

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CAMERON

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 19th day of OCTOBER, 1999, 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:

9:30 A.M.

PRESENT:

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

PEDRO "PETE" BENAVIDES
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1

CARLOS H. CASCOS, C.P.A.
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2

JAMES R. MATZ
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3

NATIVIDAD "TIVIE" VALENCIA
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

Hilda V. Treviño Deputy
COUNTY CLERK

ABSENT:

The meeting was called to order by Judge Gilberto Hinojosa at 9:38 A.M. 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 October 15, 1999, at 9:30 A.M.:

(1) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, presented the list of County employees from different Department who worked overtime during the Hurricane Bret and requested that Warrant No. 21338, payable to Turner Collie and Braden, in the amount of \$96,625.00, be withdrawn from the list of claims.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the County Claims be approved, as presented by the County Auditor, with the exclusion of Warrant No. 21338, in the amount of \$96,625.00.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried as follows:

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Cascos and Valencia

NAY: Commissioner Matz, as to Warrant No. 21317, payable to Rio Grande Valley Regional Sports Authority.

The List is as follows:

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

Commissioner Matz moved that the 1999 Fiscal Year Budget Amendment No. 99-49, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Budget Amendments are as follow:

**(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1999,
AND SEPTEMBER 14, 1999**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 7, 1999, at 9:30 A.M., and September 14, 1999, at 9:30 A.M., were approved, subject to the corrections noted on the Minutes of September 7, 1999.

**(4) IN THE MATTER OF A PROCLAMATION
DECLARING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 8-12,
1999, AS AVETERANS APPRECIATION WEEK® IN
CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS (TABLED)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, this Item was TABLED.

**(5) PRESENTATION OF THE FOURTH QUARTERLY
REPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE
SYSTEMS**

At this time, Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Jr., Bridge Systems Director, highlighted Fourth Quarterly Report for the International Bridge Systems for the Gateway International Bridge at Brownsville, the Free Trade Bridge at Los Indios, and the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Fourth Quarterly Report for the International Bridge Systems was acknowledged.

The Reports are as follow:

**(7) APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE
TCDP CONTRACT NO. 717175**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, Amendment No. 1 to the Texas Community Development Program Contract No. 717175, was approved.



**(8) APPROVAL OF THE PLANNING CONTRACT
BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
FOR A SURVEY AND STUDY OF COLONIA LA
TORRE (TCDP CONTRACT NO. 719145)**

Commissioner Valencia moved that the Planning Contract between Cameron County and the Texas Department of Housing and Community for a survey and study of Colonia La Torre, that being the Texas Community Development Program Contract No. 719145, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Contract is as follows:

(9) APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE TDHCA HOME CONTRACT NO. 537057

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, Amendment No. 1 to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs Home Contract No. 537057, was approved.

(10) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY PARKS SYSTEM TO APPLY FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR A BINGO PERMIT FOR USE AT ISLA BLANCA PARK

Commissioner Cascos moved that the County Parks System apply for an exemption from licensing requirements for a Bingo Permit for use at Isla Blanca Park.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

(11) APPROVAL OF THE EXPANSION OF THE DARREL B. HESTER JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER AND AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

At this time, Mr. Amador R. Rodriguez, Juvenile Probation Department, stated that the Juvenile Detention Center was overcrowded and reported that the Juvenile Board was requesting that Architectural Services be solicited to expand the center by twenty-four (24) beds. He noted that the cost to expand the facility was approximately one million dollars and would consist of additional beds, classrooms, office space, control center and personnel. Mr. Rodriguez stated that a two-story expansion was being considered, in order to have a more confined area.

Judge Hinojosa noted that the Juvenile Board had requested that three (3) pods be constructed and noted that the expansion of the center had been mandated by the State. He added that the funds would need to be allocated from Bond Funds and suggested that the Request for Proposals be advertised for a thirty-two (32) to forty (40) bed facility.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the Darrel B. Hester Juvenile Detention Center be expanded and that Architectural Services be advertised for a thirty-two (32) to forty bed expansion.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously.

**(12) APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CAMERON COUNTY AND LOUIS SOROLA TO
PROVIDE LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO THE
INDIGENTS OF THE MASTER-S COURT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Agreement between Cameron County and Mr. Louis Sorola, Attorney at Law, to provide legal representation to the indigents of the Master-s Court, was approved.

The Agreement is as follows:

(13) APPROVAL OF THE CHANGE OF SLOT NO. 100-4010-06 FROM RESEARCH ASSISTANT TO CENSUS/COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

At this time, Judge Hinojosa explained that the Secretary of State had initiated a significant Colonia initiative and added that a full-time position would be necessary to assist the Colonias throughout the County. He stated that funding would be allocated from the Census Budget and added that the position was a temporary slot, noting that the position had not been advertised.

Commissioner Valencia moved that Slot No. 100-4010-06 be changed from a Research Assistant to a Census/Community Outreach Coordinator.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried as follows:

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Cascos and Valencia

NAY: Commissioner Matz.

