

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CAMERON

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 19TH day of JUNE, 2001, there was conducted a REGULAR Public Meeting of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Cameron County, Texas, at the Courthouse thereof, in the City of Brownsville, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same.

THE COURT MET AT:

5:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

PEDRO "PETE" BENAVIDES
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1

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

DAVID A. GARZA
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3

NATIVIDAD "TIVIE" VALENCIA
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

Inelda T. Garcia 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 5:34 P.M. He then asked Mr. Bob Clark, Brownsville resident, for the invocation and Ms. Keta Caballero, Secretary of State Office, 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 June 15, 2001, at 9:33 A.M.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

(1) **PRESENTATION REGARDING CONSTRUCTION
STATUS OF LA FERIA COUNTY ANNEX**

Mr. Juan Bernal, Public Works Director/County Engineer, presented a Status Report regarding the construction of the La Feria County Annex Building; noting that 33% of the Project was complete, but was one (1) week behind schedule, due to inclement weather.

NOTE: JUDGE HINOJOSA JOINED THE MEETING.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the presentation regarding the construction status of the La Feria County Annex Building be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Report is as follows:

(2) **PRESENTATION BY MS. KETA CABALLERO,
SECRETARY OF STATE, TO INTRODUCE MR.
HENRY NEVARES, DIRECTOR OF BORDER
AFFAIRS AND MS. YVETTE SANCHEZ,
COORDINATOR OF COLONIA INITIATIVES**

Ms. Keta Caballero, Secretary of State Office, introduced Mr. Henry Nevares, Director of Border Affairs; Ms. Yvette Sanchez, Coordinator of Colonia Initiatives; and Mr. Eddie Zavala, Coordinator of Communications for Border Initiatives Affairs. The three (3) individuals represented the Secretary of State, Mr. Henry Cuellar, they gave a brief introduction of the work involved with their Offices, and the pending legislation concerning the Colonia Initiatives.

Ms. Yvette Sanchez, Coordinator of Colonia Initiatives, explained that Senate Bill 1296 would go before the voters in November, which included \$175 million bond money, appropriated for Colonia paving along the Mexican border. She noted that the Texas Department of Transportation (TX Dot) would be one of the agencies administering the program and recommended that the County identify the needs of the community, apply for the competitive grants and get the message out to the voters.

Judge Hinojosa noted that the legislation was critical for Cameron County, because a large percentage of the amount expanded for road construction had been in the colonia areas that have a high population concentration, adding that he would encourage the County to maximize the chances for the referendum to pass in November.

Upon motion by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the presentation by Ms. Keta Caballero, Secretary of State, to introduce Mr. Henry Nevares, Director of Border Affairs, Ms. Yvette Sanchez, Coordinator of Colonia Initiatives and Mr. Eddie Zavala, was acknowledged.

The Press Release is as follows:

ACTION ITEMS

(15) APPROVAL OF PURCHASE WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER FROM GOODYEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$305.20

At this time, Lt. Javier Peña, Chief of Investigations and Enforcement, explained that the purchase without a Purchase Order from Goodyear, in the amount of \$305.20, was due to the concern for the safety of the County employees, and in their judgement the tires were not safe.

Commissioner Cascos noted that the problem was not following the established procurement process and discussing the matter with the Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor for guidance.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the purchase without a Purchase Order from Goodyear, in the amount of \$305.20, be approved.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Garza, Valencia, and Judge Hinojosa,

NAY: Commissioner Cascos.

(3) APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND/OR SALARY SCHEDULES

Commissioner Benavides moved that the 2001 Fiscal Year Budget Amendment No. 2001-28 and the Salary Schedules for the County Sheriff's Department, Fund No. 100-5600, and Fund No. 580-5640, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.

The Budget Amendments and/or Salary Schedules are as follows:

[REDACTED]

(4) **IN THE MATTER OF POSSIBLE ACTION
REGARDING CAMERON COUNTY
REDISTRICTING PLAN (TABLED)**

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

[REDACTED]

(5) **POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING
MODIFICATIONS, ADDITIONS AND/OR
DELETIONS AT THE CAMERON COUNTY
DETENTION FACILITY AND SHERIFF-S
DEPARTMENT, AND ISSUES RELATED THERE
TO**

At this time, Mr. Randy Haas, Landmark Organization, presented a Status Report of the County Jail Facility, adding that he would be turning over the Sheriff-s facility to the County Engineer. He added that they were three (3) days away from completing the exterior concrete, parking lots and road on the Jail Facility, and that the Project was approximately 80% completed.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the Status Report concerning modifications and additions and/or deletions at the Cameron County Detention Facility and Sheriff-s Department, and issues related thereto, be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously.

