

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CAMERON

**BE IT REMEMBERED** on the 5th day of **SEPTEMBER, 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:**

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The meeting was called to order by Judge Pro-tem Carlos H. Cascos, C.P.A., at 9:34 A.M. He then asked Constable Alfredo Jimenez, Precinct No. 7, 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 September 1, 2000, at 12:03 P.M.:

(7) **APPROVAL OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND PASEO DE LA RESACA LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICT FOR THE COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Intergovernmental Agreement between Cameron County and Paseo De La Resaca Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District for the Collection of Ad Valorem Taxes was approved.

**The Agreement is as follows:**

**(8) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD BID TO OWEN-S  
ROOFING FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY  
AIRPORT RE-ROOFING PROJECT**

At this time, Commissioner Matz requested that the County Engineer review the difference in the Bid amounts from the low to the high bidder.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the Bid be awarded to Owens Roofing for the Cameron County Re-Roofing Project, as recommended by the County Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

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**(9) AUTHORIZATION FOR MATA-VILLARREAL  
ARCHITECTS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL  
SERVICES FOR SURVEYING WORK AT THE LA  
FERIA BUILDING**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the additional services for surveying work at the La Feria Building by Mata-Villarreal Architects was approved, as recommended by the County Engineer.

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**(10) ACTION REGARDING ACQUISITION OF PARCEL  
NO. 15, BEING 4.944 ACRES OUT OF BLOCK NO.  
45, MCLEOD-HOOD PROPERTIES NO. 1 AND  
PARCEL NO. 19, BEING 6.939 ACRES OUT OF  
BLOCKS NO. 42 AND NO. 43, MCLEOD-HOOD  
PROPERTIES NO. 1, FOR FM/509**

Commissioner Matz moved that the acquisition of Parcel No. 15, being 4.944 acres out of Block No. 45, McLeod-Hood Properties No. 1 and Parcel No. 19, being 6.939 acres out of Blocks No. 42 and No. 43, McLeod-Hood Properties No. 1, for FM/509, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.

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**(11) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONTRACT TO  
DANNENBAUM ENGINEERING FOR WORK  
ORDER NO. 2 UNDER PROJECT ROAD MAP**

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Contract for Work Order No. 2, under Project Road Map was awarded to Dannenbaum Engineering.

**The Contract is as follows:**

(12) **AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR ANAQUITOS ESTATES AND ANAQUA DRIVE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN PRECINCT NO. 3**

Commissioner Matz moved that the advertisement for Bids for Anaquitos Estates and Anaqua Drive Road improvements in Precinct No. 3 be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

(13) **AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A STATIONARY VENDOR-S PERMIT (RENEWAL) TO BRENNAN AND MISTY WELLS, DOING BUSINESS AS WELLS BEACH RENTALS**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Stationary Renewal Vendor-s Permit was issued to Brennan and Misty Wells, doing business as Wells Beach Rentals.

**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:**

At this time, Mr. Remi Garza, Assistant County Administrator, noted that Item 15 Aj® had been previously Tabled, and reported that as per Mr. Joe Ramirez, Chief Bailiff, the two (2) employees needed to attend the conference to obtain the necessary hours as required by TCLEOSE.

Commissioner Matz expressed concern as to the round trip mileage to the conference which was multiplied by two and suggested that only one vehicle be utilized for the trip.

Commissioner Valencia questioned whether the funds were available for Item No. 15 Ai® and Mr. Garza responded that the Auditor-s Office would determine the availability of funds once the advance checks were requested from the Departments.

Commissioner Cascos stated that Item No. 15 Aj® be modified to reflect 700 miles to Hunt, Texas, as opposed to 1400 miles and noted that the amount per mileage, which was out of the County, should reflect .20 cents per mile.

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the AConsent® Agenda Items were approved as follow, with Item No. 15 Aj® reflecting 700 miles round trip at .20 cents per mile.

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

- a) 197<sup>th</sup> District Court to attend the A2000 Judicial Section Annual Conference@ in Dallas, Texas, on September 24-27, 2000;
- b) Child Welfare Homemaker to do quarterly visits on foster homes in Killeen, Texas, on August 3-4, 2000;
- c) Child Welfare Homemaker to transport children under the conservatorship to Corpus Christi, Texas, on August 26, 2000, and return to foster home in McAllen, Texas;
- d) Unified Narcotics Intelligence Task-Force (UNIT) Director to attend the AHigh Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Executive Committee Meeting@ in San Antonio, Texas, on August 21-22, 2000;
- e) Commissioners= Court, Assistant County Administrator and the International Bridge Systems Director to attend the ABi-National Conference Bridges and Border Crossings@ in Phoenix, Arizona, on September 18-20, 2000;
- f) Juvenile Weed and Seed Coordinator to attend the AExecutive Office for Weed and Seed Creating Healthy Communities Conference@ in Miami, Florida, on September 5-8, 2000;
- g) Computer Center employee to attend the AMicrosoft=s AThe Big Day@ Seminar@ in Brownsville, Texas, on September 19, 2000;
- h) County Clerk Chief Deputy to attend the AGovernmental Collectors Association of Texas Board of Director=s Meeting@ in Austin, Texas, on September 7-8, 2000;
- I) County Courts at Law No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 Bailiffs to attend the AFamily and Domestic Violence@ in San Antonio, Texas, on September 24-26, 2000; and
- j) Two (2) Courthouse Security employees to attend the ATexas Institute on Children and Youth@ in Hunt, Texas, on September 10-14, 2000, (Tabled 8/29/00).

**(16) OPEN BIDS**

- a) **VOTING SUPPLIES - ANNUAL BID NO. 2680**

**The Bids received and opened are as follow:**

(17) **AWARD BIDS**

a) **SEVEN (7) TRACTORS AND EIGHT (8) CUTTERS - PUBLIC WORKS**

HARLINGEN IMPLEMENT - Brownsville, Texas  
Total \$275,524.00

b) **THREE (3) ROLLERS - PUBLIC WORKS**

COOPER EQUIPMENT - San Antonio, Texas  
Dual Drum Roller \$61,940.00  
Single Padfoot Rollers \$152,980.00

c) **ONE (1) OIL DISTRIBUTION TRUCK - PUBLIC WORKS**

COOPER EQUIPMENT - San Antonio, Texas  
Total \$95,534.00

d) **EIGHT (8) PICK-UP TRUCKS - PUBLIC WORKS**

BOGGUS FORD - Harlingen, Texas  
One - 1 2 ton stake bed truck with crane \$26,769.00

RODRIGUEZ FORD - Raymondville, Texas  
Three - 3/4 ton long bed pick-up crew cab \$66,156.75

CARDENAS MOTORS - Brownsville, Texas  
One - 2 ton long bed pick-up \$15,040.00  
Three - 2 ton long bed pick-up 4x4 \$56,922.00

**NOTE: JUDGE HINOJOSA JOINED THE MEETING.**

(1) **APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS**

Commissioner Valencia moved that the County Claims be approved, as presented by the County Auditor.

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

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

**NAY:** None

**ABSTAINED:** Judge Hinojosa, as to Warrant No. 41707, payable to Laguna Madre Water District, in the amount of \$158.53.

**The Affidavit is as follows:**

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

Commissioner Valencia moved that the 2000 Fiscal Year Budget Amendment No. 2000-42, 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:**

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

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Salary Schedules for the Attorney General Child Support, Fund No. 580-4500 and Fund No. 580-451, were approved.

**The Salary Schedules are as follow:**

**(3) IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES (TABLED)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, this item was **Tabled**.

**(4) DISCUSSION REGARDING ELECTED OFFICIALS-  
SALARIES AND AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH  
NOTICE**

At this time, Judge Hinojosa suggested that the maximum Elected Officials=salaries be published, which would be considered by the Court and questioned whether the salaries could go below the set amounts, if the budget did not allow for the posted salaries.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, responded that the Notice of Salaries to be published would be the maximum salary the County would pay and that the salaries could go below than what was published.

Judge Hinojosa stated that an across the board cost of living increase was to be addressed for all County employees, excluding an increase for the members of the Commissioners=Court and added that the notice of the Elected Officials=salaries would be a ceiling amount. He stated that if there was a cost of living increase, the Elected Officials=salaries would need to be published with the cost of living increase as the ceiling of their salaries, noting that if the budget did not allow the cost of living increase, neither the regular employees nor Elected Officials would receive the increase.

Mr. Yates stated that the Elected Officials had the option to go through the Grievance Process to request the cost of living increase and that the Grievance Committee would then submit the recommendations to the Court.

Commissioner Cascos suggested that the Elected Officials should voluntarily give up ten percent (10%) of their salaries, in order to address other areas of the County which would be impacted from the lack of funds.

Commissioner Valencia stated that all Elected Officials and members of the Court who worked for Cameron County should be addressed on an equal basis and suggested that if the Court gave up the cost of living increase, the Elected Officials should do the same with the possibility of Appointed Officials being included, noting that there would not be a significant change in the budget if only a few members were excluded from the cost of living increase.

Commissioner Cascos requested that the County Auditor submit a report reflecting a ten percent (10%) pay cut for all Elected Officials, the changes in their vehicles and added that once said issues were factored in the budget, the Juvenile Probation Officers=minimum salaries could be increased to \$26,500.00, the District Clerk=s slot to be eliminated could be retained and the General Fund employees could be increased to the minimum wage of \$7.00 per hour. He added that the lower end salaries could be brought up by increasing the salaries by three (3) or four percent (4%).

Judge Hinojosa expressed his opposition to reduce the Elected Officials' salaries by ten percent (10%) and noted that the Elected Officials also had families to support as all other County employees. He noted that there had been cuts in the budget including Travel allowances, Extra-Help Positions and added that new slots would not be added.

Commissioner Valencia suggested that the increases and/or cuts should be addressed equally for the Elected Officials and the members of the Commissioners' Court.

Commissioner Benavides clarified that the Court would support the Elected Officials and members of the Court being excluded from receiving the cost of living increases, as opposed to reducing the salaries of all Elected Officials.

Judge Hinojosa clarified that his proposal was not to set the Elected Officials' salaries with the three percent (3%) increase, unless it was definite that all County employees would be receiving the cost of living increase. He stated that the issue concerned whether the salaries could go down if the Elected Officials' salaries were published with the three percent (3%), noting that if the salaries could not go down, the Elected Officials should be placed at the grievance mode and added that the second issue was to cut salaries, noting that he was opposed to the matter.

Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners' Court Legal Counsel, stated that once the salaries were published, the Elected Officials could go through the Grievance Process if the Court decided to go below the set salaries.

Judge Hinojosa suggested that the existing salaries be published with the understanding that if the cost of living increase was approved and the Court was able to set aside funds for the Elected Officials and the members of the Court, the Elected Officials could request the increase through the Grievance Process up to the cost of living increase as approved for all other County employees.

At this time, Dick Sturgell, Harlingen resident, expressed concern as to the increases and/or cuts in salaries and the impact it would have on the budget and taxes.

Judge Hinojosa clarified that the issues causing the increases in the budget would be presented at the Tax Hearing and noted that there were no additional increases in the Budget, other than the increase in costs which the County had no control over which consisted of the employee Health Insurance, a bill in the amount of \$240,000.00, from Tropical Texas Mental Health and Mental Retardation, gasoline costs and a decrease in revenue in the jail funds. He noted that the increase in taxes was from the cost of financing the new jail required to be built by Federal Law and the new 404<sup>th</sup> District Court created by the Legislature.

Mr. Remi Garza, Assistant County Administrator, recommended that the Court should authorize the County Auditor to publish what was presented in Court and that the Notice to publish be authorized by the Court.

Commissioner Cascos questioned whether the published salaries could go down and Mr. Wright responded that the salaries could go down, but could not be increased. He stated that the Elected Officials could go through the Salary Grievance Process to increase the set salaries but could not go below the recommended amount.

Commissioner Valencia expressed concern as to the funding source if the salaries were increased as a result of the Salary Grievance Process and Mr. Yates replied that the funds would be allocated from the Surplus Fund.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the votes of the Salary Grievance Committee were seldom unanimous to recommend the salary increases for the Elected Officials and added that the Commissioners=Court would then determine whether to approve the increases, based on the availability of funds.

Commissioner Cascos noted that the majority of recommendations of the Salary Grievance Committee concerning the increase in salaries usually passed on a split vote and added that the salary increases far exceeded the cost of living increases given to all other County employees.

Commissioner Valencia stated that salary increases for the regular County employees should be addressed before considering salary increases for the Elected Officials.

Commissioner Benavides expressed his opposition as to the salary decreases for the Elected Officials and added that the salary increases for the regular County employees should be addressed, in order to level out the positions.

Mr. Wright informed the Court that as per Mr. John Fuller, Attorney General=s Office, there was not an Attorney General=s Opinion stating that the published salaries could not be reduced and added that the Grievance Process remained an option for the Elected Officials if the set salaries were reduced.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the Notice of the Elected Officials=s salaries be published, pursuant to the recommendations by the County Auditor.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously.

**(5) POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RENEWAL  
AND/OR SELECTION OF THIRD PARTY  
ADMINISTRATOR AND STOP-LOSS CARRIER**

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the County should review the benefits provided in the Health Care and explained that the County=s Health Program was a Total Wellness Packet with low co-payments and office visit costs. He stated that the County could change from a Total Wellness Plan to a Major Medical Plan; whereas, more responsibility would be placed on the employees. Mr. Yates reported that the Health Care Costs had escalated, due to major medical services requested by County employees and added that there had been an inflation in the medical rates.



**(6) APPROVAL OF THE EXTENSION OF ANNUAL CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND THE OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION (FIFTH JUDICIAL REGION) CONTRACT TERMS**

At this time, Judge Hinojosa expressed concern as to the appointment of Judge Darrell Hester which expired at the end of the year and as to the Contract if Judge Hester was not re-appointed.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that if the Fifth Judicial Region was allocated to another County, Cameron County would not be able to continue funding the office and staff, which was one and a half position.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the extension of the Annual Contract between Cameron County and the Office of Court Administration (Fifth Judicial Region) Contract Terms be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously.

**The Contract is as follows:**

**(14) IN THE MATTER OF THE MILEAGE  
REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST BY CONSTABLE  
PRECINCT NO. 7 (TABLED)**

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, presented a Mileage Log required by the Auditor's Office for mileage reimbursement and added that the log was required from all County employees, whether Elected or Appointed, noting that the Court needed to decide whether to apply the Mileage Reimbursement Policy for all County employees.

Commissioner Valencia stated that Constable Jimenez had been directed to submit the information required by the County Auditor and questioned whether the County Auditor had received the appropriate documentation to support the reimbursement.

Mr. Yates responded that a general statement reflecting the total miles driven by Constable Jimenez had been submitted.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the amount totaled \$4,506.40, for a period of nine months based on the .25 cents per mile for 22,532 miles. He added that prior to Constable Jimenez utilizing a County vehicle; the County was compensating him an annual amount of \$10,000.00, but noted that the amount being requested was significantly less than what would have been paid under the \$10,000.00 reimbursement plan. Judge Hinojosa noted that the amount requested was not unreasonable and added that it was difficult for Constable Jimenez to log the mileage, since he was on duty twenty-four hours a day.

Mr. Yates expressed concern as to the standards utilized for regular employees versus the standards for the Elected Officials and added that the requirements should be implemented for all County employees.

At this time, Mr. Dick Sturgell, Harlingen resident, expressed his concerns as regarding the mileage log which should be done on a daily basis and noted that the logs were also a requirement by the Internal Revenue Service.

Constable Alfredo Jimenez, Precinct No. 7, stated that he had been directed by the Court to submit an affidavit reflecting the mileage, as opposed to a specific form detailing the mileage.

Commissioner Cascos expressed his opposition as to the document submitted by Constable Jimenez and requested that a statement reflecting the accurate mileage should have been submitted.

Commissioner Benavides expressed his opposition to the request for reimbursement by Constable Jimenez and added that a Mileage Log should be required to be submitted to the Auditor's Office by all County employees.

Judge Hinojosa moved that the mileage reimbursement requested by Constable Precinct No. 7 be approved.

The motion died for the lack of a second.

At this time, Commissioner Cascos recommended that Constable Jimenez should try to provide documentation reflecting odometer readings, if possible, to the Auditor's Office.



- c) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning Cameron County Trustee Property, known as Abstract No. 2 - Barreda Gardens Pt., Lots No. 10 and No. 13, Block No. 18 and Abstract No. 2 - Barreda Gardens Pt., Lots No. 10 and No. 13, Block No. 18, 0.2800 acres; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- d) Confer with County Counsel concerning Right-of-Way acquisition for FM/509, Parcel No. 3; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- e) Confer with County Counsel concerning the case styled Edward Alcala vs. Alex Perez, et. al., Civil Action No. B-96-203, in the United States District Court - Brownsville, for discussion and authorization of settlement and plaintiff-s attorney-s fees; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(1)(A)(B);
- f) Confer with County Counsel concerning the case styled Alice Carlson vs. Cameron County, et. al., Civil Action No. B-00-071, in the United States District Court - Brownsville, for discussion; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(1)(A); and
- g) Confer with County Counsel concerning the Inmate Long Distance Services Contract, involving matters 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).

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session at 12:00 P.M.

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

- a) **Confer with County Counsel concerning the Real Property (Sea Ranch Restaurant Concession), involving breaches of the Concession Agreement.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Status Report by County Counsel was acknowledged concerning the Real Property (Sea Ranch Restaurant Concession), involving breaches of the Concession Agreement.

- b) **Confer with County Counsel and County Attorney regarding possible Tax Abatement Agreement for Project Star, involving matters 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 Valencia moved that the Status Report by County Counsel be acknowledged regarding the possible Tax Abatement Agreement for Project Star, involving matters 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.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

- c) **Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning Cameron County trustee property, known as Abstract No. 2 - Barreda Gardens Pt., Lots No. 10 and No. 13, Block No. 18 and Abstract No. 2 - Barreda Gardens Pt., Lots No. 10 and No. 13, Block No. 18, 0.2800 acres.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Status Report by the Property Management Coordinator was acknowledged regarding the Real Property concerning Cameron County trustee property, known as Abstract No. 2 - Barreda Gardens Pt., Lots No. 10 and No. 13, Block No. 18 and Abstract No. 2 - Barreda Gardens Pt., Lots No. 10 and No. 13, Block No. 18, 0.2800 acres.

- d) **Confer with County Counsel concerning Right-of-Way acquisition for FM/509, Parcel No. 3.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the Status Report by the County Engineer was acknowledged and the County Engineer was directed to proceed with the condemnation of Right-of-Way of FM/509, Parcel No. 3.

**The Agreement is as follows:**

- e) **Confer with County Counsel concerning the case styled Edward Alcala vs. Alex Perez, et. al., Civil Action No. B-96-203, in the United States District Court - Brownsville, for discussion and authorization of settlement and plaintiff's attorney's fees.**

Commissioner Cascos moved that County Counsel be directed to negotiate the settlement on part of the claims concerning the case styled Edward Alcala vs. Alex Perez, et. al., Civil Action No. B-96-203, in the United States District Court - Brownsville.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.

- f) **Confer with County Counsel concerning the case styled Alice Carlson vs. Cameron County, et. al., Civil Action No. B-00-071, in the United States District Court - Brownsville, for discussion.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Status Report by County Counsel was acknowledged concerning the case styled Alice Carlson vs. Cameron County, et. al., Civil Action No. B-00-071, in the United States District Court - Brownsville.

- g) **Confer with County Counsel concerning the Inmate Long Distance Services Contract, involving matters 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 Cascos moved that the County Auditor, the County Sheriff and County Counsel be directed to negotiate with the existing Service Provider on the possible extension of the Inmate Long Distance Services Contract, involving matters 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.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.



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

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**APPROVED** this **12<sup>th</sup>** day of **September, 2000**.

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

**ATTEST:**

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