The Job Description is as follows:

(14) TRAVEL AND/OR TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR THE FOLLOWING, SUBJECT TO FUNDS IN THEIR BUDGET AND ALL APPLICABLE COUNTY POLICIES

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the following travel items were approved:

- a) Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 2, Place No. 2, to attend the ATwenty Hour Justice of the Peace Seminar@ in Lubbock, Texas, on November 2-5, 1999;
- b) Juvenile Probation Department Budget Administrator to attend the ALower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Meeting@ in Weslaco, Texas, on October 20, 1999;
- c) District Attorney to attend the ATexas Association of Counties Policy Analysis Group Meeting@ in Bastrop, Texas, on November 8-10, 1999;
- d) District Attorney to attend the A1999 Elected Prosecutor Conference@ in San Antonio, Texas, on December 1-3, 1999;
- e) Three (3) Deputy Constables to attend the ACivil Process Seminar@ in Tyler, Texas, on November 8-12, 1999;
- f) County Extension Agent to attend an AInterpretive Event and Volunteer Recognition Ceremony@ in Weslaco, Texas, on October 27-28, 1999;
- g) Two (2) County Court at Law No. 2 employees to attend the ATexas Association for Court Administrations Annual Conference@ in Austin, Texas, on November 7-10, 1999;
- h) County Extension Agent to attend the ASatellite Conference@ in Weslaco, Texas, on October 20, 1999;
- I) County Extension Agent to attend the ABinational Conference Committee Meeting@ in Weslaco, Texas, on October 29, 1999;
- j) County Task Force Commander to attend the ACriminal Intelligence Systems Training@ in Houston, Texas, on November 15, 1999;
- k) Program Development and Management Director and Dancy Building Project Architect to attend the ATHC Grant Application Workshop@ in San Antonio, Texas, on November 17, 1999;
- l) Two (2) Program Development and Management employees to attend the A1999 Hearing on Rules and Procedures for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Grant Program@ in McAllen, Texas, on October 28, 1999;
- m) Four (4) Sheriff-s Detention Officers to attend the AProfessional Development for Women in Criminal Justice@ in San Antonio, Texas, on November 30, 1999, through December 3, 1999;
- n) Four (4) Sheriff-s Detention Officers to attend the ATCLEOSE Workshop@ in Kingsville, Texas, on October 22, 1999;
- o) Three (3) Sheriff-s Lieutenants to attend the AWinning the Physical Confrontation in a Jail Setting@ in McKinney, Texas, on December 5-8, 1999;

- p) Two (2) County Court at Law No. 3 employees to attend the ATexas Association for Court Administrations Annual Conference@ in Austin, Texas, on November 7-10, 1999;
- q) Constable Precinct No. 6 and Precinct No. 7 to pick up equipment that has been donated for Constables-use in Austin, Texas, on October 12, 1999; and
- r) Health Department employee to attend an AUpdated Novell Training for Ices Network@ in Hidalgo County Health Department, on October 12-13, 1999.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the

AConsent@ Agenda Items were approved as follow:

(15) RE-ADVERTISE FOR INFIRMARY LABORATORY AND RADIOLOGIC DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

(16) FINAL APPROVAL

a) Precinct No. 3

Ana Iris Subdivision - 22.115 acres of land, more or less, out of Blocks No. 3 and No. 4, of the Parker Tract; and

b) Precinct No. 3

Pelican Pointe Subdivision - being a 7.432 acre tract of land, more or less out of a 307.125 acre tract of land and being a portion of Share No. 22, Espiritu Santo Grant.

(17) PRELIMINARY APPROVAL

a) Precinct No. 4

Jenncourt Subdivision - being a resubdivision of 9.524 acres of land out of an unsubdivided 12.4 acre tract in the La Feria Grant.

(18) AWARD ANNUAL BID NO. 2600 - SAFETY SUPPLIES

VALLEN SAFETY - Corpus Christi, Texas

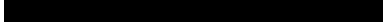
- Category A - Total Cost \$5,031.00
- Category B - Total Cost \$235.30
- Category C - Total Cost \$3,006.30
- Category D - Total Cost \$696.90
- Category E - Total Cost \$1,527.00
- Category F - Total Cost \$1,755.00
- Category G - Total Cost \$3,262.00
- Category H - Total Cost \$1,463.40
- Category I - Total Cost \$1,617.67
- Category J - Total Cost \$233.04

Category K - Total Cost \$1,333.00

Category L - Total Cost \$3,990.79

Category M - Total Cost \$4,055.24

(19) **AWARD ANNUAL BID NO. 2220 - FOOD: TAMALES**



(20) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 10:32 A.M. to discuss the following matters:

- a) Confer with County Counsel concerning the possible litigation involving Schlitterbahn Water Park at South Padre Island and confer on matters relating to the water park, in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of the State Bar of Texas, conflicts with the Open Meetings Act; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (1)(A) and Section 551.071 (2); and
- b) In the matter of the Real Property concerning the possible sale of Cameron County surplus property, known as La Feria - Abstract No. 10, Minn-Tex, Block No. 30, 20.0 acres; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072. (REJECTED)

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session at 10:55 A.M.



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

- a) **Confer with County Counsel concerning the possible litigation involving Schlitterbahn Water Park at South Padre Island and confer on matters relating to the water park, in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of the State Bar of Texas, conflicts with the Open Meetings Act.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Status Report by the Property Management Coordinator was acknowledged regarding the possible litigation involving Schlitterbahn Water Park at South Padre Island and related matters to the water park, in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of the State Bar of Texas, conflicts with the Open Meetings Act.

- b) **In the matter of the Real Property concerning the possible sale of Cameron County surplus property, known as La Feria - Abstract No. 10, Minn-Tex, Block No. 30, 20.0 acres. (REJECTED)**

Commissioner Cascos moved that all offers on the sale of the Cameron County surplus property, known as La Feria - Abstract No. 10, Minn-Tex, Block No. 30, 20.0 acres, be rejected.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.



At this time, upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Court recessed for fifteen minutes.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia, the Court reconvened in regular session at 11:35 A.M.

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(6) **IN THE MATTER OF THE PRESENTATION BY
MR. GARY HENRY ON THE SCHLITTERBAHN
WATER PARK AT SOUTH PADRES ISLAND
(TABLED)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**.

There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at **11:38 A.M.**

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APPROVED this 9th day of **November, 1999**.

**_____
GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE**

ATTEST:

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