

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CAMERON

**BE IT REMEMBERED** on the 2nd day of NOVEMBER, 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:**

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The meeting was called to order by Judge Gilberto Hinojosa at 9:35 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 29, 1999, at 1:36 P.M.:

**(NOT ON AGENDA)**

At this time, Mr. Matt Halton, Tarrant County Health Facility Development Corporation, stated that Tarrant County was requesting approval by the governmental entities, in order to obtain one bond through one County to fund Nursing Home Health Facilities.

Judge Hinojosa noted that a Resolution would be placed on the Agenda for the following meeting and that the Court would make a decision at that time.

**(4) ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DISTRICT CLERK-S  
JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER MONTHLY FEE  
AND FINES REPORTS**

Commissioner Matz moved that the District Clerk-s July, August and September Monthly Fee and Fines Reports be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.

At this time, Commissioner Cascos questioned the time schedule for submitting the Reports and Ms. Aurora De La Garza, District Clerk, responded that the Reports were submitted on a monthly basis to the State and on a quarterly basis to the Court.

**The Reports are as follow:**

**(6) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SETTING GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENTS IN THE HARLINGEN ENTERPRISE ZONE**

At this time, Commissioner Cascos recommended that Item No. 3 AB@ be expanded to include any relatives of the Commissioners= Court and expressed concern as to the language reflecting an existing business relocating to an Enterprise Zone in any other city.

Ms. Michelle McCoy, City of Harlingen Planning Department, noted that the relocation of businesses was addressed on Item 4 AH@ which reflected that points would only be given for new jobs.

Judge Hinojosa noted that the point system was discretionary and added that the Court could approve an enterprise designation and award points to businesses shifting jobs from one area to another. He stated that each Agreement was subject to negotiation, based on the best interest for the County.

Commissioner Cascos noted that the Agreement did not include language as to a business relocating from a Reinvestment Zone in one city to another, noting that a business should not be awarded a tax abatement if it was relocating from a city in Cameron County to another, based on the Zone.

Commissioner Matz moved that the Resolution setting guidelines and criteria for Tax Abatement Agreements in the Harlingen Enterprise Zone be adopted, noting that Item No. 3 AB@ be expanded to include any relatives of the Commissioners= Court, in compliance with the Constitutional requirements.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia.

At this time, Commissioner Cascos expressed his opposition to the Agreement, noting that language was not included that prevented a business relocating from one Cameron County city to another.

Ms. McCoy suggested that the clause ~~inside a reinvestment zone~~@ in Item No. 4 AH@ of the Agreement be excluded and amended to reflect the concerns of businesses relocating from one city to another.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the relocation of businesses within the community should be based on a case by case basis and added that the Agreement be approved as presented, with the one change to Item No. 3 AB.@

Upon motion duly made, Commissioner Matz moved that the Resolution setting guidelines and criteria for Tax Abatement Agreements in the Harlingen Enterprise Zone be adopted, noting that Item No. 3 AB@ be expanded to include any relatives of the Commissioners= Court, in compliance with the Constitutional requirements.

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

**AYE:** Commissioners Benavides, Matz and Valencia

**NAY:** Commissioner Cascos.

**(7) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SETTING  
GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR TAX  
ABATEMENT AGREEMENTS IN THE FREE  
TRADE BRIDGE REGIONAL ENTERPRISE ZONE**

Commissioner Valencia moved that the Resolution setting guidelines and criteria for Tax Abatement Agreements in the Free Trade Bridge Regional Enterprise Zone be adopted, noting that Item 3 AB@ be expanded to include any relatives of the Commissioners= Court, in compliance with the Constitutional requirements.

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

**AYE:** Commissioners Benavides, Matz and Valencia

**NAY:** Commissioner Cascos.



**(8) IN THE MATTER OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN  
CAMERON COUNTY AND UTMB-GALVESTON  
REGARDING INDIGENT HEALTH CARE  
SERVICES (TABLED)**

At this time, Ms. Paula S. Gomez, Brownsville Community Health Center, stated that the necessary funds were not available for health care needs in Cameron County and reported that the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston was not honoring the Contract between Cameron County and the UTMB.

