

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF CAMERON §

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 11th day of January 2005, 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:

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The meeting was called to order by Judge Pro-tem Pedro "Pete" Benavides at 9:33 A.M. He then asked Reverend Bob Clark, Brownsville resident, for the invocation, and he then led the Court and 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 January 7, 2005, at 4:10 P.M.:

NOTE: JUDGE HINOJOSA ARRIVED AT THIS TIME.

Commissioner Benavides informed that Browne Road Park would be complete by January 22, 2005.

Judge Hinojosa stated that Commissioner Tamayo and he attended a road naming ceremony honoring PFC Diaz, a Hispanic Soldier, of whom Mr. Tom Brokaw writes highly of in his book. He explained that this gentleman was a World War II Veteran who was shot in France and later returned to his community and became very involved in the community. Judge Hinojosa informed that yet another soldier was killed in Iraq and reiterated that the number of Valley Soldiers being lost continues to show the patriotism amongst our community. He hoped that the legislation remembers the patriotism of Valley Soldiers while meeting to deal with issue affecting our community, such as school financing.

PRESENTATIONS

(2) PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS RECOGNIZING ADELA BLANCO, HERLINDA MARTINEZ, AND LUPITA DE LEON FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE TO CAMERON COUNTY (COMM. COURT)

At this time, Judge Hinojosa presented Mrs. Adela Blanco, Mrs. Herlinda Martinez and Mrs. Lupita de Leon with Resolutions and pins recognizing them for their thirty years of service to Cameron County.

**(1) PUBLIC COMMENTS
NONE WAS PRESENTED.**

(8) IN THE MATTER REGARDING CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A REGIONAL EVENT/CONVENTION CENTER (GH-COUNTY JUDGE) (TABLED)

Judge Hinojosa explained that he placed the item on the agenda as a result of discussions amongst Commissioner Tamayo with Harlingen Mayor Rick Rodriguez, Brownsville Mayor Eddie Treviño and he concerning the possible development of an events center. He stated that said discussions were initiated after of Mayor Rodriguez' request for support for development of an event center in Harlingen, adding that the City of Harlingen was moving on its own while discussions of the matter were ongoing. Judge Hinojosa explained that the possibility of developing of an event center was discussed as something really needed by the community; however, the project could not be developed solely by Harlingen because it was a large project, financially. He explained that its development would have a higher chance of success if a regionally or centrally located approach was undertaken to allow for more access by all communities in Cameron County and northern Mexico. He stated that the County

was willing to examine the possible development of the regional project in the event that the City of Harlingen does not proceed. Judge Hinojosa explained his understanding according to a news article the City of Harlingen decided not to proceed with the project being solely theirs.

Mayor Rick Rodriguez, City of Harlingen, stated that a group of people continue to examine the possibility of developing an event center solely in the City of Harlingen; however, the Commissioners were not as certain that such development could occur, noting that the development would depend much on the dedication of this group of people. He stated that construction of an event center was conceived as an economic development project that would make Harlingen a destination and would increase its sales taxes. He explained that the idea of having a county or regional project between Harlingen and Brownsville arose upon the development of the project in Harlingen not being possible and for purposes of sharing the cost and profits that might arise in surrounding areas. Mayor Rodriguez stated that there was much support for development of an event center in Brownsville or Harlingen, and noted that everyone was willing to work together to make Cameron County the place to be in and to grow in.

Judge Hinojosa explained that the matter was placed on the agenda for discussions and to determine if the commissioners were interested in pursuing the matter. He added that there were a couple of issues of concern: one being the jail financial situation, which could prevent the county's participation in another large project until it was resolved. Judge Hinojosa stated that given the County's situation it might be difficult to make the October 2006 date suggested by an individual wanting to bring a professional hockey team to Cameron County. He added that developing the center on a long term basis could be feasible since it would enhance the economic viability of Cameron County. Judge Hinojosa suggested that perhaps the county should examine the possibility of taking the leadership role towards developing the project in partnership with Harlingen, Brownsville and South Padre Island upon Brownsville and Harlingen being unable to do so and assuming the county's financial hurdles could be overcome.

Commissioner Tamayo stated that collaboration of other entities would be requested for the regional project. She thanked Mayor Rodriguez and Mr. Rick Ledezma, Arena Committee Chairperson, for their efforts towards the project.

Mr. Rick Ledezma, Arena Committee Chairperson, indicated that they would be willing to take part in efforts towards a regional approach of the project, adding that the report of the committee contains a lot of research work already done.

Commissioner Garza requested a copy of all reports available that would give him a better prospective of the project since he would support a cooperative effort towards development of an event center. He commented that Hidalgo County lacks the economic development surrounding its event center. Commissioner Garza suggested that the county might afford to participate by contributing property currently not being used to full its full potential. He added that the surrounding communities in Cameron County and in northern Mexico would benefit greatly from the development of an event center.

Mayor Rodriguez noted that the idea was worth exploring although there were presently no commitments on behalf of anyone or any entity. He thanked Judge Hinojosa and Commissioner Tamayo for their willingness to discuss the matter. Mayor Rodriguez informed that ERA, a nationally recognized organization, completed the feasibility study that shows above 80% or 90% success rate with countywide support.

Commissioner Benavides explained that construction of an event center was considered in 1989 and an unsuccessful bond election was held. He expressed support for the project.

Commissioner Wood stated that the University of Texas at Brownsville has long range plans for said project and suggested that they be involved and that all matters be examined carefully to keep the project profitable to everyone, as would be done by a regional approach.

Judge Hinojosa stated that he would like to pursue a location that has the most access to South Padre Island, a known destination point in the United States. He stated that the county must work around the advantage that it presently has, South Padre Island, to enhance its tourism. Judge Hinojosa stated that he was unsure that a twin Dodge Arena concept would not succeed because above 2.5 million people were being served. He stated that the long drive to the Dodge Arena was unattractive versus a site adjacent to the freeway. Judge Hinojosa stated that Cameron County was about 40% smaller than Hidalgo County but if the population of northern Mexico was considered then Cameron County would be larger and the economic viability would be stronger, this being why Cameron County's unemployment rate was lower than Hidalgo County. He stated that there were many advantages to building an event center in Cameron County via a partnership with other entities. Judge Hinojosa noted the need to examine the matter without rushing because rushing could lead to bad decisions.

Mr. Ledezma explained that the location was the most important factor towards the success of an arena and its surrounding economic development. He stated that Hidalgo County was not attracting economic development around the Dodge Arena because of the lack of activity other than when an event was ongoing. Mr. Ledezma explained that this was the reason that Harlingen was looking at the project from a whole different approach, that being to build in a high traffic area with existing retail in order to have an economic investment. He stated that the

project was believed to be viable and that the committees' work indicates that it would succeed, adding that he was willing to provide any available information.

Commissioner Garza questioned the reason for the event center project not being accepted as a concept in the City of Harlingen.

Mayor Rodriguez responded that the City of Harlingen was very conservative and that the combination of taking on a project of nearly \$30 million and a lot of misinformation made many people nervous. He stated that the studies, the financing model, and the different variables indicated that the project would be successful. Mr. Rodriguez reiterated that they (City of Harlingen) were willing to work with the county.

Commissioner Garza suggested that a Workshop be scheduled and that Mr. Ledezma be in attendance.

Judge Hinojosa stated that only success records exist for this type of partnerships work. He suggested that the Court adopt a resolution authorizing the county to go forward in exploring the possibility of a regional approach for an event center, that a Workshop be scheduled and that the county's financial advisors be consulted. He requested that Resolutions indicating interest in a regional approach for a future event center be provided to the county by the Cities of Brownsville, Harlingen, San Benito and the Town of South Padre Island. Judge Hinojosa noted the need to get a prompt response, and clarified that the project would not work without minimum collaboration from the three big entities.

Mr. Ledezma stated that the City of Harlingen was willing to work with the entire county towards development of an event center.

Commissioner Garza moved that the Resolution indicating that Cameron County wishes to explore the possibility of a regional approach towards the development of an event center along with any cooperation with the Cities of Brownsville and Harlingen be adopted.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously.

The Report and Resolution are as follow:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 10:25 A.M. to discuss the following matters:

(37) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- (A) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning claim of Dr. Raul Garza, Jr., M.D.; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(A)&(2);
- (B) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning An Option Contract with Laguna Madre Enhancement Group regarding property at Isla Blanca Park; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2), 551.072 & 551.087;
- (C) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Cameron County versus Faulkner, USA formerly known as Landmark; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(1)(A)&(2);
- (D) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning issues regarding the Cameron County Detention Centers and the Cameron County Sheriff's Administration Building; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2);
- (E) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Lasana-Stardust Wastewater Project 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 the Open Meetings Act; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(2);
- (F) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Michael McGhee Scott versus Yolanda De Leon, Criminal District Attorney and Cameron County, Texas, in the 107th District Court; Cause No. 03-01-122-A, for authority to retain trial experts; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(A)&(B); and
- (G) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible sale of county properties in Harlingen and San Benito; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072.

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened into Regular Session at 11:30 A.M. to discuss the following matters:

(38) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- (A) **In the matter regarding confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning claim of Dr. Raul Garza, Jr., M.D. (TABLED)**

NOTE: Judge Hinojosa and Mr. Remi Garza, Administrative Assistant, were not present during Executive Session.

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

- (B) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning an option contract with Laguna Madre Enhancement Group regarding property at Isla Blanca Park.**

Commissioner Garza moved that the Status Report by the Laguna Madre Enhancement Group and the discussion between the Commissioners be acknowledged and that Legal Counsel be authorized to work on an agreement.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wood and carried unanimously.

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- (C) In the matter regarding confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Cameron County versus Faulkner, USA, formerly known as Landmark. (TABLED)**

- (D) In the matter regarding confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning issues regarding the Cameron County Detention Centers and the Cameron County Sheriff's Administration Building. (TABLED)**

NOTE: These items were not discussed.

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

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- (E) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Lasana-Stardust Wastewater Project 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 the Open Meetings Act.**

Commissioner Tamayo moved that the Status Report by Mr. Frank Bejarano, PD&M Director, Mr. Eddie Gonzalez, County Treasurer, Legal Counsel, and County Judge's Office be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

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- (F) Confer with Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel concerning Michael McGhee Scott versus Yolanda De Leon, Criminal District Attorney and Cameron County, Texas, in the 107th District Court; Cause No. 03-01-122-A, for authority to retain trial experts.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Wood, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the Status Report by Legal Counsel was acknowledged and the retaining of trial experts was authorized.

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- (G) Deliberation regarding Real Property concerning the possible sale of County Properties in Harlingen and San Benito.**

Commissioner Garza moved that Cameron County be authorized to sell county properties available for sale in Harlingen and San Benito pursuant to auction with the minimum bid being the appraised value.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously.

(4) **PRESENTATION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FIRST QUARTER REPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE SYSTEM (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**

At this time Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Department of Transportation Director, presented and highlighted the following First Quarter Report for the International Bridge System. He reported that the total variance was a positive \$275,000.00, county's portion totaling \$196,000.00. Mr. Sepulveda added that the International Bridge System was doing great and that it would be in great shape upon the positive trend continuing.

Judge Hinojosa requested that the Budget Officer and County Auditor ensure that the new expenses, such as the increase in Workers Compensation Premium, be funded through the anticipated surpluses. He instructed that the matter be monitored.

Commissioner Wood noted the need to be cognizant that said funds were already being committed; therefore, they must not be used elsewhere.

Commissioner Garza moved that the Presentation of the First Quarter Report for the International Bridge System by Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Department of Transportation Director, be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wood and carried unanimously.

The Report is as follows:

NOTE: COMMISSIONER GARZA LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS TIME.

(3) **PRESENTATION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE QUARTERLY REPORT, FOR THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004, ON INVESTMENTS**

**OF COUNTY FUNDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
PROVISION OF GOV. CODE 2256 – THE PUBLIC
FUNDS INVESTMENT ACT (EG-TREASURER)**

Mr. Eddie Gonzalez, County Treasurer, reported that county funds totaled \$48 million at the end of the fiscal year and were at \$62 million today as a result of tax revenue. He added that rates were expected remain to at about the same.

Judge Hinojosa stated his understanding to be that there was an increase in revenue from investments above the budgeted amount.

Mr. Gonzalez responded in the affirmative and explained that the increased revenue was subject to the County Auditor's adjustments which might increase said revenue even more.

Judge Hinojosa questioned the County Treasurer's projected amount.

Mr. Gonzalez responded his total projections to be \$1,079,000.00 for all budgeted item, noting that the Court must keep in mind that there was not a budget for every fund. He stated that the \$1,418,016.00 includes monies against accounts that were not budgeted, resulting in a windfall and explained that Funds No. 10, 15, the International Bridge System, amongst others, were the primary accounts that the Court might want to monitor. Mr. Gonzalez explained that the accounts were subject to the Auditor's adjustment and indicated that the budgeted investment revenue for General Fund for the past fiscal year was \$375,000.00, but was at \$240,000.00 in September 2004, appearing to be short about \$100,000.00, although it was subject to year end adjustments by the County Auditor. He stated that the Auditor recoups the interest lost by some funds when inter-fund loans are made.

Commissioner Tamayo questioned if the County Treasurer was in agreement with the conclusion stipulated in the letter received from the bank indicating that as of September 30, 2004, all collateral values were in order with the Depository Contract and Mr. Gonzalez responded in the affirmative.

Judge Hinojosa questioned the status of net interest revenue.

Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, explained that although things were exceptionally well at this time it was difficult to say that the same would continue for the rest of the year.

Upon motion by Commissioner Tamayo, seconded by Commissioner Wood and carried unanimously the, Presentation of the Quarterly Report, for the quarter ending September 30, 2004, on investments of county funds in accordance with provision of Gov. Code 2256 – the Public Funds Investment Act was acknowledged.

The Report is as follows:

ACTION ITEMS

**(5) 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:

**(6) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR:
A. DECEMBER 14, 2004-REGULAR MEETING**

Commissioner Wood moved that the Minutes for the Regular Meeting held December 14, 2004, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously.

(7) **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE LOOP ROAD BRIDGE (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**

Judge Hinojosa questioned if no action was requested on this item.

Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Department of Transportation Director, explained that authorization from the Court was requested two months ago to close down Loop Road Bridge in the Bayview area based on recommendation from the staff engineer. He stated that the engineer viewed the area and determined that it was a safety hazard because it was a school bus route for Los Fresnos Independent School District. Mr. Sepulveda stated that county staff prepared plans to replace the bridge, and that the design, engineering and cost estimates were now available, noting that the cost was within the Department of Transportation's budget.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the discussion regarding the Loop Road Bridge be acknowledged.

Commissioner Wood asked if a timeline was in place.

Mr. Sepulveda responded that the work should not take more than 60 days.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously.

(9) **IN THE MATTER REGARDING CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CONSTABLE PRECINCT 2 (DEPARTMENT #100-5520) FOR THE FOLLOWING LINE ITEMS 6010, 6014, 6050 & 6078 (AG-CONSTABLE PCT. 2) (TABLED)**

At this time, Mr. Xavier Villarreal, Budget Officer, asked that this item be tabled at the request of Constable Gomez in order to move money within the budget. He explained that some travel might be reduced since training might be provided through Human Resources and that some reserves might be available for educational purposes. Mr. Villarreal stated the matter would be brought back before the Court for approval as line item transfers.

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

(10) **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF PROVISION OF A \$60.00 PHONE ALLOWANCE FOR COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE & RECORDS MANAGER (JGR-COUNTY CLERK)**

Judge Hinojosa asked if the request was within budget and Mrs. Lettie Perez, County Clerk's Office, responded in the affirmative.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the provision of a \$60.00 phone allowance for County Clerk's Office & Records Manager be approved

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously.

(11) **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,888.25 FOR RELOCATION OF THE DANCY BUILDING MECHANICAL COURTYARD TO THE CORNER OF EAST MONROE AND 11TH STREETS (FB-PD & M)**

Mr. Frank Bejarano, PD & M Director, clarified that the Item must read Change Proposal rather than Change Order. He stated that doing a Change Order would affect the contract price.

Judge Hinojosa asked if proper notice was given within the changing of the proposal.

Commissioner Wood responded in the affirmative.

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously, the Change Proposal, in the amount of \$13,888.25, for relocation of the Dancy Building Mechanical Courtyard to the corner of East Monroe and 11th Streets was approved.

Mr. Bejarano informed that a Workshop could be scheduled at the Dancy Building in two (2) weeks, as requested by Judge Hinojosa.

Judge Hinojosa agreed and noted the need to tour the building to obtain a comfort level after all the problems that have been encountered.

The Change Proposal is as follows:

(12) **CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOW PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION TO PROVIDE ONE TIME MAINTENANCE TO A PRIVATE ROAD BETWEEN HOCKADAY AND FLORIDA ROAD FRONTING ON BROWNE AVENUE AND OUT OF ALFONSO DIAZ SUBDIVISION (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION) (TABLED)**

Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Director of Department of Transportation, informed that the request was made to provide one time maintenance to a private road by a gentleman and his wife. He explained that the lady was ill and that the ambulance was unable to get to the home due to the conditions of the road. Mr. Sepulveda explained that the back-up material includes estimates for the proposed use of recycled material; however, if the Court wanted to do one time maintenance then the recommendation would be to place caliche, blade and grate it as a one time maintenance.

Commissioner Tamayo questioned the total distance.

Mr. Sepulveda responded that the road was about 2/10ths of a mile.

Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioner's Court Legal Counsel, advised the Court of the general rule regarding private roadways, that the Court had developed an additional check-off regarding emergencies as a possible exception, and that working on private roadways was a very dangerous thing for the Court to do.

Commissioner Tamayo asked if the request was made by a doctor.

Mr. Sepulveda responded that the request was made by private citizens.

Judge Hinojosa asked that Legal Counsel provide a firm response as to what the Court could legally do.

Mr. Wright advised that the Court could not legally expend funds on a private road.

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

CONSENT ITEMS

ALL ITEMS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ARE HEARD COLLECTIVELY UNLESS OPPOSITION IS PRESENTED, IN WHICH CASE THE CONTESTED ITEM WILL BE CONSIDERED, DISCUSSED, AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TAKEN SEPARATELY

Commissioner Tamayo moved that the "Consent and Travel Items" be approved, and that Item No. 31 be **TABLED**.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Wood and Tamayo

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Judge Hinojosa as to Warrant No. 00130655, payable to the Laguna Madre Water District, in the amount of \$184.08, and Warrant No. 00130717, payable to the Southwest Key Program, in the amount of \$65,313.00

Item No.28&29: Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Director of Transportation Director, informed that the funding agreements from TXDOT, included in this item, were for replacement of the bridges on Gracia Road and Norman Road.

Item No. 31: Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Department of Transportation Director, requested that this item be tabled.

Item No. 32-: Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Department of Transportation Director, explained that the engineer's recommendation was to award the bid to Summit Contracting Company for at total amount of \$578,018.00.

Judge Hinojosa asked if the amount was within budget.

Mr. Sepulveda responded negatively. He explained that the contract would be presented for approval and then followed by a change order to reduce the cost.

(13) APPROVAL OF CLAIMS.

The Affidavits are as follows:

(14) AUTHORIZATION TO APPOINT ALBERT BARREDA TO THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD. (PB- COMM. PCT. 1)

(15) POSSIBLE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY TO OPEN NEW BANK ACCOUNTS AND/OR AMEND EXISTING BANK ACCOUNTS PURSUANT TO STATE STATUTES FOR THE OPERATION OF HIS OFFICE. (EG-TREASURER)

The Resolution is as follows:

(16) POSSIBLE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SHERIFF IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY TO OPEN NEW BANK ACCOUNTS AND/OR AMEND EXISTING BANK ACCOUNTS PURSUANT TO STATE STATUTES FOR THE OPERATION OF HIS OFFICE. (EG-TREASURER)

The Resolution is as follows:

(17) AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS FOR THE NEWLY ELECTED JUSTICES OF THE PEACE: LINDA SALAZAR, CAMERON COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 2, PLACE 1; JULIAN SANCHEZ, CAMERON COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 3, PLACE 1; ADAM GONZALES, CAMERON COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 7. (EG-TREASURER)

The Resolutions are as follow:

(18) APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY INVESTMENT POLICY AS AMENDED ON JUNE 2003. (EG-TREASURER)

The Policy is as follows:

(19) ADOPTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LOS FRESNOS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS. (TH-EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)

The Agreement is as follows:

(20) ADOPTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LOS FRESNOS AMBULANCE SERVICE, FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS. (TH-EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)

The Agreement is as follows:

- (21) **AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE 63 COMPUTERS UTILIZING TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES (TDIR)-(DELL). (RJ-COMPUTER CENTER)**
- (22) **AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE 29 PRINTERS UTILIZING STATE OF TEXAS QUALIFIED INFORMATION SERVICES VENDER (QISV)-(TECHDEPOT). (RJ-COMPUTER CENTER)**
- (23) **AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE SOFTWARE LICENSE FOR 69 COMPUTERS USING TDIR-TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES (SHI). (RJ-COMPUTER CENTER)**
- (24) **AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A COASTAL LAND APPLICATION WITH THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE PERTAINING TO THE LAGUNA HEIGHTS BIRD WATCH OVERLOOK. (JM-PARK SYSTEM)**
The Application is as follows:
- (25) **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES INFECTIOUS DISEASE INTERVENTION AND CONTROL BRANCH. (YS-HEALTH DEPT.)**
The Contract is as follows:
- (26) **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATES HEALTH SERVICES INFECTIOUS DISEASE INTERVENTION AND CONTROL BRANCH. (YS-HEALTH DEPT.)**
The Contract is as Follows:
- (27) **APPROVAL AMENDING THE SCOPE OF WORK, PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS IN THE CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES IMMUNIZATION DIVISION. (YS-HEALTH DEPT.)**
- (28) **AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN ADVANCE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF A BRIDGE LOCATED AT GRACIA ROAD OVER SAN VICENTE DRAIN IN THE PRECINCT #4 AREA. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
The Agreement is as follows:
- (29) **AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN ADVANCE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF A BRIDGE LOCATED AT NORMAN ROAD OVER SAN VICENTE DRAIN IN THE PRECINCT #4 AREA. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
The Agreement is as follows:
- (30) **AUTHORIZATION TO PAY INVOICES WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER FOR DE STEFANO/SANTOPETRO ARCHITECTS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,610.95 FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
The invoices are as follows:
- (31) **AUTHORIZATION TO UTILIZE THE BUY BOARD INTER-LOCAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A RECYCLER MACHINE (BOMAG) – (BUY BOARD – WAUKESHA PEARCE, SAN JUAN, TEXAS,). (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**

- (32) **AWARD OF LOW BID TO SUMMIT CONTRACTING COMPANY FOR THE VETERANS INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE AT LOS TOMATES TRUCK LANE EXPANSION. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
The Tabulation follows:
- (33) **SELECTION OF ROBINSON, DUFFY & BARNARD, AN APPRAISAL FIRM, TO DO APPRAISAL REPORTS FOR FM 732 FROM BUSINESS 77 SOUTH TO SOUTH OF FM 1577. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
- (34) **SELECTION OF HARVEY L. HEERSSEN, AN APPRAISAL FIRM, TO DO REVIEW APPRAISAL REPORTS FOR FM 732 FROM BUSINESS 77 SOUTH TO SOUTH OF FM 1577. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
- (35) **AUTHORIZATION FOR FINAL APPROVAL FOR: (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
A. PRECINCT 4- LAS TIENDAS SUBDIVISION NO. 1, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF 3.91 ACRES OF LAND OUT OF THE SOUTH 17.83 ACRES OF BLOCK 99, MINNESOTA-TEXAS LAND AND IRRIGATION COMPANY SUBDIVISION, CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS ACCORDING TO MAP RECORDED IN VOLUME 1, PAGE 10 OF THE MAP RECORDS OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS.

TRAVEL ITEMS

- (36) **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. 197th District Court Judge to attend “2005 Regional Conference”, in Horseshoe Bay, Texas, January 26-28, 2005;
- B. District Clerk and Criminal Manager to attend the “33rd Annual Continuing Education Seminar at College Station”, in College Station, Texas, January 9-13, 2005;
- C. Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, Place 1, to attend the “Stage II – Substantive”, in Austin, Texas, January 23-28, 2005;
- D. Tax Assessor-Collector to participate in the “Texas Association of Counties Leadership Foundation, 2005 Leadership Class”, in Austin, Texas, February 9-11, 2005, March 30-April 2, 2005, May 11-14, 2005, and August 9-11, 2005;
- E. County Judge employee to attend the “Border Trade Alliance Annual Meeting”, in Washington, D.C., February 13-15, 2005;
- F. Two (2) Animal Control Officers to attend City of Denton Police Department Animal Services Unit, Euthanasia Training Course”, in Denton, Texas, January 25-27, 2005;
- G. PD & M Coordinator to attend “Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Professional Advisory Review Panel Meeting”, in Mercedes, Texas, January 12, 2005.
- H. Two (2) Juvenile Public Defenders to attend the “18th Annual Juvenile Law Conference”, in Austin, Texas, February 1-3, 2005; and
- I. Staff Engineer and Assistant Staff Engineer to attend the “Engineering for Building Surety Symposium”, in Austin, Texas, February 18-19, 2005.

- (13) APPROVAL OF CLAIMS.**
The Affidavits are as follows:

- (15) **POSSIBLE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY TO OPEN NEW BANK ACCOUNTS AND/OR AMEND EXISTING BANK ACCOUNTS PURSUANT TO STATE STATUTES FOR THE OPERATION OF HIS OFFICE. (EG-TREASURER)**
The Resolution is as follows:

- (16) POSSIBLE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SHERIFF IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY TO OPEN NEW BANK ACCOUNTS AND/OR AMEND EXISTING BANK ACCOUNTS PURSUANT TO STATE STATUTES FOR THE OPERATION OF HIS OFFICE. (EG-TREASURER)**

The Resolution is as follows:

- (17) **AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS FOR THE NEWLY ELECTED JUSTICES OF THE PEACE: LINDA SALAZAR, CAMERON COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 2, PLACE 1; JULIAN SANCHEZ, CAMERON COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 3, PLACE 1; ADAM GONZALES, CAMERON COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 7. (EG-TREASURER)**
The Resolutions are as follow:

- (18) APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY INVESTMENT POLICY AS AMENDED ON JUNE 2003.
(EG-TREASURER)
The Policy is as follows:**

- (19) ADOPTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LOS FRESNOS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS. (TH-EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)**
The Agreement is as follows:

- (20) **ADOPTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LOS FRESNOS AMBULANCE SERVICE, FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS. (TH-EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)**
The Agreement is as follows:

- (24) **AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A COASTAL LAND APPLICATION WITH THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE PERTAINING TO THE LAGUNA HEIGHTS BIRD WATCH OVERLOOK. (JM-PARK SYSTEM)**
The Application is as follows:

- (25) **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES INFECTIOUS DISEASE INTERVENTION AND CONTROL BRANCH. (YS-HEALTH DEPT.)**
The Contract is as follows:

- (26) **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATES HEALTH SERVICES INFECTIOUS DISEASE INTERVENTION AND CONTROL BRANCH. (YS-HEALTH DEPT.)**
The Contract is as Follows:

- (28) AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN ADVANCE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF A BRIDGE LOCATED AT GRACIA ROAD OVER SAN VICENTE DRAIN IN THE PRECINCT #4 AREA. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
The Agreement is as follows:

- (29) **AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN ADVANCE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF A BRIDGE LOCATED AT NORMAN ROAD OVER SAN VICENTE DRAIN IN THE PRECINCT #4 AREA. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
The Agreement is as follows:

- (30) AUTHORIZATION TO PAY INVOICES WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER FOR DE STEFANO/SANTOPETRO ARCHITECTS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,610.95 FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITY. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
The invoices are as follows:

- (32) **AWARD OF LOW BID TO SUMMIT CONTRACTING COMPANY FOR THE VETERANS INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE AT LOS TOMATES TRUCK LANE EXPANSION. (PS-DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION)**
The Tabulation follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL CONSENT ITEM

- (1) **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND MIGUEL SANCHEZ RELATING TO THE CAMERON COUNTY DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE (AV-DISTRICT ATTORNEY)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Wood and carried unanimously, the Contract between Cameron County and Mr. Miguel Sanchez relating to the Cameron County Drug Enforcement Task Force was approved.

The Contract is as follows:

There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Tamayo and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 12:02 P.M.

APPROVED this 15th day of **February 2005**.

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

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