The Report is as follows:

[REDACTED]

(6) **IN THE MATTER REGARDING CAMERON COUNTY AND CITIES CHALLENGING CENSUS 2000 COUNTS AND ISSUES RELATED THERE TO (TABLED)**

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

[REDACTED]

(7) **IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF COUNTY TRAVEL POLICIES (TABLED)**

Mr. Remi Garza, Assistant County Administrator, presented a Adraft@ copy of the Proposed Travel Policies and Procedures, and the suggestion was made to table the matter, in order to study the changes recommended. Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**, for one (1) week.

[REDACTED]

(8) **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND DYNACARE-SOUTHWEST LABORATORY SERVICES TO PROVIDE LABORATORY SERVICES**

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Contract for laboratory services to Cameron County was awarded to Dynacare-Southwest, Houston, Texas.

The Contract is as follows:

████████████████████

**(9) AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE CUVETTES
FROM HARTMANN MEDICAL, A SOLE SOURCE
SUPPLIER**

Commissioner Valencia moved that the purchase of cuvettes from Hartmann Medical, a sole source supplier, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

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**(10) AUTHORIZATION TO IMPLEMENT A
MORATORIUM ON SIGNS THAT ARE IN PLACE
WITHIN COUNTY PARKS, AS OF JUNE 7, 2001**

At this time, Mr. Javier Mendez, Parks System Director, explained that the sign policy was being modified due to problems that had been experienced, and requested to implement a moratorium on signs that were in place within County Parks, as of June 7, 2001.

Mr. Doug Wright, Commissioners-Court Legal Counsel, recommended modifying the sign policy for the Parks System, in order to review the legal issues and for the County concessionaires to be in compliance.

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the implementation of a Moratorium on signs, that are in place within County Parks as of June 7, 2001, was approved.

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**(11) IN THE MATTER OF FOR CAMERON COUNTY
TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH
DONALD D. FERGUSON, INC., FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A CONCRETE
FOUNDATION AT LA ESPERANZA PARK
(TABLED)**

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

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**(12) IN THE MATTER TO PURCHASE ONE HEWLETT-
PACKARD E3000/N44-100 MIDRANGE COMPUTER
SYSTEM UTILIZING TEXAS COOPERATIVE
PURCHASING NETWORK (TCPN) REGION IV
INTER-LOCAL PURCHASING AGREEMENT
(TABLED)**

Mr. Rudy Juarez, Computer Center Director, requested authorization to purchase one Hewlett - Packard E3000/N44-100 midrange Computer System, utilizing Texas Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN) Region IV Inter-Local Purchasing Agreement, and explained the urgent need for the upgrade. He noted that the financing sources had not been determined, and the suggestion was made to table the matter until the issues were resolved.

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**, for one (1) week.



**(13) APPROVAL OF RESERVE DEPUTY ORALIA DE
LA CRUZ MORENO FOR CONSTABLE PRECINCT
NO. 6**

Commissioner Valencia moved that Reserve Deputy Oralia De La Cruz Moreno for the Constable Precinct No.6, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Bonds are as follows:

(14) POSSIBLE RE-DESIGNATION OF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FROM COUNTY JUDGE-S DEFIBRILLATOR PROJECT TO CONSTABLE PRECINCT NO. 3

Mr. Remi Garza, Administrative Assistant, requested the re-designation of Local Law Enforcement Block Grant funds from the County Judge-s Defibrillator Project to Constable Precinct No. 3, for the purchase of a radar.

Upon motion by Commissioner Valencia, seconded by Commissioner Garza and carried unanimously, the Re-designation of Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Funds from the County Judge-s Defibrillator Project to Constable Precinct No. 3, was approved.

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.

At this time, Ms. JuaNita Brodecky, Rio Hondo resident, expressed her objections to the excessive travel by County employees.

Commissioner Valencia moved that the following A Consent@Agenda Items be approved as presented, with the exception of Item No. 23, and Item No. 26 Ad@ to be **TABLED**, and Item 26 Ag@ as modified.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Cascos, Garza, and Valencia,

NAY: None,

ABSTAIN: Judge Hinojosa as to Southwest Key Program, Warrant No. 57684, in the amount of \$13,881.94.

(16) Approval of County Claims:

Late Claim: Warrant No. 57747, as to Board of Regents University of Nevada, in the amount of \$1,187.00.