Ms. Delma Sanchez, Brownsville Community Health Center Social Worker, stated that many patients referred from Cameron County had been turned away by the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and added that the patients were classified as self-pay patients. She explained that the qualifying patients were required to pay the amount of \$30.00, for each visit, plus twenty-five percent (25%) of their surgery and added that UTMB did not provide a payment plan, and required cash at the time of the visit and/or surgery. She reported that in the past, fifteen hundred to two thousands patients were referred to UTMB and added that all the patients had been accepted and treated.

At this time, Dr. Homayon Sidiq, Brownsville Community Health Center, stated that many of the patients had been advised through letters sent from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, to seek medical assistance within the County.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the County Auditor's Office had received reports from clients who had been refused the services. He stated that the Contract was effective November 1 through October 31, for the amount of \$290,000.00, and added that administration and policies had changed during said period, whereas, UTMB was imposing a per fee, per use@cost. Mr. Yates noted that as of November 1, 1999, the Contract had not been renewed with UTMB and added that UTMB had not followed the Agreement. He explained that the County's Indigent Health Care Program covered individuals who were within the zero percent (0%) to twenty-five percent (25%) federal poverty level and added that the County's Gatekeepers (primary care physicians) performed the initial visit and referrals. He stated that the Contract with UTMB provided services for those individuals on top of the twenty-five percent (25%) federal poverty level. He noted that since the UTMB facility was State supported, the Texas Department of Health allowed the County to utilize the amount of \$290,000.00, as a part of the Indigent Health Care Provision. Mr. Yates reported that the special services provided by UTMB were now provided at the hospitals within the County and added that the funds could be spent locally, noting that it would also be less expensive for the clients who had to travel to Galveston without a guarantee of being provided with the services. He explained that the Contract would require that the client pay the twenty-five percent (25%) co-pay and that the County pay thirty-three percent (33%) of the total amount of services provided.

Judge Hinojosa suggested that the County enter into the Contract with UTMB, utilizing the ten percent (10%) allowed by the State, for the Fiscal Year 1999-2000 and that the patients be screened through the Gatekeeper Program before going to Galveston.

Ms. Gomez expressed concern as to the Gatekeeper process and suggested that the local clinics should be allowed to serve as Gatekeepers.

Commissioner Matz stated that the County Health Director and the Health Authority should be involved in said matter, in order to provide their recommendations to the Court.

Judge Hinojosa recommended that the County Auditor be instructed to contact the State to determine if the County would receive credit toward the County's Indigent Health Care obligation, if the County paid the thirty-three percent (33%) and the co-pay amount. He added that the County's Health Authority be requested to examine the issue and that a committee be established to determine the guidelines to be followed.

Commissioner Cascos recommended that the County Auditor, Ms. Rosaura Garcia, Auditor's Office, be involved in the discussions with Dr. Victor Gonzalez, Cameron County Health Authority, and Ms. Gomez.

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



**(1) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS**

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, presented an additional claim as to Warrant No. 21338, payable to Turner Collie and Braden, Incorporated, in the amount of \$96,625.00, and added that the claim had been detained since the work performed had not been entirely reviewed by the Program, Development and Management Director.

Commissioner Matz questioned whether a remaining balance existed and added that the firm had submitted a draft of the report which entailed many items that were not addressed.

Mr. Yates suggested that the matter be deferred for one (1) week until the issue was verified by the Program Development and Management Director.

Commissioner Cascos expressed concern as to Warrant No. 21989, payable to Joe King, Jr. Printer, for business cards and questioned why the business cards continued to be purchased from an outside vendor, as opposed to the County's Reproduction Center.

Mr. Yates noted that the funds were allocated from the Task Force Fund No. 250 and stated that the County Auditor's staff had been instructed that the invoices would not be honored unless instructed otherwise by the Reproduction Director or if the funds were allocated from Fund No. 49.

Commissioner Cascos questioned how the purchase order stage got passed the Auditor's Office and Mr. Yates responded that the purchase orders were honored if they occurred in mid August and if they were special grant funds.

Commissioner Cascos questioned whether the expenditures of the Grant Funds were required to follow the County's policies and guidelines and suggested that the any pending work orders with outside vendors should be determined.

At this time, Commissioner Cascos expressed concern as to the payments to Court Appointed Attorneys exclusive of the existing Contracts with numerous Attorneys and requested that the total amount of Court Appointed Attorneys be determined, in order to address the implementation of a Public Defender's Office.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the County Claims were approved, as presented by the County Auditor.

**The Budget Officer's Comments Report is as follows:**

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

Commissioner Cascos moved that the 2000 Fiscal Year Budget Amendment No. 2000-03, the 1999 Budget Amendment No. 99-51, and the Salary Schedules for the County Attorney, Fund No. 100-4730 and the Tax Assessor-Collector, Fund No. 100-4990, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

**The Budget Amendments and the Salary Schedules are as follow:**



**(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1999, REGULAR, SEPTEMBER 22, 1999, SPECIAL, AND SEPTEMBER 28, 1999, REGULAR**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Minutes of the Regular Meetings held September 21, 1999, at 9:30 A.M., and September 28, 1999, at 9:30 A.M., were approved, subject to the typographical error noted on the Minutes of September 21, 1999.



**(5) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION FINDING THE IMPROVEMENTS FOR ANAQUITOS DRIVE AND ANAQUA DRIVE NECESSARY**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Resolution finding the improvements for Anaquitos Drive and Anaqua Drive necessary, was adopted.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

**(9) AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE \$12,749,619.57, AT  
PAR, IN COLLATERAL TO INTERNATIONAL  
BANK OF COMMERCE**

Commissioner Benavides moved that \$12,749,619.57, at par, in collateral, be released to the International Bank of Commerce.

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

**AYE:** Commissioners Benavides, Cascos, Matz and Valencia

**NAY:** None

**ABSTAINED:** Judge Hinojosa.

**The Contract is as follows:**

**(10) APPOINTMENT OF THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT ADVISORY BOARD**

At this time, Judge Hinojosa recommended that Mr. Remi Garza, Executive Assistant to the County Judge, and Constable Robert Lopez, Precinct No. 4, be added to the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Advisory Board.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Advisory Board was approved, with the additional members as recommended by the County Judge, that being Mr. Remi Garza, Executive Assistant to the County Judge, and Constable Robert Lopez, Precinct No. 4.

**The List is as follows:**

**(11) APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO COUNTY  
PERSONNEL POLICIES MANUAL SECTION 9.02  
REGARDING LEAVE AND HOLIDAYS**

Commissioner Matz moved that the amendment to the County Personnel Policies Manual Section 9.02, regarding Leave and Holidays be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

**The Policy is as follows:**

**(12) AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A RIGHT ENTRY  
AND POSSESSION DEED FROM EDWIN G.  
DUNCAN AND WIFE BETTY H. DUNCAN, FOR  
OLD PORT ISABEL ROAD, PARCELS 24-A AND 24-  
B**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, a Right Entry and Possession Deed was accepted from Mr. Edwin G. Duncan and wife Betty H. Duncan, for Old Port Isabel Road, Parcels 24-A and 24-B.

**The Deed is as follows:**

**(13) AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW HP 948  
HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE SUPPORT WITH  
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY**

Commissioner Cascos moved that the HP 948 Hardware and Software Support with the Hewlett-Packard Company be renewed.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.

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**(14) IN THE MATTER OF A CELLULAR PHONE AND  
SERVICE FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS  
CONSTRUCTION MANAGER (TABLED)**

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

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**(15) APPROVAL OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN LOS FRESNOS COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND THE  
CAMERON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Lease Agreement between Los Fresnos Community Development Corporation and the Cameron County Historical Commission was approved.

