Work Program and the Probation Department Work Release Program might be utilized for the maintenance of the Parks.

Commissioner Peña moved that Commissioner Precinct No. 4 be authorized to manage the Community parks in Precinct No. 4.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously.

At this time, Commissioner Peña requested approval to hire a person to Manage the Parks, and Commissioner Cascos responded that the management of the Parks covered the hiring of employees.



(8) ACTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR TO TAKE STEPS IN OBTAINING REGISTRATION TITLE SYSTEM (R.T.S.) EQUIPMENT FROM THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A BRANCH OFFICE IN RIO HONDO, TEXAS

Mr. Tony Yzaguirre, Tax Assessor-Collector, requested Equipment from the Texas Department of Transportation for the Rio Hondo Branch Tax Office, at no cost to the County. He added that if he requested additional equipment, at a later date, it would cost the County an additional \$10,000.00.

There was some discussion concerning the opening of a Branch Office, the facilities available, the renovations necessary, and the personnel needed for that office.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Tax Assessor-Collector was authorize to obtain the Registration Title System (R.T.S.) Equipment from the Texas Department of Transportation for a Branch Office in Rio Hondo, Texas.



(9) **APPROVAL OF AN INTERNATIONAL BANK OF
COMMERCE BANKING RESOLUTION
CONTROL NO. FOUR (4)**

Commissioner Matz moved that the International Bank of Commerce Banking Resolution Control No. Four (4) be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously.

At this time, Mr. Eddie Gonzalez, County Treasurer informed the Court that banking with International Bank of Commerce would begin on October 18, 1995.

The Resolution is as follows:

(10) ACTION FOR APPOINTING A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE LOS TOMATES TOLL FACILITIES AND OFFICE BUILDING

At this time, Mr. Joe Gavito, Bridge Manager, presented the names of the ten individuals to serve on the Review Committee for the Architectural Design Services Proposals for the Los Tomates Toll Facilities and Office Buildings.

Commissioner Matz moved that the Review Committee the Architectural Design Services Proposals for the Los Tomates Toll Facilities and Office Building be appointed as follow:

- Mr. Gilberto Hinojosa, County Judge;
- Mr. Lucino Rosenbaum, Jr. County Commissioner Precinct No. 1;
- Mr. Michael Martin, County Engineer;
- Mr. Henry Gonzalez, Brownsville City Mayor;
- Mr. P. J. Garcia, Brownsville City Engineer;
- Mr. Jose F. Galvan, County Bridge Systems Director;
- Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor;
- Mr. Andy Vega, Brownsville City Manager; and
- Mr. John Hudson, Chairman of Traffic Engineers, Inc.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously.



(11) AUTHORIZATION FOR PARKS SYSTEM DIRECTOR TO SIGN A SERVICE AGREEMENT CHANGE FOR PARK RANGER EMERGENCY CELLULAR PHONE (NIGHT-TIME, DIRECT LINE TO RANGER ON DUTY), CHANGING FROM "BASIC" TO "OFF-PEAK PLUS"

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Parks System Director was authorized to sign a Service Agreement change for the Park Ranger Emergency Cellular Phone, that being that Night-time, direct line to Ranger on duty, changing from "Basic" to "Off-Peak Plus".

The Agreement is as follows:

**(12) ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FOURTH QUARTER
ACTIVITY REPORT (JULY, AUGUST,
SEPTEMBER, 1995) FOR THE CAMERON
COUNTY PARK SYSTEM RANGER DIVISION**

Commissioner Matz moved that the Fourth Quarter Activity Report (July, August, September 1995) for the Cameron County Parks System Ranger Division be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña.

Commissioner Cascos questioned whether a method existed to correlate the number of citations issued with the amount of revenue collected and Mr. Salvador Tinajero Jr., Chief Park Ranger, responded that the Justices of the Peace office could provide that information.

Commissioner Cascos stated the Law Enforcement Offices issued citations, but the revenue collected were not determined and suggested that the Parks Ranger randomly select citations and conduct a follow-up regarding the fines collected and report to the Court the disposition of the citations.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that it was his understanding that the Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 1 was maintaining separate Docket Books of the fines collected by the Department of Public Safety, the Constable's Office and the Parks Department.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Fourth Quarter Activity Report (July, August, September 1995) for Cameron County Parks System Ranger Division was acknowledged.

The Report is as follows:

(13) APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE FRIENDSHIP OF WOMEN, INC., FOR A VICTIM'S COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Mr. Frank Bejarano, Program Development and Management Director, reported that the Contract with the Friendship of Women, Inc., would allow the County to implement a Victim's Compensation Program Grant in the amount of \$14,700.00 for the Friendship of Women.