Affidavit follows:

(17) Approval to release a security for a total of \$2,000,000.00 at par, from the collateral package securing the deposits of the County, to First National Bank;

(18) Approval to hold a County Auction on Saturday, July 14, 2001, at the San Benito Precinct No. 3 location;

**(19) Authorization for the Parks System to submit Grant Application to the Coastal Coordination Council for grant cycle seven (7), under The Texas Coastal Management Program;
The Application is as follows:**

**(20) Authorization to submit application for State Financial Assistance for Beach Maintenance of Fiscal Year 2002;
The Application is as follows:**

**(21) Authorization to open bids/Proposal:
a) Food: Meats - Quarterly Bid No. 2170-3**

- (22) **Acceptance of Falcon Lane and Sparrow Lane, Precinct No. 3, located in San Carlos South Subdivision, into the County Road System;**
- (23) **In the matter to close Tecate Drive between Paso Real and North Dakota Avenue in Paso Real Subdivision; TABLED**
- (24) **Preliminary Approval:**
 - a) **Precinct No. 4 - Costilla Subdivision - Being a 2.909 acre tract of land, more or less, out of Block No. 22;**
 - b) **Precinct No. 3 - Amparo and Allen Subdivision - Being a Replat of 4.72 acres out of Lot No.2, Juan Moreno Estate Subdivision;**
 - c) **Precinct No. 3 - Darlo Subdivision - Being a Re-Subdivision of South 5.00 acres of Lot No. 3 of the North 2 of Survey No. 137, Stuart Place Subdivision; and**
 - d) **Precinct No. 2 - Meadow Brooke Subdivision - Being a Resubdivision of the North 33.72 acres of land more or less, out of Block No. 9, El Jardin Subdivision in Share No. 19, Espiritu Santo Grant.**
- (25) **Preliminary and final approval:**
 - a) **Precinct No. 3 - El Paraiso Subdivision - Being a subdivision of 4.00 acres of land and being the South 5.00 acres of the east one-half (2) of Block No. 225, of the San Benito Irrigation Company Subdivision.**

TRAVEL ITEMS

- (26) **AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL/OR APPROVAL OR TRAVEL EXPENSE FOR THE FOLLOWING (PLEASE NOTE: TRAVEL REQUESTS ARE SUBJECT TO ALL APPLICABLE COUNTY POLICIES):**
 - a) **Three (3) District Attorneys to attend the A17th Annual Advanced Criminal Law Course®, in Corpus Christi, Texas, on July 16 - 19, 2001;**
 - b) **Reproduction Director and employee to attend the ASouthwestern Graphics Seminar®, in San Antonio, Texas, on July 25-28, 2001;**
 - c) **Four (4) Assistant County Attorneys to attend the AProsecutor Trial Skills Course®, in Austin, Texas, on July 15-20, 2001;**
 - d) **In the matter of Elections Administrator to attend the AElections Center-s Professional Education Program®, in Baltimore, Maryland, on July 22-28,2001; (TABLED)**
 - e) **Elections Administrator and four (4) Employees, to attend the A19th Annual Election Law Seminar for Election/Voter Registration, in Austin®, Texas, on July 29- August 3, 2001;**
 - f) **Assistant County Attorney to attend the ATJPC-S Post-Legislative Conference®, in Austin, Texas, on June 16-21, 2001;**
 - g) **Assistant County Auditor to attend the AIFAS System Training®, in Chico, California, on July 16-21, 2001; and**
 - h) **Justice of The Peace Precinct No. 1 to attend the AJustice Of The Peace and Constable Convention®, in Arlington, Texas, on June 27-30, 2001.**

**(16) Approval of County Claims
Affidavit follows:**

- (19) Authorization for the Parks System to submit Grant Application to the Coastal Coordination Council for grant cycle seven (7), under The Texas Coastal Management Program;
The Request is as follows:**

**(20) Authorization to submit application for Beach Maintenance of Fiscal Year 2002;
The Application is as follows:**

[REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

(1) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 5, 2001**

Commissioner Cascos noted a correction to Page No. 3, of the Minutes, noting that the amount should read: \$1,683,000.00, and not \$1,683.00, and that the person that voted ANay@ on the Item should reflect Commissioner Benavides, instead of Commissioner Cascos.

Commissioner Garza moved that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 5, 2001, at 5:30 P. M., be approved with the modifications noted.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously.

[REDACTED]

There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Garza, seconded by Commissioner Valencia and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 7:20 P.M.

[REDACTED]

APPROVED this 3rd day of **JULY, 2001**.

[REDACTED]

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

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