

**THE STATE OF TEXAS           §**

**COUNTY OF CAMERON         §**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** on the 03rd day of January, 1996, there was conducted a **SPECIAL 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:**

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**COUNTY JUDGE**

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**COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1**

**CARLOS H. CASCOS**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2**

**JAMES R. MATZ**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3**

**HECTOR PEÑA**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Deputy**  
**COUNTY CLERK**

**ABSENT:**  
**GILBERTO HINOJOSA**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**LUCINO ROSENBAUM, JR**  
\_\_\_\_\_

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The meeting was called to order by Judge Pro-tem Carlos H. Cascos. He then asked Mr. Bob Clark, Brownsville, resident, for the invocation and the entire Court to lead 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 December 28, 1995, at 2:52 P. M.

**(4) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING  
THE GREATER BROWNSVILLE COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S  
APPLICATION TO THE COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTES FUND  
OF THE U. S. TREASURY**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Resolution supporting the Greater Brownsville Corporation's Application to the Community Development Financial Institutes Fund of the U. S. Treasury, was adopted.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

**(1) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS (NO ACTION TAKEN)**

At this time Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, explained there was no County Claims at this time, because he had scheduled all the account payable clerks to be off.

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**(2) IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND/OR SALARY SCHEDULES**

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated there were no Budget Amendments and/or Salary Schedules for approval at this time.

**(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 1995**

Commissioner Matz moved that the following Minutes be approved:

Special Meeting - December 12, 1995, held at 10:30 A.M.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

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**(5) PRESENTATION OF "NON-SALARY/NON CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET COMPARED WITH EXPENDITURES AND ENCUMBRANCES AS NOVEMBER 30, 1995"**

At this time Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, gave a presentation of "non-salary/non capital outlay budget compared with expenditures and encumbrances as of November 30, 1995". Then he explained that the Court appointed attorneys fees were high for County Courts at law Number one (1) and two (2). The electricity also had to be checked in the Dancy building and what portion was going to the construction and what was for the normal operation.

Judge Pro-tem Cascos questioned if County Court at law Number one (1) and two (2) receive the same amount for Court appointed attorneys. Mr. Yates responded that County Court at law Number one (1) received the sum of about \$53,000.00 and County Court at law Number two (2) at about \$26,000.00. Originally three (3) contracts were presented one by Judge Everardo Garcia County Court at Law Number one (1) the contracts stated a monthly salary for the Court appointed attorneys at \$2,000.00 the Contracts were denied by the Court. Judge Pro-tem Cascos explained that those contracts were tabled by the Court for further review and were not denied. He also suggested the Mr. Yates set up a work shop with both County Court at law Judges and discuss the fees for Court appointed

Attorneys. Mr. Yates said he had spoken to one of the County Court at law Judges and the Judge showed no concern for the money allotted to them and how much they would spend on Court appointed attorneys if the Commissioners Court was not going to approve the funding. Judge Pro-tem Cascos stated, that in the near future they would be out of money and they would have to ask the Court for additional money and the same questions were going to be asked. Then Commissioner Peña questioned the contracts, the fees and what would the attorney be responsible for. Judge Pro- tem Cascos said the contract did not specify any of those details. It was understood that the contracts would be an annual salary of \$24,000.00 and the County Court at laws had spent half that salary in two months, how was the contract going to function. At this time, Commissioner Matz had another matter of concern which was not directly related to this item. He showed some concern for the Juvenile Probation Department needing additional help. Mr. Yates said that the Juvenile Probation Department had been receiving a lot of additional help from the County. Judge Pro-tem Cascos recommended Mr. Yates to also conduct a workshop with the Juvenile Probation office and he asked for the Courts consent to present to the Judge a recommendation to have the workshops and meetings scheduled on the same day . Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, stated that they had to go back to several meeting agendas of the last (3) three or (4) four years of the annual items presented for approval.

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously the presentation of "Non-salary/Non Capital outlay Budget compared with expenditures and encumbrances as November 30, 1995" was acknowledge.

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**(6) ACTION ON DEMOLITION OF SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE IN LOS FRESNOS**

At this time, Mr. Joseph Ardito Property Management Coordinator stated he had been asked by Tony Betancourt Health Director City of Los Fresnos, of the possibilities to demolish a single family residence of Original Townsite Los Fresnos-Block ninety-eight (98), Lots three (3) and four (4), also known as 505 W. 8th St. Los Fresnos, Texas. He had inspected the property and strongly recommended the demolition of this residence. Commissioner Peña questioned the costs of the demolition, Mr. Ardito said it ranged from \$1,200.00 to \$2,000.00 depending on the demolition and the office of Property Management is not budgeted for this and they would have to borrow money for the project. Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, stated that this was an on going problem and their is several properties that are abounded properties that attract children, increasing delinquence and their is a potential liability.

