

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF CAMERON §

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY 2004, there was conducted a Regular 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

JOHN WOOD  
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT NO. 2

DAVID A. GARZA  
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3

EDNA TAMAYO  
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

JOE G. RIVERA  
COUNTY CLERK

Mary Robles Deputy Clerk

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_

=====

The meeting was called to order by Judge Hinojosa at 9:35 A.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 December 23, 2003, at 3:45 P.M.:

Commissioner Garza informed that he met with the South Texas Judges' & Commissioners' Association and that Cameron County would host the meeting to be held at South Padre during May of 2004. He added that some functions would require the presence of all members of the Court and that detailed information would be provided upon completion.

Commissioner Wood commented that he attended the opening ceremony of the Palo Alto National Battlefield where the Governor and Federal Representatives were in attendance. He added that the method of presentation was an unbiased narration of history.

Judge Hinojosa reported that there has been enormous cooperation on behalf of Justices of the Peace since the new program to do arraignments at the jail began, and that inmate population and costs have significantly decreased as a result. He reported that the courtroom at the jail was complete, and that Judge Robles indicated that jail dockets for misdemeanor felonies would be held there, which would further reduce transportation costs. Judge Hinojosa stated that Judge Murray was initiating a program to do pleas for some inmates at the jail and would work with other District Judges to extend the program, noting that he was waiting for a written clearance from Legal Counsel. He stated that Legislative Counsel indicated that court hearings could be done at the jail apart from arraignments, and that a presentation regarding possible changes that may reduce costs would be made.

---

**(13) CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH HAMER ENTERPRISES FOR THE DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCT SUPPORT OF A JUSTICE OF PEACE AND JUDICIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Mr. Dan Sanchez, Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 7, presented an outline and timeline of the proposed project to automate the court which would enable them to work more efficiently. He explained that the uniformed system that connects to the county network was being examined to enable everyone to access outstanding warrants or fees for possible collection. Mr. Sanchez stated that DPS was the only agency with a system capable of tracking warrants; therefore, the only agency able to collect the fees. He explained that Hamer Enterprise was being considered because they already do business with the County and were willing to design and develop a system that serves the Justices of the Peace operations, adding that they would later market the system throughout the nation. Mr. Sanchez explained that Hamer Enterprise wanted to utilize the Justices of the Peace resources to develop the system, that there would not be a licensing fee nor initial cost for the development, and that the County would enter into an agreement with Hamer Enterprise for maintenance. Mr. Sanchez requested authorization to utilize the Technology Funds, in the amount of \$100,000.00, to fund this project.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, explained that the \$99,000.00 available in the technology fund were designated specifically for Justice of the Peaces' technology services.

Commissioner Garza asked if all Justices of the Peace were collecting the technology fee.

Mr. Yates responded that 10 of 11 Justices of the Peace have collected the fee and that his Office was working with the one who has not collected the \$4.00 fee but once.

Mr. Sanchez requested approval to enter into a contract with Hamer Enterprise to develop the system and to use said funds to pay for support, maintenance, and equipment.

Mr. Yates stated that the Harlingen Annex, Port Isabel Annex, and San Benito Annex projects network connectivity was included within Capital Projects.

Commissioner Tamayo asked if additional staff would be needed.

Mr. Sanchez responded negatively, and highlighted some of the features to be included in the system that would facilitate the process to collect revenue and save time.

Mr. Oscar Tullos, Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 2, Place No. 1, informed that many hot checks were processed through his office and that this system would allow the Sheriff's Department and the Department of Public Safety to view outstanding warrants.

Commissioner Garza asked if the system in place in Hidalgo County was viewed.

Mr. Sanchez responded in the affirmative and explained that setting up such a system in Cameron County could be very expensive.

Commissioner Garza stated that expense was relative because outstanding revenue could be used if collected.

Mrs. Sallie Gonzalez, Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 5, Place No. 1, informed that her Office has been using the Program of Court Administration, yet support for this program would no longer be available. She added that if the proposed system was formatted according to the Court Administrative Program then the turnaround time might be less than expected.

Commissioner Wood stated that the main frame hardware was available, although according to the Computer Center Director this would last for about two (2) years; therefore, there would be a need for additional hardware. He stated that the annual \$50,000.00 generated through collections of the Technology Fee would most likely increase once the other Court starts collecting the same, adding that the proposed system would enhance operations.

Mrs. Gonzalez suggested that perhaps the matter regarding a Court not collecting the Technology Fee might be a reporting error on behalf of the clerk because the fee was automatically charged when paying a fine.

Commissioner Wood asked if \$50,000.00 per year would suffice to fund the support, maintenance, and other needs.

Mr. Rudy Juarez, Computer Center Director, reported that maintenance would cost about \$30,000.00 per year, and that the agreement was that \$15,000.00 would be due upon initiation of the project and the remaining \$15,000.00 would be due once the program was developed and ready for testing. He added that the total maintenance for the entire Judicial System would cost about \$45,000.00 per year, which would be divided amongst judiciary departments.

Commissioner Garza asked if there was any legal issue with sole sourcing this project.

Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, stated that the originally proposal presented to his Office indicated that there would be no cost since it was a cooperative venture, yet now there was indication that there would be a \$30,000.00 cost. He added that he did not review the matter to determine if the project meets exception although the County Auditor indicated that the project was within purchasing guidelines.

Commissioner Garza asked if the system would belong to the County.

Mr. Yates clarified that a License Agreement would be provided at no cost.

Judge Hinojosa noted the need to consider soliciting proposals for this project. He added that the project was important; however, he was hesitant because he understood that there would be no cost to the County. Judge Hinojosa suggested that proposals be solicited for purpose of being consistent and that recommendations be made as to the individuals to be part of an Evaluation Committee whom would review the proposals.

Mr. Yates stated that there was a time issue because the incentive for Hamer Enterprise was that they could develop a product to be marketed within 12 months.

Judge Hinojosa stated that he was unaware of the time issue raised by Mr. Yates. He explained that Hamer Enterprise would develop a management system that would require maintenance upon being complete and working; thus it made sense to him to sole source. He Explained that upon Mr. Sanchez presentation he understood that the system was already in place. Judge Hinojosa agreed to sole source and recommended that Legal Counsel be allowed a week to review the matter.

Commissioner Garza agreed to approve the request upon approval by Legal Counsel.

Commissioner Wood questioned what would happen after the four (4) year period allowed for collection of the Technology Fee expires and whether Legislation had been modified to extend the time period.

Mr. Yates responded negatively and explained that he was confident that money was being left unpaid with none adjudicated traffic citations.

Commissioner Benavides requested that the possibility of error concerning the reports regarding collections of the Technology Fee by one Justice of the Peace be examined.

Mr. Yates stated that a written report would be provided to the Court.

Commissioner Garza suggested that the possible extension of the time period to collect the Technology Fee be made part of the County's Legislative Agenda.

Mr. Sanchez stated that over a \$1 million in outstanding court costs and fines of the Justices of the Peace Courts could not be collected through the professional services being sought to collect the same for the County.

Commissioner Wood questioned the reason for the \$1 million in outstanding court costs and fines.

Mr. Sanchez explained that the outstanding balances were there due to the lack of automation; therefore, the clerks must verify manually if an individual has a warrant or an outstanding balance.

Upon motion by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously, the entering into an Agreement with Hamer Enterprises to the design, develop a Justice of Peace and Judicial Management System was approved, subject to Legal Counsel negotiating the Maintenance Agreement.

**The Agreement is as follows:**

# PRESENTATIONS

## (2) **PRESENTATION REGARDING PRIVATIZATION OF FOOD SERVICES FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY DETENTION CENTER**

Commissioner Tamayo expressed concern with focusing on this one company, and commented that she believed that the information would pertain to options available to the County.

Judge Hinojosa explained that all vendors would be given an opportunity to present proposals and requested that the presentation be heard.

Mr. Patrick Turner, Aramark Correctional Services, informed that the Aramark Correctional Services has worked in correctional facilities across the country since 1976. He stated that they provide regional support and work with many school districts and major colleges throughout South Texas. Mr. Turner stated that there were three (3) areas that could be examined to affect some changes: food cost; how labor works; and operations within the Department. He stated that Aramark Correctional Services believes that they can save the County a substantial amount of money and could impact the Sheriff's Department operationally by helping staff be more efficient and by providing training. Mr. Turner explained the process to be that a manager would be hired to supervise and train current staff, and informed that Aramark Correctional Services could provide savings of about 15-20 cents per meal to the County.

Commissioner Tamayo questioned the percentage of staff to be kept.

Mr. Turner responded that their procedure was to keep all staff, although less than 15% leave the operation.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the County has a controlled environment where the same type of meal would be served; thus facilitating analysis and calculations to incur savings. He stated that the problem was that the County was not trained to do such analysis nor to purchase large quantities. Judge Hinojosa added that large storage facilities were available at the jail in order to save by purchasing in large quantities; however, there was no comparison to the large quantities purchased by Aramark Correctional Services. He stated that there was no negative side to privatizing the food services at the Detention Center, since the County would incur savings, and inmates would get minimal nutritional needs.

Commissioner Garza noted that there was a potential to incur savings of about \$200,000.00.

Judge Hinojosa suggested that in Item be placed on the Agenda next week to solicit proposals.

Commissioner Garza moved that the Presentation regarding privatization of Food Services for the Cameron County Detention Center be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously.

**The Report is as follows:**

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Commissioner Tamayo, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the court met in Executive Session at 10:39 A.M., to discuss the following matters:

### **(31) EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- (a) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Cameron County versus Bobo Construction Company in the 404<sup>th</sup> District Court; Cause No. 2002-05-2015-G; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(1)(A).
- (b) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Cameron County versus First National Bank of Edinburg: Cause No. 200 1-08-3600-G in the 404<sup>th</sup> District Court, for discussion; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2).
- (c) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel regarding Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of Levi Strauss & Co.-San Benito Property Property; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2) & 551.072.
- (d) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning claim of Monica Serra; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (1)(A)&(B).
- (e) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel regarding Real property concerning the status and acquisition of property for a County Cemetery; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072.
- (f) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning the proposals for Browne Park; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2) & 551.072.
- (g) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the acquisition of property in the Laguna Madre area for a County Annex in Port Isabel; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072.
- (h) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the future County Annex in Harlingen and the existing County Annex in Harlingen; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072.
- (i) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the use of the County ; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072.
- (j) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning the Legal Services Contract with Locke, Liddell & Sapp, L. L. P. for the Regional Mobility Authority; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2).
- (k) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel regarding the Cameron County Jail System 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 (1)(A)&(2).

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened into Regular Session at 12:16 P.M., to discuss the following matters:

**(32) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- (a) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Cameron County versus Bobo Construction Company in the 404<sup>th</sup> District Court; Cause No. 2002-05-2015-G.**

Commissioner Benavides moved that the Status Report by Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously.

**NOTE: COMMISSIONERS WOOD AND TAMAYO WERE NOT PRESENT.**

- 
- (b) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Cameron County versus First National Bank of Edinburg; Cause No. 200 1-08-3600-G in the 404<sup>th</sup> District Court, for discussion.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Judge Hinojosa and carried unanimously, the Status Report by Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, was acknowledged and filing of a motion for rehearing inbound to the 13<sup>th</sup> Court of Appeals was authorized.

**NOTE: COMMISSIONER TAMAYO WAS NOT PRESENT.**

- 
- (c) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel regarding Real Property concerning the possible acquisition of Levi Strauss & Co.-San Benito Property.**

Commissioner Wood moved that the Status Report by Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

- 
- (d) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning claim of Monica Serra.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Tamayo, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the Claim was **DENIED**.

- 
- (e) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel regarding Real property concerning the status and acquisition of property for a County Cemetery.**

Commissioner Garza moved that Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, be authorized to get an Attorney General's Opinion on the legality of Cameron County acquiring, building, and operating a County Cemetery for the Indigent. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously.

- 
- (f) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning the proposals for**



**Browne Park.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, all bids were **REJECTED**.

---

**(g) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the acquisition of property in the Laguna Madre area for a County Annex in Port Isabel.**

Commissioner Garza moved that the County Judge be authorized to execute the Contract for the acquisition of property in the Laguna Madre area for a County Annex in Port Isabel, subject to legal review.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wood and carried unanimously.

---

**(h) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the future County Annex in Harlingen and the existing County Annex in Harlingen.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously, Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, was authorized to obtain services of an MAI Appraiser to appraise the existing County Annex in Harlingen and surrounding property.

---

**(i) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the use of the County.**

Commissioner Garza moved that Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, be authorized to send letters to STOP Inc., requesting that they stop doing business at the Cameron County Airport.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

---

**(j) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning the Legal Services Contract with Locke, Liddell & Sapp, L. L. P. for the Regional Mobility Authority.**

Commissioner Tamayo moved that ceasing of negotiations with Locke, Liddell & Sapp, L.L.P. be authorized and negotiations with Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Keever, and McDaniel, L.L.P. be authorized.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Wood, Garza, and Tamayo,

NAY: None,

ABSTAIN: Judge Hinojosa

**NOTE: JUDGE HINOJOSA WAS NOT PRESENT DURING DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM.**

The Affidavit is as follows:

---

**(k) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel regarding the Cameron County Jail System 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.**

Commissioner Tamayo moved that the Status Report by Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wood and carried unanimously.

---

(1) **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**NOTE: NO REQUESTS TO BE HEARD WERE PRESENTED**

---

(3) **BUDGET AMENDMENTS, LINE ITEM TRANSFERS  
AND/OR SALARY SCHEDULES.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously, the Budget Amendments, Line Item Transfers and/or Salary Schedules were approved.

**The Documents are as follow:**

**(4) IN THE MATTER REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A. DECEMBER 9, 2003-REGULAR MEETING (TABLED)**

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

---

**(5) CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT REGISTRATION FORM.**

Commissioner Tamayo moved that the Public Comment Registration Form be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

**The Form is as follows:**

---

(6) **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND YOUNGER AND ASSOCIATES, LLC, FOR THE PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Mr. Remi Garza, County Administrative Assistant, informed that Ms. Younger provided a Report concerning the status of acquisition of additional funding for straightening of the intercostals canal. He added that she was closed to meeting the cap placed on the Contract; therefore, requested that the cap be increased by \$18,000.00, totaling \$36,000.00.

Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, stated that the estimated cost from today to September would be about \$3,000.00, which could be funded through General Administration. He recommended that additional expenses be considered upon being presented.

Judge Hinojosa informed that the contract has provided above \$400,000.00 towards realignment of the intercostals canal project to ultimately get the Corps of Engineers to realign the canal to avoid dangers at the Swing Bridge.

Upon motion by Commissioner Tamayo, seconded by Commissioner Wood and carried unanimously, the Amendment to the Agreement between Cameron County and Younger and Associates, LLC, for the provision of Professional Services was approved.

**The Amendment is as follows:**

**(7) CONSIDERATION AND APPOINTMENT OF  
CAMERON COUNTY'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE  
CAMERON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS**

Judge Hinojosa stated that the Mayor of Port Isabel expressed interest to serve on the Appraisal District Board, and suggested that small cities be allowed to have a Representative on the same.

Commissioner Garza moved that Mr. Patrick Marchan, Port Isabel Mayor, be appointed Cameron County's Representative to the Cameron County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

**The Resolution is as follows:**

---

**(8) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING AN INVOICE FROM MATA – VILLARREAL-GARCIA DESIGN GROUP FOR THEIR DESIGN WORK ON THE DARRELL HESTER RESTROOM PROJECT**

Judge Hinojosa briefed that Mata-Villarreal-Garcia Design was hired to design restrooms for the Darrell Hester Building and that they designed a \$70,000.00 restroom facility. He added that the County built a \$30,000.00 restroom facility instead, and suggested that Legal Counsel, negotiate the matter with the said group.

Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, questioned if the design was used.

Judge Hinojosa responded negatively.

Upon motion by Commissioner Tamayo, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, was authorized to negotiate an invoice from Mata – Villarreal-Garcia Design Group for their design work on the Darrell Hester Restroom Project.

---

**(9) IN THE MATTER REGARDING CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND SOUTHWEST KEY INC. FOR THE PROVISION OF CONTROLLED ACCESS PARKING DURING FEBRUARY 23-29, 2004 (TABLED)**

Commissioner Garza suggested that direction be given that traffic citations be issued to individuals who park incorrectly at the County Parking Lot adjacent to the Federal Courthouse.

Upon motion by Commissioner Tamayo, seconded by Commissioner Wood and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**.

---

**(10) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO CARMEN ROAD**

Commissioner Wood stated that the total cost to redo the road to County standard would be \$61,844.00, of which \$17,000.00 would be provided by the Town of Rancho Viejo through an Interlocal Agreement. He noted that the work would be done by the Public Works Department.

Commissioner Tamayo moved that the Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Rancho Viejo for improvement to Carmen Road be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously.

**The Agreement is as follows:**

(11) **IN THE MATTER REGARDING CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATIONS FOR 2004 PRIMARY ELECTIONS ON MARCH 9, 2004 (TABLED)**

Judge Hinojosa briefed as to available locations, and informed that additional time was needed by the Elections Administrator.

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

---

---

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEM**

---

---

(1) **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING TRAVEL PAYMENTS AND ADVANCES, INCLUDING AIRLINE FLIGHTS**

Judge Hinojosa explained that this Item was placed on the Agenda because airlines were no longer providing tickets in advance.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that airlines were no longer extending reservations without payment, and suggested that a credit card be used for the sole purpose of obtaining airline tickets or that the individual purchase the ticket (s) with their personnel credit card and be reimbursed.

Mr. Remi Garza, County Administrative Assistant, requested direction as to a method to secure an airline ticket for travel in order to avoid higher rates.

Mr. Yates stated that travel advance was not given weeks in advance.

Judge Hinojosa suggested that the advance be provided pursuant to providing a receipt within 24 hours.

Commissioner Garza moved that release of payment for purposes of acquiring an airline ticket at a discount rate be authorized, pursuant to a receipt being provided to the County Auditor within 24 hours.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously.

---

**(12) CONSIDERATION AND SELECTION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 152.014(A) AND SECTION 152.015**

Upon motion by Commissioner Wood, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the following individuals were appointed the Cameron County Grievance Committee in compliance with the Texas Local Government Code, Section 152.014 (A) and Section 152.015:

1. Frank Gamez
2. Gregory L. Campbell
3. Elizabeth Mendo
4. Adeline Trevino
5. Lydia O. Salazar
6. Armando Castaneda
7. Tony Vindell
8. Esther F. Brown
9. Aleli F. Ramirez
10. Jesus Arispe
11. Angel Sosa
12. Anthony C. Hunter
13. Jose E. Vidal
14. Haldon L. Wyrick
15. Mario Alberto Galvan
16. San Juana Paredes
17. Juanita H. Torres
18. Ruben Hernandez
19. Lisa Kirsten Renshaw
20. Luis A. Espinoza
21. Mary Garcia
22. Juanita Cruz
23. Jonathan Jones
24. Flore Estella Delgadillo
25. Sylvia Pineda
26. Gilberto De La Garza
27. Gloria L. Gonzalez
28. Estela Garcia
29. Guadalupe P. Balli
30. Eleazar X. Romero
31. Eduardo Robertson
32. James A. Cooney
33. Dario R. Quintana
34. Linda Rocha
35. Shaun Davis
36. Edgar Cardiel
37. John Reney
38. Concepcion Barnett
39. Cynthia G. Robledo
40. Manuel Guzman Jr.
41. Eduardo Sanchez
42. Gloria E. Rivera



# 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. 14: Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, presented the following late claims:  
Warrant No. 00110076, payable to Melissa T. De La Garza, in the amount of \$643.34;  
Warrant No. 00110077, payable to Bank of America, in the amount of \$76,100.00;  
Warrant No. 00110078, transfer to Fund No. 5, in the amount of \$16,179.14;  
Warrant No. 00110079, payable to Sam's Club, in the amount of \$199.20; and  
Warrant No. 00110080, payable to T-Mobile, in the amount of \$5,248.00.

Commissioner Wood requested cost estimates for interest paid to corresponding cities for International Bridge Tolls. He stated that the City of Brownsville would be presenting a letter regarding outstanding payments for October, November, and December. Commissioner Wood explained that the Agreement indicated that the County must pay 10% if not paid within 30 days. Mr. Yates stated that checks would be presented next week. He stated that his Office was working towards determining who pays what portion for the East Loop Project. Judge Hinojosa noted the need to make these payments within the 30 days.

ITEM NO. 23: Commissioner Garza asked if points would be used in evaluating these services. Mr. Remi Garza, County Administrative Assistant, responded negatively.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the following "Consent and Travel Items", be approved, inclusive of the late claims, and that Item No. 20 be approved subject to Legal Review.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Wood, Garza, and Tamayo

NAY: None,

ABSTAIN: Judge Hinojosa as to Warrant No. 00109928, payable to the Laguna Madre Water district, in the amount of 6,883.65.

**(14) APPROVAL OF CLAIMS;  
The Affidavit follows:**

**(15) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING MS. BERTHA ELISA NOEGGERATH (DULCE), MR. AMIGO 2003 FOR HER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONSTO WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT AND AS A GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR AND NAMING HER AN HONORARY CITIZEN OF CAMERON COUNTY AND DECLARING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23-29, 2004 AS "DULCE WEEK" IN CAMERON COUNTY;  
The Resolution follows**

**(16) ADOPTION OF ORDER AMENDING ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,835,000 "CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2004," APPROVING A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT AND A PURCHASE CONTRACT; AND AUTHORIZING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO;  
The Order follows:**

**(17) AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A LICENSE AGREEMENT TO ALLOW MILE HIGH ADVERTISING TO DO BANNER TOWING ADVERTISING FROM THE PORT ISABEL - CAMERON COUNTY AIRPORT;  
The Agreement follows:**

- (18) **AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOW THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY POLICE ACADEMY TO USE THE PORT ISABEL - CAMERON COUNTY AIRPORT ON FEBRUARY 9 & 10 FOR EMERGENCY DRIVING CLASS REQUIRED BY TCLEOSE AND TO CHARGE FIFTY DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$50.00) PER DAY;**  
**The Agreement follows:**
- (19) **APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE LOS FRESNOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR FAMILY LEARNINGCENTER;**  
**The Agreement follows:**
- (20) **ADOPTION OF A MUTUAL AIDE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LOWER RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LRGDC);**  
**The Agreement follows:**
- (21) **APPROVAL OF EQUIPMENT LOAN AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER HOMELAND SECURITY EQUIPMENT TO CITIES OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS & HARLINGEN, TEXAS;**  
**The Agreement follows:**
- (22) **ACCEPTANCE OF THE DONATION OF TWO (2) X-RAY MACHINES FROM SOUTHWEST AIRLINES;**
- (23) **APPOINTMENT OF CARLOS GONZALEZ AND CESAR LUTS WEAVER FOR RESERVE DEPUTY CONSTABLES FOR PRECINCT NO. 1 IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FINDING THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY IN ORDER TO PROPERLY HANDLE THE BUSINESS OF THE CONSTABLE'S OFFICE THAT ORIGINATES IN THE CONSTABLE'S PRECINCT AND THAT THE APPOINTMENT IS VALID ONLY THROUGH THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH THE APPOINTMENT IS MADE OR THE CURRENT TERM OF THE ELECTED CONSTABLE WHICH EVER ENDS SOONER;**
- (24) **AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOW THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE SYSTEM TO USE QUOTES FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) UTILITY CARTS FOR AN AMOUNT GREATER THAN \$15,000 BUT LESS THAN \$25,000;**
- (25) **APPROVAL OF RFP: COLLECTION SERVICES FOR DELINQUENT COURT COSTS AND FINES-CAMERON COUNTY COURTS;**
- (26) **AWARDING OF THE FOLLOWING BIDS:**  
**A. SAFETY SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2600**  
**The Tabulation follows:**
- (27) **AWARDING OF THE FOLLOWING BIDS:**  
**A. LAUNDRY SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2320**  
**The Tabulation follows:**
- (28) **AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW THE FOLLOWING BIDS FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL YEAR:**  
**A. OFFICE SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2440**  
**The Tabulation follows**
- (29) **AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN THE FOLLOWING BIDS/RFP'S/RFQ:**  
**A. FATHER O'BRIEN CLINIC RENOVATION PORT ISABEL TX NO. 031001-**  
**B. PICK-UP TRUCKS, VANS, SUV. BID NO. 040102**  
**C. UNIFORMS (SHERIFF-PATROL) (JAIL-JAILERS/INMATE) - ANNUAL BID NO. 2660**  
**D. POLICE SUPPLIES & BODY ARMOR - ANNUAL BID NO. 2505**  
**E. IMAGING SYSTEMS & SERVICES- DISTRICT ATTORNEYS DEPT. ARP NO. 1455-DA**  
**F. ROAD MACHINERY: RENTAL - ANNUAL BID NO. 17 10**

- G. ROAD MATERIALS: CONCRETE. ANNUAL BID NO. 2510
- H. ROAD MATERIALS: DIRT-SAND-LIME - ANNUAL BID NO. 2515
- I. ROAD MATERIALS: DRAINAGE - ANNUAL BID NO. 2520

## TRAVEL ITEMS

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

- (a) County Court At Law No. 2 Judge to attend the "Regional Conference Regions 2, 3, 4, & 5, in Dallas, Texas, February 22-24, 2004;
- (b) District Attorney's Office Investigators (3) to attend the "TDCAA Investigators' School" in Austin, Texas, February 8-13, 2004;
- (c) Assistant Auditor to attend the "Indigent Health Care Program Training", in Austin, Texas, January 20, 2004
- (d) Extension Office Agents (2) to attend the "Texas Extension Education Association District 12 Meeting", in George West, Texas, January 13, 2004;
- (e) Extension Office Agents (4) to attend the "Interpretation Event for State Representative Escobar", in Kingsville, Texas, December 15, 2003;
- (f) Extension Office Agents (3) to participate in the Coalition for Valley Families Meeting, in Weslaco, Texas, January 20, 2004;
- (g) Juvenile Probation Employees (4) to attend the "L7 Annual Juvenile Law Conference", in San Antonio, Texas, January 17-20, 2004;
- (h) Juvenile Public Defender to attend the "L7 Annual Juvenile Law Conference", in San Antonio, Texas, February 18-20, 2004;
- (i) Juvenile Public Defender to attend the "L7 Annual Juvenile Law Conference", in San Antonio, Texas, February 18-20, 2004
- (j) Law Enforcement Safety Risk Coordinator and Sheriff Deputy to attend the "Police Emergency Driving Instructors' Course" in Bryan, Texas, February 9-13, 2004; and
- (k) Sheriff's Deputies (2) to attend a "Criminal Patrol/Commercial Vehicle Criminal Interdiction/Passenger -Motor Vehicle Hidden Compartment Seminar", in Hoover, Alabama, January 26-30, 2004.

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

- (15) **ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING MS. BERTHA ELISA NOEGGERATH (DULCE), MR. AMIGO 2003 FOR HER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONSTO WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT AND AS A GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR AND NAMING HER AN HONORARY CITIZEN OF CAMERON COUNTY AND DECLARING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23-29, 2004 AS “DULCE WEEK” IN CAMERON COUNTY.**

**The resolution is as follows:**

- (16) **ADOPTION OF ORDER AMENDING ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,835,000 "CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2004," APPROVING A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT AND A PURCHASE CONTRACT; AND AUTHORIZING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.**

**The Order is as follows:**

- (17) **AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A LICENSE AGREEMENT TO ALLOW MILE HIGH ADVERTISING TO DO BANNER TOWING ADVERTISING FROM THE PORT ISABEL – CAMERON COUNTY AIRPORT.**  
**The Agreement is as follows:**

- (18) AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOW THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY POLICE ACADEMY TO USE THE PORT ISABEL – CAMERON COUNTY AIRPORT ON FEBRUARY 9 & 10 FOR EMERGENCY DRIVING CLASS REQUIRED BY TCLEOSE AND TO CHARGE FIFTY DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$50.00) PER DAY.  
The Agreement is as follows:**



- (19) **APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE LOS FRESNOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR FAMILY LEARNINGCENTER.**  
**The Agreement is as follows:**

- (20) ADOPTION OF A MUTUAL AIDE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LOWER RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LRGDC).  
The Agreement is as follows:**

- (21) **APPROVAL OF EQUIPMENT LOAN AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER HOMELAND SECURITY EQUIPMENT TO CITIES OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS & HARLINGEN, TEXAS.**  
**The Agreement is as follows:**

- (26) AWARDING OF THE FOLLOWING BIDS:**  
**A. SAFETY SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2600**  
**The Tabulation is as follows:**

- (27) AWARDING OF THE FOLLOWING BIDS:**
- a. LAUNDRY SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2320**  
**The Tabulation is as follows:**

- (28) AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW THE FOLLOWING BIDS FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL YEAR:**
- a. OFFICE SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2440**
- The Tabulation is as follows:**

---

There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Tamayo, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 1:03 P.M.

---

---

**APPROVED** this 24<sup>th</sup> day of **February 2004**.

---

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

**ATTEST:**

---

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