**The Agreement is as follows:**

**(16) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO DONATE OR  
SELL SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO THE CITY OF  
SANTA ROSA (BACKHOE)**

At this time, Mr. Remi Garza, Executive Assistant to the County Judge, presented the new legislative law concerning the sell of surplus equipment to other governmental entities and a letter from the Public Works Department reflecting the value of the backhoe.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the Cameron County Works Department donate or sell surplus equipment (backhoe) to the City of Santa Rosa.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz.

At this time, Commissioner Cascos questioned how other communities would be allowed the opportunity to bid or expressed their interest to buy the scrap.

Mr. Garza noted that the Court had previously discussed the procedure of the foremen providing a listing of all surplus equipment to the governmental agencies.

Ms. JuaNita Brodecky, Rio Hondo Resident, expressed her opposition as to the selling of the backhoe at a minimal amount and added that the equipment should go through the bidding process.

Commissioner Valencia stated that the backhoe was not being utilized by the County and added that the backhoe was beyond repair.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Cameron County Works Department was authorized to sell surplus equipment (backhoe) to the City of Santa Rosa.

At this time, Commissioner Matz suggested that in the future, the smaller communities should be advised as to the availability of equipment.

**The Law and Letter are as follow:**

**(17) APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT TO BE  
PLACED ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2000 EQUIPMENT  
LIST**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the additional equipment to be placed on the Fiscal Year 2000 Equipment List was approved.

**The List is as follows:**



# CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

**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 Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the

AConsent® Agenda Items were approved as follow:

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

- a) County Auditor and County Treasurer to take part in a deposition, at the request of Mr. Chris Boswell, Attorney of Record for Cameron County, Cause No. 99-07-2912-a; Cameron County, Texas, vs. International Bank of Commerce, San Antonio, Texas, within the next seven (7) to fourteen (14) days for a period of no more than two (2) days;
- b) Two (2) Health Department employees to attend the A1999 Indigent Health Care All Regional Meeting® in San Antonio, Texas, on November 16-17, 1999;
- c) Two (2) Health Department employees to attend the ATitle V Maternal and Child Health Regional Stakeholders Meeting® in Edinburg, Texas, on November 16, 1999;
- d) Health Department employee to attend the A13<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Development Conference® in Austin, Texas, on November 21-22, 1999;
- e) Health Department employee to attend the AFundamentals of Personnel Law for Managers and Supervisors® in McAllen, Texas, on November 19, 1999;
- f) UNIT Administrative Secretary/Intelligence Research Specialist to attend the AANACAPA Analytical Investigation Methods Training Course® in Orlando, Florida, on December 5-11, 1999;
- g) Health Department employee to attend a AVendor Relations and Training® in Austin, Texas, on November 10, 1999;
- h) Health Department employee to attend a ABoard Meeting® in Austin, Texas, on November 17-18, 1999;
- I) Juvenile Victims Coordinator to attend the A13<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Crime Victim Clearing House Conference® in South Padre Island, Texas, on November 7-11, 1999;
- j) Chief Juvenile Probation Officer to attend the AOne Day Workshop at the Texas Juvenile Detention Association Annual Conference® in Corpus Christi, Texas, on October 26-27, 1999;
- k) Assistant District Attorney to attend the AAsset Forfeiture Seminar® in Austin, Texas, on December 7-9, 1999;
- l) County Task Force Commander to attend the ATNCP Commanders Conference® in Galveston, Texas, on November 30, 1999, through December 3, 1999;

- m) County Task Force Commander to attend the ACriminal Intelligence Systems, 28CFR Part 23 Training@ in Houston, Texas, on November 15, 1999;
- n) UNIT Director to attend the AHIDTA Conference@ in Washington, D.C., on December 12-16, 1999;
- o) HIDTA Director to attend an AObservance Meeting on the Deconfliction Program@ being used by the El Paso HIDTA, in El Paso, Texas, on November 16-18, 1999;
- p) Deputy Constable Precinct No. 4 to attend the AMandated Civil Process School for all Constables and Deputies@ in Tyler, Texas, on November 9-12, 1999;
- q) Tax Assessor-Collector to attend the ATexas Auto Theft Prevention Authority Border Solutions Committee Meeting@ in Laredo, Texas, on November 17-19, 1999;
- r) Juvenile Detention Center Supervisor and two (2) Child Care Workers to attend the ATexas Juvenile Detention Association Conference@ in Corpus Christi, Texas, on October 24-27, 1999;
- s) Computer Center employee to attend the APowerful HP Designjet CP Printer Seminar@ in Houston, Texas, on November 7-8, 1999;
- t) Ten (10) Juvenile Probation Officers to attend the ABasic Training, Substitute Care Provider Outcome Standards@ in Edinburg, Texas, on October 19, 1999;
- u) Constable Precinct No. 1 to attend the ALaw Enforcement Continued Education Seminar@ in Tyler, Texas, on November 9-12, 1999; and
- v) Six (6) Parks System employees to attend the ARio Grande Valley Grounds Maintenance Conference@ in McAllen, Texas, on October 28, 1999.



**(19) PURCHASE WITHOUT PURCHASE ORDER FOR MIGUEL SANCHEZ TRUCKING, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,255.00**

**(20) BID IN STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY ONE COMPUTER CENTER GIS PICK-UP TRUCK PER COURT APPROVED EQUIPMENT LIST**

**(21) OPEN BIDS AND/OR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

- a) THIRTY (30) PATROL CARS - SHERIFF-S AND CONSTABLES DEPARTMENTS; AND
- b) ELECTRICAL BOXES (RV-S) - PARKS SYSTEM



**(22) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 11:25 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 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);

- b) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning land issues, located within Isla Blanca Park; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- c) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of additional land adjacent to the new County Complex property; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072; and
- d) Confer with County Counsel regarding checks drawn from the Jury Fund by the District Clerk on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas, clearly conflicts with this Chapter; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (2).

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session at 12:05 P.M.

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

- a) **Confer with County Counsel concerning the possible litigation involving Schlitterbahn Water Park at South Padre Island and 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 Cascos and carried unanimously, the Status Reports by County Counsel and the Property Management Coordinator were acknowledged regarding the possible litigation involving Schlitterbahn Water Park at South Padre Island and 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.

- b) **Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning land issues, located within Isla Blanca Park.**

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Status Report by County Counsel be acknowledged regarding the Real Property concerning land issue, located within Isla Blanca Park.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.

- c) **Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of additional land adjacent to the new County Complex Property.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Property Management Coordinator was directed to continue the negotiations on the Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of additional land adjacent to the new County Complex Property.

- d) **Confer with County Counsel regarding checks drawn from the Jury Fund by the District Clerk on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas, clearly conflicts with this Chapter.**

At this time, Judge Hinojosa stated that it was the Court's judgment that it was in the public's interest and consistent with the County's Policy, that in order to encourage jurors to serve, jurors should immediately receive payment after their service by personal delivery of their checks from the District Clerk's Office. He added that such a method of disbursement encouraged jurors to continue to serve in the future and stated that the most appropriate method to pay the jurors was that the County Treasurer issue the check on the date of service, to be hand delivered by the District Clerk's Office to the individual jurors, noting that the County Treasurer's signature was required by State Law.

Ms. Aurora de la Garza, District Clerk, noted that the checks were printed on the day of service with the District Clerk's signature and added that the County Treasurer preferred to sign each check individually.

Commissioner Cascos recommended that the return address on the envelopes of the mailed checks should reflect the Cameron County Jury Fund, 974 E. Harrison Street, Brownsville, Texas, 78520.

There was some discussion as to the District Clerk's Office responsibility for the jury operations of the County and Commissioner Cascos stated that the matter would be further discussed and resolved at a later date.

Judge Hinojosa moved that the District Clerk be directed to print the jurors' checks with the District Clerk's signature and a blank signature line for the County Treasurer to sign and that the checks be hand delivered by the District Clerk's Office on the same day of service.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously.

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There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at **12:16 P.M.**

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**APPROVED** this **28th** day of **December, 1999**.

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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.**