

THE STATE OF TEXAS           §

COUNTY OF CAMERON         §

**BE IT REMEMBERED** on the 20th day of AUGUST, 1996, there was conducted a **REGULAR Public Meeting 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, C.P.A.**  
**COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2**

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

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

**Hilda V. Treviño Deputy**  
**COUNTY CLERK**

**ABSENT:**  
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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.

The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on August 20, 1996, at 3:56 P.M.:

**(4) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION  
ACKNOWLEDGING THE OPENING,  
ESTABLISHMENT, EXISTENCE AND SERVICE  
OF THE RIO HONDO BRANCH TAX OFFICE  
AND EXISTING BROWNSVILLE, HARLINGEN  
AND SAN BENITO TAX OFFICES IN CAMERON  
COUNTY**

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Resolution be adopted acknowledging the opening, establishment, existence and service of the Rio Hondo Branch Tax Office and the existing Brownsville, Harlingen and San Benito Tax Offices in Cameron County.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa commended Mr. Tony Yzaguirre, Jr., Tax Assessor-Collector, for the services provided by the Tax Offices and the opening of the Rio Hondo Tax Office.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

**(5) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING MS. LUPITA RUIZ, HARLINGEN/LA FERIA BRANCH MANAGER OF THE CAMERON COUNTY TAX OFFICE, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT OF SERVICE TO THE OFFICE OF THE TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR, AND PROCLAIMING AUGUST 30, 1996, AS "LUPITA RUIZ DAY" IN CAMERON COUNTY**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Resolution honoring Ms. Lupita Ruiz, Harlingen/La Feria Branch Manager of the Cameron County Tax Office, was adopted on the occasion of her retirement from the Office of the Tax Assessor-Collector, and August 30, 1996, was proclaimed "Lupita Ruiz Day" in Cameron County.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa expressed the Court's appreciation and presented the Resolution to Ms. Lupita Ruiz; and Ms. Ruiz responded by expressing her gratitude to the Court, the audience and the Tax Office Staff.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

**(6) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING  
JUDGE SALLIE GONZALEZ, JUSTICE OF THE  
PEACE PRECINCT NO. 6, PLACE 1**

At this time, Judge Hinojosa expressed the Court's gratitude and presented the Resolution to Judge Sallie Gonzalez, Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 6, Place 1, and briefly highlighted her accomplishments and service to the County.

Commissioner Peña moved that the Resolution honoring Judge Sallie Gonzalez, Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 6, Place 1, on the occasion of the designation as the Justice of the Peace of the Year by the State Association, be adopted.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

At this time, Judge Sallie Gonzalez, Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 6, Place 1, expressed her gratitude to the Court and audience and acknowledged her staff for their support and efforts.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

**(1) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS**

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, presented the following late claims as to the City of Brownsville, Warrant No. 18932, in the amount of \$37.00, Mr. George Cunningham, Warrant No. 18933, in the amount of \$3,167.00, and Southwestern Bell Telephone, Warrant No. 18955, in the amount of \$41,136.39, noting that Warrant No. 18933 was a Purchase without a Purchase Order.

Major Gus Reyna, Sheriff's Department, explained that Warrant No. 18933 was for a compressor that was purchased on as an emergency situation for the Detention Facility, and noted that the existing ventilation issue had not been addressed appropriately.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the purchase of a second unit and whether the unused unit could be returned or sold to a vendor.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the County Claims were approved as presented by the County Auditor, inclusive of the late claims as to Warrant No. 18932, in the amount of \$37.00, Warrant No. 18933, in the amount of \$3,167.00, and Warrant No. 18955, in the amount of \$41,136.39.



**(2) APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND/OR SALARY SCHEDULES**

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the Elected Officials' Salaries, which included a three percent (3%) increase, should be published, in order to remain on schedule for the Budget Process.

The suggestion was made that the County Auditor should discuss the matter with the individual members of the Court in order to resolve the issue of an increase in salaries.

Commissioner Rosenbaum moved that the Fiscal Year 1996 Budget Amendment No. 96-16 and the Salary Schedules for Solid Waste Enforcement - Fund No. 39-417, and Maintenance and Operation Precinct No. 1 - Fund No. 15-617, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously.