Judge Pro-tem Cascos explained that the Property Management account was established to take care of the expenditures of Property Management including the sell of properties. Mr. Yates stated that an account had been established to fund the projects and can be reimbursed with the sell of the properties. He explained that him and Mr. Wright had discussed the necessity to sell the properties to refund the General Fund. Judge Pro-tem Cascos asked Mr. Yates if the project could be funded and later reimbursed. Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the County Auditor was allowed to fund the demolition of single family residence in Los Fresnos.

At this time Commissioner Matz questioned, the Agenda Item Request form that had been approved in the past and when it was going to be instituted. Ms. Grace Salinas, Assistant Administrator, explained that they were trying to get the form was being placed on a diskette for the Department Heads to be able to work on the form from their computer also trying to make copies available and the forms will be sent out with a memo explaining the procedure of the form and everything should be ready to be used by January 12, 1996.

**(7) ACTION ON LISTING OF TAX FORECLOSED PROPERTY FOR SALE [TABLED]**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED** to be put in Executive session for the next meeting.

**(8) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A CONTINUATION GRANT APPLICATION TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE**

At this time, Mr. Crispin Treviño Drug Enforcement Task Force Director was asking for \$812,032.00 from the State funding in which they have to reimburse twenty five (25) percent the total being \$203,000.00 and a federal Grant will provide \$609,000.00 and the twenty-five (25) percent will come from project income and the fund indicates that they have the twenty-five (25) percent covered for. Commissioner Matz questioned what was project income and Mr. Treviño responded it was forfeited money and seized properties.

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña , seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Resolution authorizing the submission of a continuation grant application to the Governor's office Criminal Justice Division for the Cameron County Drug Enforcement Task Force was adopted.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

**(9) APPROVAL OF THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DOCUMENT NUMBER C6000166, CHANGE NO.08; ATTACHMENT NO.11; AMENDMENT TO ADD A NEW ATTACHMENT FOR BUREAU OF NUTRITION SERVICES**

At this time, Mr Richard L. Durbin, Health Administrator expressed his gratitude toward his staff Ms. Yvette Salinas, Women Infant and Children (WIC) Director, and Mr. Ray Rodriguez, Chief Sanitarian, who are excellent assistants. He than explained that the Grant fro the Women Infant and Children (WIC) Program was approved in October 1995, it is about \$1,700,000.00 total if all the services are performed the overhead was reduced from thirty-four (34) to seventeen (17) percent and all the money reduced from the overhead is put back for services and reimbursement was increased and was a standard State contract except

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously , the Texas Department of Health Document No. C6000166, Change No. 08; attachment No. 11: amendment to add a new attachment for Bureau of Nutrition Services be approved.



**(10) APPROVAL OF INTERNATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE BANKING RESOLUTION CONTROL NUMBER SEVEN (7), WITH SIGNATURE CARDS ATTACHED RE: COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR ACCOUNTS**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the International Bank of Commerce Banking Resolution Control Number seven (7), with signature cards attached be approved.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

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

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the following Travel and Travel Expenses were approved, subject to funds in their Budget:

- a) Two (2) Park Rangers to attend an "Intoxilyzer Course" in San Antonio, Texas, on January 21-26, 1996;
- b) Maria Santos San Pedro to Attend the "Annual Community Health Nursing Leadership Conference" in Austin, Texas on January 10-12, 1996;

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**"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 Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the

"Consent" Agenda Items were approved as follow:

- (12) AUTHORIZATION OPEN REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) NUMBER 951002 FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR DESIGN OF ISLA BLANCA PARK RESTAURANT, ASSOCIATED ROADS/PARKING AND REGISTRATION OFFICE**

At this time Judge Pro-tem Cascos appointed a Committee to view the requests for Proposals (RFP) the committee

is as follows:

**Ken Conway-Parks Systems Director  
Maggie Infante-  
Dough Wright-Cameron County Counsel  
Mark/Michael Forbes-Purchasing Agent  
David Friedman-Sea Ranch Restaurant  
Joseph Ardito-Property Management Coordinator  
Michael Martin-County Engineer**



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**.

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**APPROVED** this **22nd** day of **December** 1995.

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**GILBERTO HINOJOSA**  
**COUNTY JUDGE**

**ATTEST:**

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