Upon motion by Commissioner Rosenbaum, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Contract between Cameron County and the Friendship of Women, Inc., for a Victim's Compensation Program was approved.

The Contract is as follows:

(14) AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL AND/OR APPROVAL OF TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR THE FOLLOWING, SUBJECT TO FUNDS IN THEIR BUDGET:

Upon motion by Commissioner Rosenbaum, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Travel expenses for the following, subject to funds in their Budget:

- a) County Clerk and two (2) Deputies to attend the "1995 Texas Conference on Vital Statistics" in Austin, Texas, on December 3-5, 1995;
- b) Three (3) Environmental Health Division employees to attend the "Mosquito Control Workshop" in Austin, Texas, on November 1, 1995;
- c) Health Department employee to attend the "Texas Perinatal Association Planning Committee Meeting" in Weslaco, Texas, on November 7, 1995;
- d) Assistant Auditor, Assistant Auditor Purchasing and Maintenance Director to attend the "General Services Commissioner Vendor Expo and Purchasing Seminar" in Austin, Texas, on November 8-9, 1995;
- e) Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 6 Place No. 2 to attend the "20 Hour Mega School" in Corpus Christi, Texas, on October 29, 1995, - November 1, 1995;
- f) Property Management Coordinator to attend the "Paradox Training Program" in Corpus Christi, Texas, on November 6-8, 1995;
- g) Building Inspector and Engineer-in-Training to attend the "Floodplain Management Workshop" in Edinburg, Texas, on November 2, 1995;
- h) Computer Center Director and One (1) employee to attend the "CAS Users Group Meeting with Hamer Enterprises" in San Antonio, Texas, on November 7-8, 1995;
- i) Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 3 Place No. 2 to attend the "20 Hour Mega School" in Corpus Christi, Texas, on October 29, 1995, - November 1, 1995; and
- j) County Judge and Health Authority to attend the "Changes in Texas Medicaid Law Update" in Austin, Texas, on November 10, 1995.

"CONSENT" AGENDA ITEMS

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE RECOMMENDED FOR "CONSENT"
AND WERE EITHER RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT
HEAD, WITHIN BUDGET OR AWARDED TO THE LOW BIDDER:**

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the "Consent" Agenda Items were approved as follow:

- (15) **AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR LEASE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) MOTOR GRADER - PRECINCT NO. 4**

- (16) **APPROVAL OF SPECIFICATIONS FOR MODEL YEAR 1996 PATROL CARS FOR SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

- (17) **AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) NO. 951001 FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN OF LOS TOMATES INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE, EXPORT LOT, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AND TOLL FACILITIES**

At this time, Commissioner Matz noted that Precinct No. 4 would make the down payment and the Lease Payment would be effective the following year and Commissioner Peña concurred, regarding Item No. 15.



(18) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 1:56 P. M. to discuss the following matters:

- a) To discuss status of case and settlement authority on the case styled Rolando Flores vs. Cameron County, Cause No. B-90-223, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(1)(a) and (b); and

- c) To discuss Right-Of-Ways acquisition on FM/1419 for Parcel Nos. 002, 015, 042, 059, 01, 04, 011, 040, 057, and 072; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session 2:10 P. M.



(19) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a) To discuss status of case and settlement authority on the case styled Rolando Flores vs. Cameron County, Cause No. B-90-223, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

Judge Hinojosa reported that after some discussion, it was the consensus of the Court as determined by polling, that County Council should proceed along the terms and conditions as outlined in Executive Session regarding said matter.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, County Council was directed to proceed along the terms and conditions as outlined in Executive Session regarding the case styled Rolando Flores vs. Cameron County, Cause No. B-90-223, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa noted that Item No. 19 "b" was incorrectly listed as "c" in the discussion Item and there was some discussion as to whether action could be taken and the suggestion was made to take action and ratify at the next Meeting.

- b) To discuss Right-Of-Ways acquisition on FM/1419 for Parcel Nos. 002, 015, 042, 059, 01, 04, 011, 040, 057, and 072.

Judge Hinojosa reported that after some discussion, it was the consensus of the Court as determined by polling, to approve the recommendation of the County Engineer as outlined in Executive Session regarding said matter.

Upon motion by Commissioner Rosenbaum, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the County Engineer's recommendations were approved as outlined in Executive Session regarding the Right-Of-Ways acquisition on FM/1419 for Parcel Nos. 002, 015, 042, 059, 01, 04, 011, 040, 057, and 072, subject to ratification.

There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED**.

APPROVED this **12th** day of **December**, 1995.

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

JOE G. RIVERA,
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK
OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF
CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS