

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CAMERON

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 25th day of JANUARY, 2000, there was conducted a REGULAR Public Meeting of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Cameron County, Texas, at the Courthouse thereof, in the City of Brownsville, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same.

THE COURT MET AT:

9:30 A.M.

PRESENT:

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

PEDRO "PETE" BENAVIDES
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1

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

JAMES R. MATZ
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3

NATIVIDAD ATIVIE@ VALENCIA
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

Hilda V. Treviño Deputy
COUNTY CLERK

ABSENT:

The meeting was called to order by Judge Pro-tem Carlos H. Cascos, C.P.A., at 9:35 A.M. He then asked Mr. Bob Clark, Brownsville resident, for the invocation and Mr. Chris Boswell, Attorney at Law, to lead the Court and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on January 21, 2000, at 1:37 P.M., and the Supplemental Agenda posted on January 21, 2000, at 2:59 P.M.:

(1) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, presented an additional late claim as to Warrant No. 27278, payable to the State Comptroller-s Office, in the amount of \$2,161.16.

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the County Claims were approved, as presented by the County Auditor, inclusive of the additional claim as to Warrant No. 27278, in the amount of \$2,161.16.

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

Commissioner Matz moved that the 2000 Fiscal Year Budget Amendment No. 2000-13, and the Salary Schedule for County Attorney, Fund No. 900-4750, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Budget Amendments and Salary Schedules are as follow:

(3) IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 1999, DECEMBER 21, 1999, AND DECEMBER 28, 1999 (TABLED)

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

NOTE: AT THIS TIME, JUDGE HINOJOSA JOINED THE MEETING.

(4) APPROVAL OF THE COOPERATIVE WORKING AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE POINT ISABEL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING SUBMISSION OF A 421 CRIMINAL STATE PLANNING FUND APPLICATION

Commissioner Valencia moved that Cooperative Working Agreement between Cameron County and the Point Isabel Independent School District regarding the submission of a 421 Criminal State Planning Fund Application be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

The Agreement is as follows:

(5) AUTHORIZATION TO PLACE CENSUS 2000 STICKERS ON ALL COUNTY VEHICLES

Commissioner Cascos moved that Census 2000 stickers be placed on all County vehicles.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

(6) APPROVAL OF BUDGET OFFICER JOB DESCRIPTION AND AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR THE POSITION

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Budget Officer Job Description be approved and that the position be advertised.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Cascos and Valencia

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Matz.

The Job Description is as follows:

(7) 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 Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the selection of the Public Members for the Cameron County Grievance Committee, in compliance with the Texas Local Government Code, Section 152.014 (A) and Section 152.015, was accepted.

The List is as follows:

Harold Vidos	3048 Old Spanish Trail Brownsville, Texas	548-9483 - home 548-7045 - work
Donaciano Leija	1471 Codorniz Drive Brownsville, Texas 78521	544-6484 - home 548-7600 - work
L.T. Boswell, Jr.	P.O. Box 1871 San Benito, Texas	399-2292 - home 399-2468 - work
David Ruiz	Rt 5 Box 446 FM510 San Jose Road San Benito, Texas 78586	361-0517 - home 399-0592 - work
Rudy Rodriguez	1944 E. Polk Street Brownsville, Texas 78520	546-9532 - home 425-2812 - work
Maria Lilia Lopez	334 Creekbend Drive Brownsville, Texas 78521	542-0779 - home 831-6122 - work
Josefina Garza	623 S. AK® Street Harlingen, Texas 78550	412-0200
Martin Flores	2354 E. Ringgold Brownsville, Texas 78520	546-4253 - home 546-7187 - home
Howard Engstrom	Rt 2 Box 277 Harlingen, Texas 78550	423-6530 - home 425-3882 - work
Diana Ramos Barron	P.O. Box 1048 Olmiteo, Texas 78575	541-7106
Francisco Rodriguez	45 Evergreen Lane Brownsville, Texas 78521	546-6893 - home 541-4816 - work
Antonio Ruiz, Jr.	117 Bluebonnet Rio Hondo, Texas 78583	748-4002 - home 428-4400 - work
Bernardina B. Gomez	664 Salvatierra Street Brownsville, Texas 78521	550-8569 - home 541-2901 - work
Antonio Alaniz	16 Belinda Circle Brownsville, Texas 78520	831-7275 - home 830-0340 - work
Rumaldo Solis	124 Imperial Brownsville, Texas 78520	550-1339
Paul Castillo	1109 E. Matz Harlingen, Texas 78550	423-6087 - home 1-800-365-2246 - work
Severa Edwards	2717 Fleet Street Brownsville, Texas 78521	504-2949 - home 548-8630 - work
Mary Anna Fowler	4823 Lakeway Brownsville, Texas 78520	350-9329
Ricardo Bargas	606 South K Street Harlingen, Texas 78550	412-1974 - home 423-0172 - work
Alan Duval	504 North Street Brownsville, Texas 78520	548-1563 - home 504-4221 - work
	84 Lovell Court	982-2249 - home

Guillermo Zapata	Brownsville, Texas 78521	541-1314 work
Linda Martin	607 Waterside Court Brownsville, Texas 78521	541-8465 - home 548-2522 - work
George McKirahan	1633 Throckmorton Harlingen, Texas 78550	423-6282 - home 423-0130 - work
Rolando A. Gutierrez	1115 Bowie Road Brownsville, Texas 78521	233-9240
Abel Gonzalez	1264 Duranta Lane Brownsville, Texas 78521	542-6013 - home 831-2000 - work
Celia Peña	975 Deaf Smith San Benito, Texas 78586	399-1035 - home 361-6700 - work
Ernesto G. Flores	Rt 1 Box 93-E San Benito, Texas 78586	399-9472
Fernando R. Balli	57 Shadowbrook Lane Brownsville, Texas 78521	546-2108 - home 546-0110 - work
Reynaldo Gonzalez	369 S. Dick Bowling San Benito, Texas 78586	399-7690 - home 550-7290 - work
Lucia Casanova	328 Manzano Street Brownsville, Texas 78520	546-3403
Velma Cortez	P.O. Box 531542 1217 Findley Harlingen, Texas 78550	428-5955
Ricardo Torres	816 C. Street Brownsville, Texas 78520	986-2560 - home 268-3086 - work
Maria Velasco	934 F. Street Brownsville, Texas 78520	504-2964 - home 542-4498 - sister
Lynne Richards	17 Casa Linda Brownsville, Texas 78521	542-0800
Mary C. Caballero	617 Parkland Drive Brownsville, Texas 78520	541-0982 - home 541-6337 - work
Guadalupe Cisneros	2724 Naranjo Street Brownsville, Texas 78520	504-5034
Mary K. L-Esperance	1265 Sandy Hill Brownsville, Texas 78520	350-5422
Linda Vallejo	1713 E. Tyler Street Brownsville, Texas 78520	546-6058 - home 544-0800 - work 546-4208
Shirley J. Salinas	164 Sancti Spiritus Brownsville, Texas 78526	542-8559
Hermergilda Padilla	329 Diaz San Benito, Texas 78586	361-9352

Maria E. Roser	400 E. 13 th Street Brownsville, Texas 78520	542-3623 - home 546-5544
Kimberly Kizer	335 Augusta Road Brownsville, Texas 78521	550-0760 - home 548-7800 - work
Robert Aguilar	1764 Stanford Ave Brownsville, Texas 78520	542-1693 - home 548-8341 - work
Esmeralda Santillan	803 Elizabeth San Benito, Texas 78586	399-3610
Oscar Collins	1313 South AG@ Harlingen, Texas 78550	423-6757 - home 425-6767 - work
Norma Garcia	205 S. Dakota Brownsville, Texas 78520	542-5994 - home 544-0866 - work
Diana Sendejas	1301 New Combes Hwy Harlingen, Texas 78550	425-1609 - home 428-4026 - work
Liana Factor	417 E. Arroyo Drive Harlingen, Texas 78550	364-1176 - home 428-0734 - work

(8) APPROVAL OF THE DANCY BUILDING MASTER PLAN AND AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE PLAN TO THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION TEXAS COURTHOUSE PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Dancy Building Master Plan be approved and that the Plan be submitted to the Texas Historical Commissioner Texas Courthouse Preservation Program.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

At this time, Commissioner Matz commended the Dancy Building Restoration Committee for their time and efforts in preparing the application.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the Committee had submitted suggestions to eliminate high traffic offices in the Courthouse, in order to better preserve the building and added that the plan enhanced the County-s qualifications for grant funding.

(9) ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONTINUING GRANT AWARD FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS HIDTA INTELLIGENCE CENTER ELEMENT

(10) ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONTINUING GRANT AWARD FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY UNIFIED NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE TASK-FORCE

(11) ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONTINUING GRANT AWARD FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS HIDTA DIRECTOR-S ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT ELEMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Continuing Grant Awards for the South Texas HIDTA Intelligence Center Element, the Cameron County Unified Narcotics Intelligence Task-Force and the South Texas HIDTA Director-s Administration Support Element, were accepted.

The Grants are as follow:

(12) **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ABANDONMENT OF UNUSED STREET AND ALLEY RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE TOWN OF LOS FRESNOS, MORE SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED AS FIRST STREET FROM THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF FM/1575 (OLD ALICE ROAD), EASTWARD TO THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF MISSOURI STREET; COMMUNITY STREET FROM THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SECOND STREET; AND ALL OF THE ALLEYWAY WITHIN BLOCKS 4, 5 AND 8; ILLINOIS STREET FROM THE WAY LINE OF CANAL STREET; AND SECOND STREET FROM A POINT 140 FEET EAST OF THE EAST LINE OF COMMUNITY STREET, EASTWARD TO THE WEST LINE OF ILLINOIS STREET, AS SHOWN ON THE MAP OF THE TOWNSITE OF LOS FRESNOS, AS RECORDED IN CABINET 4, PAGE 1 OF THE MAP RECORDS OF CAMERON COUNTY**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Public Hearing was opened for public comment at 9:55 A.M.

At this time, Ms. Elizabeth Neally, from the Law Firm of Roerig, Olivera and Fisher, L.L.P., clarified that the area was located outside the Los Fresnos City limits and emphasized that Missouri Street would not be closed, as many residents had been lead to believe. She noted that the area was contained in the School District and added that the abandonment had been requested by the Los Fresnos Independent School District.

Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners= Court Legal Counsel, stated that the proposer should present a petition by eight citizens for consideration and that the notice of abandonment should be properly posted.

At this time, Ms. Neally presented the petition and the posting of the notice.

Hearing and sensing no further comments, upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously; the Public Hearing was closed at 9:55 A.M.

The Petition and Posting are as follow:

- (13) **POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ABANDONMENT OF UNUSED STREET AND ALLEY RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF FM/1575 (OLD ALICE ROAD), EASTWARD TO THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF MISSOURI STREET; COMMUNITY STREET FROM THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF FIRST STREET NORTHWARD TO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SECOND STREET; AND ALL OF THE ALLEYWAY WITHIN BLOCKS 4, 5 AND 8; ILLINOIS STREET FROM THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT NO. 3, BLOCK NO. 6, NORTHWARD TO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF CANAL STREET; AND SECOND STREET FROM A POINT 140 FEET EAST OF THE EAST LINE OF COMMUNITY STREET, EASTWARD TO THE WEST LINE OF ILLINOIS STREET AS SHOWN ON THE MAP OF THE TOWNSITE OF LOS FRESNOS, AS RECORDED IN CABINET 4, PAGE NO. 1 OF THE MAP RECORDS OF CAMERON COUNTY**

Commissioner Matz moved that the abandonment of an unused street and alley right-of-way be approved in the East Right-of-Way line of FM/1575 (Old Alice Road), Eastward to the West Right-of-Way line of Missouri Street; Community Street from the South Right-of-Way line of First Street Northward to the South Right-of-Way of Second Street; and all of the alleyway within Blocks Nos. 4, 5 and 8; Illinois Street from the Southeast corner of Lot No. 3, Block No. 6, Northward to the South Right-of-Way Line of Canal Street; and Second Street from a point 140 feet East of the East line of Community Street, Eastward to the West line of Illinois Street, as shown on the map of the Townsite of Los Fresnos, as recorded in Cabinet 4, Page No. 1 of the Map Records of Cameron County, noting that the proper petition and posting had been presented to the Court and that the roads had been unused for at least three (3) years.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

- (14) **AUTHORIZATION FOR SPEED PROGRAM TO OBTAIN CELLULAR PHONE(S) AND SERVICE**

Commissioner Valencia moved that the SPEED Program obtain cellular phone(s) and service, subject to the County Cellular Phone Policy.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

(15) **APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO UTILIZE FUNDS AWARDED FOR JUVENILE DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Interlocal Agreement between Cameron County and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council to utilize funds awarded for Juvenile Drug Abuse Treatment was approved.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa requested that a Report be submitted by the Auditor-s Office and the Juvenile Probation Department concerning the placements at the Boot Camp to determine the cost issues. He stated that many of the placements to other agencies were no longer being made and that the majority of the placements were currently being referred to the Boot Camp. Judge Hinojosa noted that the funds for placements to outside agencies were budgeted separately and added that there should be long term savings.

The Agreement is as follows:

(16) APPROVAL TO RENEW THE CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND DR. XAVIER AJAY@MARTINEZ, TO PROVIDE PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES TO CAMERON COUNTY JUVENILES AND NEW EMPLOYMENT EVALUATIONS TO THE CAMERON COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Contract for Professional Services between Cameron County and Dr. Xavier AJay@ Martinez, be approved to provide Psychological Services to Cameron County Juveniles and new employment evaluations to the Cameron County Juvenile Probation Department.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Contract is as follows:

- (17) **ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE GOVERNOR= OFFICE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION, CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING (421) FUND FOR THE UNIDOS-PODEMOS BROWNSVILLE COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR YOUTH/FAMILIES GRANT**
- (18) **ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE GOVERNORS= OFFICE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION, SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT FUND FOR THE UNIDOS-PODEMOS BROWNSVILLE COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR YOUTH/FAMILIES GRANT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Resolutions were adopted authorizing the submission of applications to the Governor=s Office Criminal Justice Division, Criminal Justice Planning (421) Fund and Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Fund, for the Unidos-Podemos Brownsville Comprehensive Strategy for Youth/Families Grant.

The Resolutions are as follow:

(19) ADOPTION OF THE REVISED WASTE WATER SURVEILLANCE ORDER, PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (TNRCC) GUIDELINES

At this time, Ms. JuaNita Brodecky, Rio Hondo resident, noted that Mr. Ray Rodriguez, Chief Sanitarian, had provided the information regarding the revised Order and noted that the County was bound to comply with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commissioner (TNRCC) Guidelines. She expressed her opposition as to the TNRCC regulations, due to the inadequacy of inspectors.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the revised Waste Water Surveillance Order was adopted, pursuant to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission Grant.

Commissioner Valencia expressed concern as to the proper posting of the issue and Mr. Rodriguez responded that the notice had been posted in the newspaper and all State Guidelines had been followed.

The Notice and the Order are as follow:

(20) **ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SOUTHEAST REGIONAL PARK**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Resolution authorizing the submission of a Grant Application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for the development of a Southeast Regional Park was adopted.

At this time, Commissioner Matz expressed concern as to Section No. 2 of the Resolution regarding the availability of the required matching share.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that there were approximately, \$586,000, of unused funds in the Park Bond Fund which could be utilized, at the Court's discretion, or that other project funds could be reallocated within the Parks System Budget.

Judge Hinojosa stated that there were unresolved issues concerning the Boca Chica Park Project regarding property titles and added that the Southeast Regional Park in the Southmost area, Precinct No. 1, had a more favorable chance of receiving funding from the Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Commissioner Cascos expressed concern as to the Boca Chica Park Project being deferred since the funds would be designated for the Southeast Regional Park and added that if the Court decided to proceed with the Boca Chica Park Project, the process of obtaining grant funds would then need to be repeated.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant Application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for the development of a Southeast Regional Park was adopted.

The Resolution is as follows:

(22) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 1230-991201 STRUCTURAL INSPECTION SERVICES FOR COUNTY INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Request for Proposal No. 1230-991201 Structural Inspection Services for the County International Bridges be awarded to Luis Faraklas, San Antonio, Texas.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

(23) ACTION ON UTILITY SERVICE AND PROVIDERS FOR THE NEW CAMERON COUNTY JAIL PROJECT

At this time, Mr. Juan Bernal, County Engineer, explained that he had been directed to negotiate the costs with the Public Utilities Board to provide utility services and reported that PUB could not lower the rates offered to the County.

Commissioner Cascos clarified that the water and wastewater rates were going to be negotiated with PUB, in order to meet the rates proposed by the Olmito Water Supply Corporation, noting that if the rates could not be lowered by PUB, the County would negotiate with the Olmito Water Supply Corporation.

Judge Hinojosa stated that PUB had matched the rates proposed by the Olmito Water Supply Corporation, but noted that since then, the Olmito Water Supply Corporation had lowered the rates, based on the water and wastewater rate of return. He clarified that the water and sewer could be provided by separate entities, but stated that it was unknown as to whether the Olmito Water Supply Corporation could provide the sewage lines by the opening date of the facility.

At this time, Mr. James Elium, Olmito Water Supply Corporation, stated that providing the wastewater services was not profitable unless the water was included and clarified that the original proposed rates had not been changed.

Commissioner Cascos reiterated that neither provider gained a profit from providing wastewater services and recommended that the water and wastewater should not be separate services.

Mr. Bernal recommended that the water and wastewater services be provided by PUB, based on the company's financial strength to begin operating immediately and noted that the Olmito Water Supply Corporation could not provide the services until grant funds were obtained.

At this time, Mr. Mike Riojas, S&B Infrastructure, stated that the Olmito Water Supply Corporation did not have the funds available to expand their system to provide the services.

Commissioner Cascos stated that the recommendation would have been for Olmito Water Supply Corporation to provide the water and wastewater if the Corporation had the funds in place and expressed concern as to whether the corporation had a commitment for the grant funding from the State.

Mr. Elium stated that the Olmito Water Supply Corporation had a verbal commitment by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), but noted that the USDA could not provide the commitment in writing. He added that the submission of the application for grant funds from the USDA was based on the Court's decision.

Judge Hinojosa questioned what the net extra cost would be to the County if PUB provided the water and wastewater services and Mr. Bernal responded that the cost to the County would be \$1,800 a month, noting that the Olmito Water Supply Corporation would need to build a water tank at the site.

Mr. Juan Mejia, Olmito Water Supply Corporation, explained that the water tank was necessary to provide water in the case of a collapsed line.

Ms. Lucy Hernandez, Public Utilities Board Manager of Services, stated that the Public Utilities Board had two (2) water plants and two (2) wastewater plants, which had enough capacity to meet the needs of the city and the new County facility. She explained that lines would need to be extended out to the County facility, but stated that based on the existing water plant tank's ability to provide the pressure to the County facility, a water tower at the site was not necessary. Ms. Hernandez stated that the Public Utilities Board also provided a Pre-Treatment Department to assist the County facility with issues concerning cooking at the facility and added that said services would be provided to the complex at competitive prices.

Judge Hinojosa recommended that a committee be created to examine all the factors within one (1) week and that the committee submit a recommendation at the following meeting. He suggested that the committee be composed of the County Engineer, the Consultant, the Auditor, the Purchasing Agent, Legal Counsel and the County Sheriff.

Commissioner Cascos stated that the firm of S&B Infrastructure had been hired as a consultant to make the recommendation, with no vested interest, and added that the Olmito Water Supply Corporation had not been recommended, due to the financing and time line issues. He questioned how much time would be needed if the Olmito Water Supply Corporation was recommended, to obtain the necessary financing to provide the water and wastewater services.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the committee would examine the practical factors involved, including the water tower and whether the water tower was contingent upon obtaining grant funds. He stated that the County had to meet time lines with the United States Marshal's Office and noted that the County Jail was currently over capacity. Judge Hinojosa stated that if the project was delayed, it would cause problems in qualifying for funding from the United States Marshal's Office and would cause problems with the Bond Money.

Commissioner Matz suggested that the committee should examine the time line schedule, the water tower issue, the pre-treatment facilities and the electrical generator matter.

Judge Hinojosa questioned whether PUB's position to build generators would remain the same if the County chose the Olmito Water Supply Corporation to provide the water and wastewater services and Ms. Hernandez replied in the affirmative.

Judge Hinojosa requested that the Committee should examine all the factors and submit a recommendation to the Court in one (1) week, noting that presentations by both companies be considered.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the following Utility Service and Providers were awarded for the new Cameron County Jail Project, and the committee was directed to review the water and wastewater issues, in order to recommend a provider to the Court:

Brownsville Public Utilities Board - Electric Power Provider;

Southern Union Gas - Natural Gas Provider; and

Southwestern Bell Telephone - Telecommunications Provider.

(24) **APPROVAL OF THE SCHEMATIC DRAWINGS
FOR THE COUNTY JAIL AND AUTHORIZATION
TO PROCEED TO DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
PHASE**

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the long term financing had not been secured and recommended that the Capital Projects Fund, which was funded from Tobacco Funds, should be allocated on a long term basis for reimbursement purposes. He stated that preliminary meetings had been held with the Financial Advisor and that scenarios had been generated concerning operating costs, noting that the operating costs would be determined within two (2) weeks.

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Schematic drawings for the County Jail be accepted and that the Design Development Phase proceed, along the outlined construction schedule.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Cascos and Valencia

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Matz.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

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

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

AConsent® Agenda Items were approved as follow:

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

- a) Vehicle Maintenance Director to attend the A29th Annual Public Works Short Course and Field Day 2000" in College Station, Texas, on February 7-9, 2000;
- b) Two (2) Assistant District Attorneys to attend the A16th National Symposium on Child Sexual Abuse® in Huntsville, Alabama, on March 7-10, 2000;
- c) County Extension Agent to attend a APerformance Appraisal System Committee Meeting® in College Station, Texas, on January 26-27, 2000;
- d) Six (6) County Extension Agents to attend a APhotography Class at the Texas A&M District Office® in Weslaco, Texas, on January 19, 2000;
- e) Juvenile Public Defender to attend the A13th Annual Juvenile Law Conference® in Austin, Texas, on February 16-18, 2000;
- f) Personnel/Safety Risk Coordinator to attend the AMcAllen Conference on State and Federal Personnel Laws® in McAllen, Texas, on February 7-8, 2000;
- g) Personnel/Safety Risk Director to attend the ASecond Annual Symposium on Retirement and Social Security® in College Station, Texas, on February 2-4, 2000;
- h) Program Development and Management Director, Project Architect, County Judges-County Assistant Administrator and a member of the Dancy Building Restoration Committee to present the Dancy Building Master Plan to the Texas Historical Commission in Austin, Texas, on January 31, 2000;
- I) Juvenile Correctional Officer from the Boot Camp, three (3) Detention Officers, and two (2) Probation Officers to attend the AJuvenile Probation and Juvenile Detention Officer Basic Conference® in Brownsville, Texas, on January 24-28, 2000;
- j) Juvenile Acting Chief Officer to attend a AChief Conference® in Corpus Christi, Texas, on February 23-25, 2000;
- k) Juvenile Training Officer to attend a ATraining Coordinator-s Conference® in Austin, Texas, on February 1-3, 2000;
- l) UNIT Director to attend the ASWB HIDTA Executive Committee Meeting® in San Diego, California, on February 9-11, 2000;
- m) UNIT Tactical Intelligence Agent to attend the AHIDTA ISC-JDIG-NIN Manager-s Meeting® in Denver, Colorado, on February 29, 2000, through March 3, 2000; and
- n) Six (6) Health Department employees to attend the ABreast and Cervical Cancer Education Conference® in Brownsville, Texas, on February 1, 2000.

[REDACTED]

(26) **FINAL APPROVAL**

a) **Precinct No. 4**

Iglesia Vieja Subdivision, Section III, Replat - being a tract of land containing 12.00 acres, out of Block No. 23 of Rancho de Santa Maria Subdivision.

(27) **PRELIMINARY AND FINAL APPROVAL**

a) **Precinct No. 4**

Esequiel Subdivision - being a 10.151 acre tract of land out of the Southeast part of Block No. 40, La Feria Land and Irrigation Subdivision; and

b) **Precinct No. 3**

Stirling Subdivision - being the North 2.56 acres out of a 5.126 tract, out of the South 86.46 acres of Block No. 74, San Benito Land and Water Company Subdivision.

(28) **PURCHASE WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER FOR ARGUS SECURITY SYSTEM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$302.50**

(29) **OPEN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

- a) **SOIL AND MATERIALS TESTING SERVICES - ANNUAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 1724-991203; AND**
b) **SURVEYING SERVICES - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 1728-991204.**

[REDACTED]

(30) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 10:55 A.M. to discuss the following matters:

- a) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning Schlitterbahn Lease and other property issues at Isla Blanca Park; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- b) In the matter of the Real Property concerning the possible Concession of Sea Ranch Marina (South); pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072; **(TABLED)**
- c) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning Brownsville Original Townsite, the remainder of Lots Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, out of Block No. 61; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- d) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning various Cameron County Trustee Lots; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;

- e) Deliberation regarding the Real Property possible acquisition of land adjacent to the new County Jail Facility; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- f) Deliberation regarding Economic Development negotiations with Highland Supply Corporation; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.086 (1)(2); and
- g) In the matter of the evaluation of Election Administrator; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.074. **(TABLED)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session at 12:13 A.M.

(31) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) **Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning Schlitterbahn Lease and other property issues at Isla Blanca Park.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Status Report by Mr. Joseph Ardito, Property Management Coordinator regarding the Schlitterbahn Lease was acknowledged and Mr. Ardito was instructed to prepare Request for Proposals for the properties adjacent to Isla Blanca Park.

- b) **In the matter of the Real Property concerning the possible Concession of Sea Ranch Marina (South). (TABLED)**

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

- c) **Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning Brownsville Original Townsite, the remainder of Lots Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, out of Block No. 61.**

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Status Report by the Property Management Coordinator be acknowledged concerning Brownsville Original Townsite, the remainder of Lots Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, out of Block No. 61.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

- d) **Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning various Cameron County Trustee Lots.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Property Management Coordinator was directed to contact other taxing entities to sell the various Cameron County Trustee Lots at the best price.

e) Deliberation regarding the Real Property possible acquisition of land adjacent to the new County Jail Facility.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the Property Management Coordinator be directed to continue the negotiations on the possible acquisition of land adjacent to the new County Jail Facility.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Valencia and Judge Hinojosa

NAY: Commissioners Cascos and Matz.

f) Deliberation regarding Economic Development negotiations with Highland Supply Corporation.

Commissioner Matz moved that Mr. Frank Bejarano, Program Development and Management Director, proceed forward to gather information concerning the application for the tax abatement of the Highland Supply Corporation.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.

g) In the matter of the evaluation of Election Administrator. (TABLED)

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

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

(2) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning the office building and property, located at 2325 South 77 Sunshine Strip, Harlingen, Texas.

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Status Report by County Counsel was acknowledged concerning the office building and property, located at 2325 South 77 Sunshine Strip, Harlingen, Texas.

**(21) APPROVAL OF THE LEASE (RENEWAL)
BETWEEN ROLLINS M. KOPPEL AND CAMERON
COUNTY FOR THE OFFICE BUILDING AND
PROPERTY, LOCATED AT 2325 SOUTH 77
SUNSHINE STRIP, IN HARLINGEN, TEXAS**

Commissioner Valencia moved that the Lease between Rollins M. Koppel and Cameron County for the Office Building and Property located at 2325 South 77 Sunshine Strip in Harlingen, Texas, be renewed.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Agreement is as follows:

There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at **12:18 P.M.**

APPROVED this **15th** day of **February, 2000.**

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

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