

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF CAMERON §

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 3rd day of September 2002, 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:

5:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

PEDRO "PETE" BENAVIDES
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 1

COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 2

DAVID A. GARZA
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3

RICHARD VALDEZ
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

JOE G. RIVERA
COUNTY CLERK

Mary Robles Deputy Clerk

ABSENT:

CARLOS H. CASCOS, C.P.A

=====
The meeting was called to order by Judge Hinojosa at 5:33 P.M. He then asked Reverend Bob Clark, Brownsville resident, for the invocation and he led 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 30, 2002, at 2:49 P.M.:

PRESENTATION

- (1) **IN THE MATTER REGARDING THE PRESENTATION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING THE CAMERON COUNTY AUTOMOBILE CRIMES ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE FOR RECEIVING THE 2002 COUNTY BEST PRACTICE AWARD FROM THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION (TABLED)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**, as requested by the Tax Assessor/Collector's Office.

ACTION ITEMS

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

Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, noted that Line Item No. 1658 should read Line Item No. 4880 and that Line Item No. 4380 should read Line Item No. 1658.

Commissioner Garza moved that the 2002-Fiscal Year Budget Amendment No. 2002-36 and the Salary Schedules be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Budget Amendments and Salaries Schedules are as follow:

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**(3) IN THE MATTER REGARDING APPROVAL OF
THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD JULY 6, 2002 (TABLED)**

Mr. Remi Garza, Administrative Assistant, requested that this Item be tabled due to a typographical error.

Mrs. Juanita Brodecky, Rio Hondo resident, questioned why the minutes were being delayed.

Mr. Joe G. Rivera, County Clerk, explained that execution of the contracts approved between the County and other governmental entities, Cities, State Agencies, and the Federal Government delayed the process up to a month. Mr. Rivera stated that prior to his administration the Minutes were delayed for periods of about six (6) months, and noted that the Minutes for the Regular Meeting held August 6, 2002, were being considered within the thirty (30) day period.

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

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**(4) CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZATION TO
HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE
PROPOSED TAX RATE FOR 2002-2003 FISCAL
YEAR AT OR BELOW \$0.353526 PER EVERY \$100
VALUATION**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valdez and carried unanimously, the Public Hearing regarding the proposed tax rate for 2002-2003 Fiscal Year at or below \$0.353526 per every \$100 valuation was opened for public comment.

Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, explained that the \$0.353526 was the maximum roll-back rate allowed without the public being allowed to petition. He informed that the County was working to keep the current tax rate in effect during the next fiscal year, adding that the revenues were being received and adjusted.

Judge Hinojosa reported that the Budget Officer, together with his Office, was preparing the Budget with a tax rate not to exceed the current tax rate. He explained that the repayment of the Certificate of Obligations, in the amount of \$8.315 million, would be funded from a \$0.15 increase to the International Bridge System's toll rates, therefore enabling the tax rate to remain the same. Judge Hinojosa stated that the ongoing growth within the County resulted in the need for additional personnel, increases to property value, more businesses, and assisted in keeping the tax rate at the current level. He clarified that the Park System was not funded through property tax revenue, but rather from the significant revenues obtained by the Park System.

Mr. Dagoberto Barrera, Brownsville resident, requested that the Commissioners' Court consider that the County was not the only taxing entity to whom the tax payers had obligations.

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the Public Hearing regarding the proposed Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year 2002-2003 at or below \$0.353526 per every \$100 valuation was closed.

[REDACTED]

**(5) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION
REGARDING COUNTY BUDGET FOR THE 2002-2003
FISCAL YEAR**

Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, requested direction from the Court as to the General Administration Items to be funded throughout the 2002-2003 Fiscal Year.

Judge Hinojosa recommended that the General Administration Item concerning the funding for the Texas Conference of Urban Counties be transferred to fund the participation to the US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition, which would enable the County to have a voice in Washington, D.C. He explained that the issues addressed by the US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition related to the issues that arise within Cameron County. Judge Hinojosa suggested that the contribution to the Soil/Water Conservation be excised, with the view that it be funded through Lapsed Salaries towards the end of the year since it was not needed until January 1, 2003. He explained that the County was obligated to fund the El Murillo Drainage Project; a Valley Wide District that must be maintained on an ongoing basis to assure that water was being fed into the Rio Grande River.

Mr. Remi Garza, Administrative Assistant, stated that the El Murillo Drainage Agreement was a joint project developed around the late 1940's or 1950's by the United States and Mexico.

Commissioner Garza questioned the County's involvement in the matter.

Mr. Garza explained that the County was involved because the Project addressed drainage issues during storms.

Judge Hinojosa stated that a Representative of the El Murillo Drainage Project would be asked to make a Presentation. He informed that an attempt to transfer at least \$0.0025 from the General Fund to the Road and Bridge Fund, and explained that \$0.0025 transfer would suffice, since the Road and Bridge Department would be significantly involved with the Proposition II Projects. He added that the Road and Bridge Fund would incur savings of about \$500,000.00 in the following fiscal year from the materials purchased through Proposition II Fund for its projects, and that this would gradually replenish the penny into the Road and Bridge Fund without affecting the ability to balance the Budget.

Commissioner Garza questioned the balance of the Road and Bridge Fund.

Mr. Villarreal responded that a balance of about \$1.5 million was anticipated.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the \$1.5 million was a larger percentage when compared to the reserve of the General Fund versus the Road and Bridge Fund.

Commissioner Garza commented that the International Bridge System Reserve was at a higher percentage.

Judge Hinojosa explained that the County was legally required to have a higher reserve for the International Bridge System due to the Bond Issues for the Bridges.

Commissioner Valdez questioned the impacts of transferring \$0.0025, \$0.005, and a whole penny.

At this time, Mr. Villarreal highlighted the different scenarios of the possible tax rate combinations at the current tax rate, and explained that the transfer of a whole penny would result in a deficit of \$1.2 million for the General Fund and a deficit of \$700,000.00 for the Road and Bridge Fund, based on current revenues and expenditures and at the current tax rate. Mr. Villarreal noted that the transfers from the International Bridge System toll rates and the revised revenues were excluded in the tax rate combinations.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the Budget could be balanced with a transfer of \$0.0025 to the Road and Bridge Fund by using the International Bridge System's toll rates, and noted that a transfer exceeding the \$0.0025 would conflict with balancing the Budget, adding that an additional increase to the International Bridge System toll rates would allow a larger transfer, but would eliminate the option utilized to balance the Budget.

Mr. Villarreal presented the list following proposed cut-backs in expenditures previously discussed by the Court: travel, mobile phones, and fuel. He explained that the main expenditure in fuel related to Law Enforcement and suggested that County vehicles not be taken home to produce savings, adding that the total possible savings was unknown.

Judge Hinojosa stated that he would recommend reductions of about \$50,000.00 in the Travel Budget on a prorated basis for all Departments and increases to the Health Department Fees.

Commissioner Garza expressed his concern with the Road and Bridge Fund being unable to take hits similar to those that have been experienced throughout the past three (3) years, and stated that the Proposition II Funds would not supplant the Budget. He noted that the options indicated that the minimum impact to the Road and Bridge Funds consisted of \$500,000.00 even with the whole penny transfer.

Mr. Villarreal reported that an increase to the Bridge Repairs Budget was scheduled for the following fiscal year and that any potential increases to the Road and Bridge Fund could be through the tax rate or the Bond Forfeiture, budgeted at \$310,000.00 per year, noting that the collected fees for vehicle registrations had increased over the years.

Commissioner Valdez questioned the general expense concerning the Library.

Mr. Villarreal recommended an increase of \$8,000.00 to the Library Budget versus the \$206,500.00 being requested. He requested direction concerning the County Clerk's request to fund the ACS Contract through the General Fund rather than through the Record Management Fund, and explained that according to correspondence from the Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, utilization of the Record Management Fund required approval from Commissioner's Court and the County Clerk, yet the County Clerk had discretion as to how the Records Management was conducted.

Judge Hinojosa explained that the slots being funded through the Records Management Fund had been created per the request of the County Clerk and contingent upon them being funded from the same.

Mr. Villarreal stated that according to the County Clerk the \$96,000.00 being paid through the Records Management Fund was the General Fund's obligation.

Judge Hinojosa explained that the County Clerk's position was that the slots should be funded through the General Fund, and that the slots had been created with the understanding that they be funded through the Records Management Fund.

Commissioner Garza questioned if the recommendation was that the slots be funded through the Records Management Fund or to not be funded.

Judge Hinojosa responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, stated that the use of General Fund was the Court's discretion, and that legislation allowed that the Records Management Fund be used at the discretion of the County and District Clerks. He stated that the County Clerk could not be expected to fund slots from the Records Management Fund which are irrelevant to it. Mr. Wright explained that, if the slots were created under those circumstance and the Court was merely withholding General Fund's money, the situation would differ. He added that the Court could not dictate that new slots be created with the condition that they be funded through the Records Management Fund.

Judge Hinojosa explained that the County Clerk wanted \$96,000.00 to be funded through the General Fund to make funds available within the Records Management Fund to address other issues.

Mr. Villarreal explained that the Records Management Fund was unable to fund the slots and the ACS Contract due to revenue decreases; therefore, the request was made by the County Clerk to totally fund the ACS Contract from the General Fund to make \$20,000.00 available for Extra Help, adding that \$73,000.00 were being funded through General Funds at this time.

Judge Hinojosa questioned if the Budget Officer was proposing to eliminate the 2.5 slots.

Mr. Villarreal presented the following options: to continue funding the \$73,000.00 portion of the ACS Contract through General Fund; to fund the ACS Contract totally through General Fund allowing \$20,000.00 for Extra Help; or to eliminate the 2.5 positions and continue funding the ACS Contract through the Records Management Fund. He explained that funding the ACS Contract through the General Fund would signify an additional expense, in the amount of \$20,000.00.

Commissioner Valdez questioned if the slots could be removed from the Records Management Fund.

Mr. Wright responded in the affirmative.

Judge Hinojosa clarified that the Budget Officers' recommendation was to keep the status quo.

Commissioner Garza questioned the Budget Officer's recommendation.

Mr. Villarreal explained that the options were presented because the Budget was adopted by the Commissioners' Court and according to Statute utilization of the Record Management Fund required approval from the Court and the County Clerk. He recommended that the 2.5 slots and the ACS Contract be included and that the \$20,000.00 for Extra Help be excluded. Mr. Villarreal informed that a Public Meeting was scheduled for September 10, 2002, and that the revenue projections should be completed within the week, adding that the information would be provided to the Commissioners. He requested that final direction concerning the salary increases, Health Department Fees, and the International Bridge System's toll rates, be presented by the following week in order to formally adopt the 2002-2003 Fiscal Year Budget on September 17, 2002. Mr. Villarreal informed that the notice concerning the tax rate would be published on September 17, 2002.

Commissioner Garza moved that the Status Report by Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, concerning the County Budget for the 2002-2003 Fiscal Year be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valdez.

At this time, Mr. Wright informed that the Funding Agreement between the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the County for the Border Colonia Road Access Program allowed the County to use a Force Account or to do in-house work. He informed that he was in contact with TxDOT's Construction Division and Legal Counsel, and that his questions had spurred TxDOT to decide to develop local rules and guidelines for the Counties, adding that a letter would be provided.

Judge Hinojosa questioned whether the Force Account would be reimbursed.

Mr. Wright responded that TxDOT had not committed to those effects, but that the rules would be established for the Counties to follow to obtain reimbursement. He requested the factual information concerning the matter between the Court and the County Clerk and the use of the Records Management Fund.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Garza that the Status Report concerning the County Budget for the 2002-2003 Fiscal Year by Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valdez and carried unanimously.

The Report is as follows:

(6) **CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING
ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARIES AND
AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH NOTICE**

Judge Hinojosa explained that the maximum salary increase for the Elected Officials would be approved and published; adding that the salary increase could be under but not over the amount published.

Commissioner Valdez noted that the salary for Commissioner, Precinct No. 4, was above the salaries of the other Commissioners, and that it was his belief that the salaries should be equaled.

Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, explained that the Commissioners had declined the salary increases during the beginning of the 2002 Fiscal Year.

Ms. Edna Tamayo, Commissioner Elect, suggested that a percentage of the salary for Commissioner, Precinct No. 4, be deducted in order to equalize the salaries.

Judge Hinojosa explained that a number would be set to equal the salaries of the Commissioners.

Ms. Tamayo questioned why Commissioner Valdez had not noticed the disparity in the salaries.

Commissioner Valdez responded that he was aware of the disparity but had not participated in the previous Budgetary Process.

Judge Hinojosa noted that going beyond the 3% salary increase to County employees was inconceivable. He recommended that the salary increase for the Elected Officials be approved with the understanding that it should not exceed the salary increase for all the County employees.

Commissioner Garza noted that the Elected Officials had the option to utilize the Grievance Process.

There was a brief discussion concerning the salary increase, and the clarification was made that the Grievance Process would take place after the Elected Officials' Salaries being set.

Judge Hinojosa recommended to publish notice of the maximum 3% proposed salary increases for the Elected Officials, with exception of Commissioner Precinct No. 4, whose salary should be equal to the salaries of the other Commissioners, inclusive of the 3% salary increase, and that the salaries include the annual mobile phone allowance, in the amount of \$960.00, as the maximum salaries increase to be received.

Mr. Villarreal questioned whether to include the mobile phone allowance for the Elected Officials who opted not to receive it.

Judge Hinojosa suggested the mobile phone allowance be included for all Elected Officials with the understanding that they could opt for the allowance or to obtain the mobile phone.

Commissioner Valdez moved that the publication of the notice of the maximum 3% proposed salary increases for the Elected Officials be authorized, with exception of Commissioner, Precinct No. 4, whose should be set to equal the salaries of the other Commissioners, inclusive of the 3% salary increase, and that the salaries include the annual mobile phone allowance, in the amount of \$960.00, as the maximum salaries increase to be authorized.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Report is as follows:

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(7) **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CAMERON COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE US/MEXICO BORDER COUNTIES COALITION**

Upon motion by Commissioner Garza seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Cameron County's participation in the US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition was approved with the understanding that the funds designated for the Conference on Urban Counties be transferred to fund the US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition in the 2002-2003-Fiscal Year.

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(8) **CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF RURAL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS 2003-2004 TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY JUDGE TO ACT IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE 2003-2004 TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND**

Commissioner Garza moved that the Resolution authorizing the Grant Application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs 2003-2004 Texas Community Development Program Community Development Fund and authorizing the County Judge to act in all matters pertaining to the County's participation in the 2003-2004 Texas Community Development Fund be adopted.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Resolution is as follows:

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(9) **CONSIDERATION AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS' COURT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE AMIGOS DEL VALLE, INC., BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Upon motion by Judge Hinojosa, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, Commissioner Valdez was appointed as the Commissioners' Court Representative to the Amigos Del Valle, Inc., Board of Directors for the remainder of the year.

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(10) **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CAMERON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION MOSQUITO PREVENTION PLAN**

Commissioner Benavides questioned what could be done to minimize the mosquito problem within the Southmost area.

Mr. Ray Rodriguez, Health Environmental Department, responded that a lot could be done but additional personnel and equipment would be required.

Commissioner Benavides suggested that chemicals be used to partially eliminate the mosquito problems.

Mr. Rodriguez noted that some County residents opposed the use of chemicals. Mr. Rodriguez explained that the Mosquito Prevention Plan was designed to work with the available sources, and that other options could be reviewed, but that additional funding could be required.

Commissioner Benavides stated that he would be before the City Commission to address the issues concerning the mosquitos and the canals.

Commissioner Garza moved that the Cameron County Health Department Environmental Health Division Mosquito Prevention Plan be approved and accepted.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valdez and carried unanimously.

The Plan is as follows:

CONSENT ITEMS

ALL ITEMS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS WERE HEARD COLLECTIVELY UNLESS OPPOSITION WAS PRESENTED, IN WHICH CASE THE CONTESTED ITEM WAS CONSIDERED, DISCUSSED, AND APPROPRIATE ACTION WAS TAKEN SEPARATELY.

DISCUSSION CONCERNING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- ITEM NO. 22: Judge Hinojosa stated that the proposed Evaluation Committee consisted of the following individuals:
Mr. Remi Garza, Administrative Assistant;
Mr. Juan Bernal, County Engineer/Public Works Director;
Mrs. Yvette Salinas, Health Department Director;
Mr. Mike Forbes, Purchasing Agent; and
Mr. Marcelino Ibarra, Carpentry Division.
- ITEM NO. 18: Mr. Joseph Ardito, Property Manager, requested that the date be changed from September 8, 2003 to September 9, 2003.
- ITEM NO. 24-f: Commissioner Garza questioned the need for this Item.
Mr. Remi Garza, Administrative Assistant, explained that Mr. Tony Reisinger, CEA Marine, would travel with the Extension Office, and that a lot of International Cooperatives Arrangements were in place because of the information obtained while helping the other community.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the following "Consent and Travel Items" be approved and that Item No. 12 be **TABLED**, inclusive of the changes to Item No. 18.

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

- AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Valdez, and Judge Hinojosa
- NAY: None,
- ABSTAIN: Commissioner Garza as to Warrant No. 00082371 payable to the Medicine Shoppe, in the amount of \$2991.34.

- (11) **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS;**
The Affidavit follows:
- (12) **RESOLUTION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2002 AS COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS MONTH IN CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS;**
The Resolution follows:
- (13) **AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST PROPOSALS (RFP'S) FOR A SOFTWARE PRODUCT AND TRAINING IN JOB EVALUATION AND PERFORMANCE AND OTHER HUMAN RESOURCES CONSULTING JUST AS DOCUMENTATION, DATA CONVERSION, AND FINAL JOB ANALYSIS FOR SALARY EQUITY;**
The Request for Proposal follows:
- (14) **RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT WITH THE CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1 TO PROVIDE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003;**
The Agreement follows:

- (15) **OPENING OF AN INTEREST BEARING NOW ACCOUNT AND INTEREST BEARING C/D SELECT ACCOUNT UNDER THE NAME OF:**
(1) **CAMERON COUNTY TREASURER**
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS FUND NO. 070:
The Resolution follows:
- (16) **ACCEPTANCE RIGHT OF ENTRY AND POSSESSION FOR FM/106, PARCEL NO. 2;**
- (17) **ACCEPTANCE RIGHT OF ENTRY AND POSSESSION FOR FM/106, PARCEL NO. 3;**
- (18) **AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOW THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY POLICE ACADEMY TO USE THE CAMERON COUNTY AIRPORT TARMAC FOR EMERGENCY DRIVING CLASS REQUIRED BY TCLEOSE AND TO CHARGE \$50.00 PER DAY ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2003;**
The Agreement follows:
- (19) **PRELIMINARY AND FINAL APPROVAL FOR:**
A. **PRECINCT NO. 4 - RON THOMAS SUBDIVISION - A 2.38 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF BLOCK EIGHTY SEVEN, WILSON TRACT SUBDIVISION.**
- (20) **PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR:**
A. **PRECINCT NO. 2 - NORTH POMELO ROAD SUBDIVISION NO. 2 - TRACT 1 BEING 5.40 ACRES OF LAND OUT OF BLOCK NO. 11, EAST POMELO SUBDIVISION AND TRACT NO. 2, BEING 15.48 ACRES OF LAND OUT OF BLOCK NO. 24, POMELO SUBDIVISION.**
- (21) **FINAL APPROVAL FOR:**
A. **PRECINCT NO. 4 - MARIPOSA RANCH SUBDIVISION, PHASE I - A 6.23 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF A 33.367 ACRE TRACT OF LAND CONSISTING OF 19.969 ACRES OUT OF BLOCK NO. 7 AND 13.398 ACRES OUT OF BLOCK NO. 8, "BLACK BROTHERS SUBDIVISION.**
- (22) **OPENING OF THE FOLLOWING BIDS/PROPOSAL:**
A. **ARCHITECTURAL SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY ENGINEERING & HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION (RFQ) NO. 020701 AND APPOINTMENT OF RECOMMENDED EVALUATION COMMITTEE; AND**
- (23) **AWARDING OF THE FOLLOWING BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING:**
A. **FUEL SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2280:**
Category A- Oil Patch, Brownsville, Texas;
Category B- Oil Patch, Brownsville, Texas;
Category C- Ruche Fuel Controls, Houston, Texas; and
Category D- Ruche Fuel Controls, Houston, Texas.
The Tabulation follows:



TRAVEL ITEMS

(24) AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL/OR APPROVAL OF TRAVEL EXPENSE FOR THE FOLLOWING (PLEASE NOTE: TRAVEL REQUESTS ARE SUBJECT TO ALL APPLICABLE COUNTY POLICIES):

- (a) Veterans Officer and employee to attend the “Veterans Service Officers Training Seminar”, in Corpus Christi, Texas, September 24-27, 2002;
- (b) District Attorney and Assistant to attend the “Identity Theft Course”, in Columbia, South Carolina, October 10-15, 2002;
- (c) Three (3) District Attorney employees to attend the “Grant Management Training”, in Kerrville, Texas, September 9-12, 2002;
- (d) Two (2) Personnel Safety/Risk employees to attend the “Pepperball Certification Course”, in San Antonio, Texas, August 30, 2002;
- (e) County Extension Agent to attend the “Marine Advisory Service Planning Meeting”, in Palacios, Texas, August 27-29, 2002;
- (f) County Extension Agent to help Mexican Fish Importers develop an accurate working Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point for importing fish into the U.S., in Matamoros, Tampico, and Veracruz, Mexico, August 20-24, 2002;
- (g) Two (2) County Extension Agents to attend the “District 12 4-H Training & Planning Workshop”, in South Padre Island, Texas, September 10, 2002;
- (h) Three (3) County Extension Agents to attend the “District 12 Specialist Scheduling”, in San Benito, Texas, September 17, 2002;
- (i) Engineering Construction Manager and Coordinator to attend the “Residential and Commercial Energy Conservation”, in Brownsville, Texas, September 9-10, 2002;
- (j) Commissioner Precinct No. 4 to attend the “Annual Membership Public Power Pool Meeting”, in Austin, Texas, September 5-6, 2002; and
- (k) District Attorney to attend the “South Texas HIDTA Executive Board Meeting”, in Laredo, Texas, September 9, 2002;

- (11) APPROVAL OF CLAIMS.
The Affidavit is as follows:**

- (12) **RESOLUTION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2002 AS COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS MONTH IN CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS.**
The Resolution is as follows:

- (13) **AUTHORIZATION TO REQUEST PROPOSALS (RFP'S) FOR A SOFTWARE PRODUCT AND TRAINING IN JOB EVALUATION AND PERFORMANCE AND OTHER HUMAN RESOURCES CONSULTING JUST AS DOCUMENTATION, DATA CONVERSION, AND FINAL JOB ANALYSIS FOR SALARY EQUITY.**
The Request for Proposal is as follows:

- (14) **AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW THE AGREEMENT WITH THE CAMERON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1 TO PROVIDE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR 2002-2003 FISCAL YEAR.**
The Agreement is as follows:

- (15) **OPENING OF AN INTEREST BEARING NOW ACCOUNT AND INTEREST BEARING C/D SELECT ACCOUNT UNDER THE NAME OF:**
- (1) **CAMERON COUNTY TREASURER
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS FUND NO. 070.**
- The Resolution is as follows:**

- (18) AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOW THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY POLICE ACADEMY TO USE THE CAMERON COUNTY AIRPORT TARMAC FOR EMERGENCY DRIVING CLASS REQUIRED BY TCLEOSE AND TO CHARGE \$50.00 PER DAY ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2003.
The Agreement is as follows:**

(23) AWARDING OF THE FOLLOWING BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

A. FUEL SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2280:

Category A- Oil Patch, Brownsville, Texas;

Category B- Oil Patch, Brownsville, Texas;

Category C- Ruche Fuel Controls, Houston, Texas; and

Category D- Ruche Fuel Controls, Houston, Texas.

The Tabulation is as follows:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

(25) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon motion by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 6:48 P.M., to discuss the following matters:

- (a) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible expansion of the Sea Ranch Restaurant and authorization to amend the current Concession Lease; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- (b) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the Economic Development Corporation of South Padre Island's Proposal for a Wetland Birding and Nature Study Center; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- (c) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Cameron County versus First National Bank of Edinburg, Cause No. 2001-08-3600-G in the 404th District Court for discussion; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2);
- (d) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of properties for the Oscar C. Dancy Building Parking Lot; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072.
- (e) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of approximately fifteen (15) acres of Land for the purpose of locating a Veteran's Nursing Home; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- (f) Deliberation regarding personnel matters regarding the reassignments and duties of the Building Maintenance Superintendent; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.074(1);
- (x) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible termination of the Unidos Podemos Program Lease; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 550.772.

Upon motion by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Valdez and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session at 7:47 P.M.

(26) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- (a) **Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible expansion of the Sea Ranch Restaurant and authorization to amend the current Concession Lease.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, any action on this Item was **TABLED**, and the Status Report by Mr. Joseph Ardito, Property Manager, concerning the possible expansion of the Sea Ranch Restaurant was acknowledged.

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- (b) **In the matter regarding Real Property concerning the Economic Development Corporation of South Padre Island's Proposal for a Wetland Birding and Nature Study Center. (TABLED)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Valdez, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**.

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- (c) **Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning the case styled Cameron County versus First National Bank of Edinburg, Cause No. 2001-08-3600-G in the 404th District Court for discussion.**

Commissioner Garza moved that the Status Report by Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, concerning the case styled Cameron County versus First National Bank of Edinburg, Cause No. 2001-08-3600-G in the 404th District Court be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

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- (d) **Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of properties for the Oscar C. Dancy Building Parking Lot.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Valdez, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the Status Report by Mr. Joseph Ardito, Property Manager, concerning the possible acquisition of properties for the Oscar C. Dancy Building Parking Lot was acknowledged.

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- (e) **Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of approximately fifteen (15) acres of land for the purpose of locating a Veteran's Nursing Home.**

Commissioner Garza moved that the Status Report by Mr. Joseph Ardito, Property Manager, regarding Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of approximately fifteen (15) acres of land for the purpose of locating a Veteran's Nursing Home be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valdez and carried unanimously.

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(f) Deliberation regarding personnel matters regarding the reassignments and duties of the Building Maintenance Superintendent.

Upon motion by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, Mr. Marcelino Ibarra, Carpentry Division, was appointed as the Temporary Building Maintenance Superintendent, at a salary of \$40,000.00 per year to be paid during the time that he acts as the Temporary Building Maintenance Superintendent.

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(g) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible termination of the Unidos Podemos Program Lease.

Commissioner Garza moved that Mr. Joseph Ardito, Property Manager, be authorized to negotiate a Lease Agreement at Plaza del Sol as the first choice and at the Levee Building as the second choice.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Garza, and Valdez,

NAY: None,

ABSTAIN: Judge Hinojosa.

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There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Valdez, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 7:50 P.M.

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APPROVED this 3rd day of **October 2002**.

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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.