**The Budget Amendment and Salary Schedules are as follow:**

**(3) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 1996, AND AUGUST 13, 1996**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held August 6, 1996, at 1:30 P.M., and the Regular Meeting held August 13, 1996, at 1:30 P.M., were approved.



**(7) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE APPROVAL TO HIRE A PART-TIME MAINTENANCE WORKER UNDER EXTRA HELP**

Upon motion by Commissioner Rosenbaum, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, a Part-time Maintenance Worker was retained under extra help for Precinct No. 1.



**(8) APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A THIRD YEAR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION APPLICATION FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT OCCUPANT PROTECTION (OP) SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROJECT (STEP) AND DESIGNATION OF THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE LOCAL MATCH**

Commissioner Peña moved that the Resolution authorizing a Third Year Texas Department of Transportation Application for the Sheriff's Department Occupant Protection (OP) Selective Traffic Enforcement Project (STEP), be adopted, and Fund No. 90 - Drug Forfeiture, was designated as the funding source for the local match.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

**(9) APPOINTMENT OF THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE PROPOSALS FOR THE STRUCTURAL INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE GATEWAY AND FREE TRADE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the following Evaluation Committee was appointed to review the Proposals for the Structural Inspection Services for the Gateway and Free Trade International Bridges:

Mr. Jose F. Galvan, Bridge Systems Director,  
Representative from the County Engineer's Office,  
Representative from the County Auditor's Office,  
Representative from the County Judge's Office, and  
Representative from the County Purchasing's Office.

**(10) PRESENTATION OF THE THIRD QUARTER REPORT ON THE BRIDGE CROSSINGS AND REVENUES FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE SYSTEM**

At this time, Mr. Joe Galvan, Bridge Systems Director, highlighted the Quarterly Reports on the Bridge Crossings and Revenues for the Free Trade Bridge at Los Indios and the Gateway International Bridge at Brownsville.

Commissioner Matz moved that the Presentation of the Third Quarter Report on the Bridge Crossings and Revenues for the Cameron County International Bridge System, be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

**The Reports are as follow:**

(11) **APPOINTMENT OF THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE PROPOSALS FOR THE FEASIBILITY STUDY OF THE PARKING GARAGES**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the following Evaluation Committee was appointed to review the Proposals for the Feasibility Study of the Parking Garages:

Honorable Gilberto Hinojosa, County Judge,  
Mr. Joe Galvan, Bridge Systems Director,  
Mr. John Walker, Brownsville City Engineer,  
Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor,  
Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, and  
Mr. Carlos A. Sanchez, County Engineer.

(12) **ACTION TO APPOINT AN ASSISTANT VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER**

At this time, Mr. Salvador Salinas, Veterans Services Officer, noted that this Item was to introduce and acknowledge Mr. Juan Martinez, Harlingen, Texas, and added that Mr. Martinez had met the requirements and was qualified for the position of Assistant Veterans Service Officer.

Commissioner Peña moved that Mr. Juan Martinez, Harlingen, Texas, be acknowledged as the Assistant Veterans' Service Officer.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

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

At this time, Judge Hinojosa noted that the Boys Scouts and Cameron Park Grant Applications had been approved for funding.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the "Consent" Agenda Items were approved as follow, noting that Item No. 15 was Tabled, Item No. 16 was extended for two (2) weeks, and Item No. 18 was rejected and rebid:



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

- a) Community Development Project Coordinator to attend the "Professional Advisory Reviews Panel Meeting" in Weslaco, Texas, on August 14, 1996;
- b) Two (2) Health Department employees to attend the "79th Annual Meeting and Exhibition of the American Dietetic Association" in San Antonio, Texas, on October 20-24, 1996;
- c) Administrative Assistant to the County Judge to attend the "Coastal Coordination Meeting" in Corpus Christi, Texas, on August 16, 1996; and
- d) Administrative Assistant to the County Judge and employee of the Engineering Department to attend the "Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program" in Austin, Texas, on August 28-29, 1996.

**(14) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD BID**

- a) **DEMOLITION OF THE PASOL BUILDING, BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS**

**HUNTER DEMOLITION - San Antonio, Texas**  
**\$118,000.00**

**(15) IN THE MATTER OF FINAL APPROVAL (TABLED)**

- a) **Precinct no. 3**  
Myerwood Subdivision, Section 1 - 9.65 acres out of the North 20 acres of Block No. 14, Harlingen Land and Water Company Subdivision. (TABLED)

**(16) IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY - PARKING GARAGES (EXTENDED FOR TWO (2) WEEKS)**

- a) **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 96-07-07 FEDERAL COURT**
- b) **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 96-07-06 GATEWAY BRIDGE**

**(17) AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN BIDS**

- a) **BIDS FOR LOS TOMATES - LEVEE RELOCATION**
- b) **ANNUAL BIDS NO. 230-96 - JANITORIAL SUPPLIES - CHEMICALS AND CLEANING**

**The Bids received and opened follow:**

**(18) IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (REJECT AND REBID)**

- a) **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 96-07-09 FOR PASSENGER FERRY DEVELOPMENT**

**(19) AUTHORIZATION TO**

- a) **OPEN ANNUAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 96-07-02-1473 FOR JUVENILE SERVICES - RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT**
- b) **APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING EVALUATION COMMITTEE:**  
  
**MS. LINDA MARTINEZ, JUVENILE PROBATION,  
MR. REMBERTO ARTEAGA, CHILD WELFARE PROTECTIVE SERVICES,  
AND  
MR. MIKE FORBES, PURCHASING AGENT.**
- c) **APPROVE NEGOTIATIONS TOWARDS AWARD RECOMMENDATION**

**The Request for Proposal follows:**

**(20) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD BIDS**

- a) **ANNUAL BIDS - FUEL**

**HICKS OIL - Harlingen, Texas**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>
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a)	Unleaded - All locations	0.8685
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b)	Diesel - All locations	0.8551
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- b) **PICK-UP TRUCKS (ENGINEERING AND PRECINCT NO. 2)**

**PHILPOTT MOTORS - Port Neches, Texas**

**Pick-up ½ ton- extended cab - long bed - with trade (Engineering) - \$13,486.40**

**KELLOGG CHEVROLET - San Benito, Texas**

**Pick-up - 1 ton - crew cab - with lift - without trade (Precinct No. 2) - \$22,375.00**

**(17) AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN BIDS**

**a) BIDS FOR LOS TOMATES - LEVEE RELOCATION**

**The Bids received and opened are as follow:**

**(17) AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN BIDS**

- b) ANNUAL BIDS NO. 230-96 -**
- JANITORIAL SUPPLIES -**
- CHEMICALS AND CLEANING**

**The Bids received and opened follow:**

**(19) AUTHORIZATION TO**

- a) OPEN ANNUAL REQUEST FOR  
PROPOSAL NO. 96-07-02-1473 FOR  
JUVENILE SERVICES -  
RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT**

**The Request for Proposal is as follows:**

**(21) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 2:30 P.M. to discuss the following matters:

- a) Confer with County Counsel to discuss Cameron County Trustee Property located in Harlingen, Texas; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071;
- b) Confer with County Counsel concerning possible litigation involving Food and Beverage Concession in Cameron County Hall of Justice; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (1) and (2);
- c) Confer with County Counsel on the possible litigation involving restoration of the Dancy Building; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (1) and (2); and
- d) Confer with County Counsel concerning the Construction Contract completion date on the Sea Ranch Restaurant; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2).

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session at 4:55 P.M.



**(22) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a) Confer with County Counsel to discuss Cameron County Trustee Property located in Harlingen, Texas;
- b) Confer with County Counsel concerning the possible litigation involving Food and Beverage Concession in the Cameron County Hall of Justice; and
- c) Confer with County Counsel on the possible litigation involving the Restoration of the Dancy Building.

Commissioner Cascos recommended that the Status Reports by County Counsel should be acknowledged regarding said matters.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Status Reports by County Counsel were acknowledged regarding the Cameron County Trustee Property located in Harlingen, Texas, and the possible litigations involving Food and Beverage Concession in the Cameron County Hall of Justice, and the Restoration of the Dancy Building.

- d) Confer with County Counsel concerning the Construction Contract completion date of the Dancy Building.

Commissioner Cascos recommended that the incentive payment for early completion of the Sea Ranch Restaurant should be approved as requested by the Parks System Director

Commissioner Cascos moved that the incentive payment for early completion of the Sea Ranch Restaurant be approved as requested by the Parks System Director regarding the Construction Contract completion date.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

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 27th day of August, 1996.

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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**