

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING - FEBRUARY 23, 2015

On the 23rd day of February, 2015, there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioner' Court in the Courthouse, Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, with the following members present: C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr., County Judge; Jack Chaney, Commissioner, Precinct 1; Leslie "Bubba" Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2; Betty Stiles, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and Valerie K. Amason, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were Kristen Blanford, County Attorney; Bill Mills, Sheriff; Lezlie Kirk, County Auditor; Timilu Latham, Chief Deputy County Treasurer; Pam Heard, District Clerk; David Reid, Drainage Engineer; Pat Rousseau, Human Resources Director; Jerry Brundrett, County Surveyor; Collin Jackson, IT Director; David Vyoral, Road Administrator; Michael Geer, Airport Manager; John Strothman, Project Manager; James Jackson, Environmental Health Director; Ronelle Burke, Chief Animal Control Officer; C. J. Wax, Mayor; Barbara Gurtner, City Councilwoman and Kevin Carruth, City Manager.

The Meeting was convened at 9:00 a.m. at which time a quorum was declared by County Judge Mills, WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had and done to wit:

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS

City of Aransas Pass - Conn Brown Harbor Project

Sylvia Carrillo, City Manager of Aransas Pass, Texas presented the

development plans for "Harbor Towne", a partnership project with Hal Jones Development, LLC for the improvement of the Conn Brown Harbor area in Aransas Pass. Harbor Towne incorporates residential and commercial components, some of which include boat slips, an amusement park, condominium towers, restaurants, resort hotels and buildable lots for future affordable housing. There is a ten year build out for the commercial component and a fifteen year build out on the residential sections. At the end of the fifteen years they expect there will be five percent of a one hundred million value on the ground. Aransas County's help in supporting this project will be a financial benefit due to the Tax Increment Finance Zone being created. To date final numbers have not been worked out so information is lacking as to the proposed allocations. Commissioner Stiles questioned the minimal infrastructure and a concern regarding ingress/egress, if there were plans for widening the roads and also how many units are anticipated inside the development where there is only one way in and out. Ms. Carrillo stated the right-of-ways are in place and there are plans for four lane roads, replacement and/or repairs on bulk heads, water lines and sewer lines and she stated \$700 million is slated for three hundred property owners, \$4 million for four lane constructions in the resort hotel area, amusement park and concert venue. Commissioner Smith inquired, out of the \$700 million total value, how much of that infrastructure is financed through TIF. Ms. Carrillo stated fifty million is our estimate, the development has to outlast the plan, she wished she had more information on the TIF, but as the infrastructure standards are being created working with the developer and our city engineer the cost is fluctuating a little, Once they finish summarizing a lot of the different sides, the downstream impact of storm water, the sewer treatment plant and things like that, she would have a better number. Mr. Smith asked if the City of Aransas Pass has addressed

participation in that TIFF. Ms. Carrillo said no, that is what we are working on right now. We will have plans for police protection and fire protection obviously, but we are concentrating more on water treatment plants as well as elevated work parameter water surge issues. The City of Aransas Pass approved allocating one and one-half million dollars to Clean up which involves demolition of old buildings, pulling old pilings and closing out some of the environmental projects. Current projects we are working on with TCEQ and the GLO to resolve include the JBS remediation sites, Coastline Properties, Gulf King and LWR. LWR is being sought after for an ideal location for a terminal facility by the Port of Corpus Christi. Commissioner Smith asked if he understood correctly that in the ten year lease on all property there would be no fee simple transfer. Ms. Carrillo confirmed, no fee simple transfer, even on residential units. Commissioner Stiles asked how many spaces will be provided for trailers and also inquired again on the issue of traffic problems. Ms. Carrillo responded that another entire row will be allowed and we are also modifying this parking lot and making sure that the circulation stays in the parking lot and not on the street. We are working on State Highway 361 with TXDOT to clear a lot of the scrub brush and are also working with Nueces County on improving Light House Lakes Trail and Park at the eastern end of our border near Port Aransas Ferry Landing. The plan is to showcase "What is Aransas Pass". We are also working with FEMA and our levee is compromised. Huff Street serves as the levee at this time. FEMA has released our maps with an area of seclusion and HEP has given us a short window on which to address this. We will be working with a consultant to leverage any state or federal funds to resolve our Levee issue as well as use it as a method to showcase Aransas Pass. Commissioner Chaney stated the City of Aransas Pass is working with the San Patricio Drainage District on the North side issue where that

drainage comes in for miles down to a singular culvert under old Highway 35 and when it comes out it takes about 15 minutes for that culvert to close up. That is something that has to be addressed and is already being addressed by the City Council.

(Map inserted)

The 4th Annual "Rock the Dock" Event [The Largest Coastal In-Boat Show] to be held April 24-26, 2015

Mike and Jan Moore presenting: This event hosts a Boat and RV show in a special water venue to generate revenue for local businesses in the area. This is the fourth year for "Rock the Dock" and it is getting bigger and bigger every year. It is a family event open to the public with free parking and free admission. Three dealers from Aransas County participate in this event along with other area dealers. Last year 120 boats were sold. Vendors come from all over the state, staying in our hotels and eating at our restaurants bringing revenue in to the other business in our area as well.

"Fishing with Vets" Event to be held May 1-2, 2015

Mike and Jan Moore presenting: This event honors all veterans bringing them together to enjoy visiting and fishing. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Fisher House Foundation in San Antonio, Texas. Fisher House is built by United Way and then the keys are handed over. The VA pays for the administrator, a secretary and the utilities; everything else has to be donated, such as clothes, furniture, bedding and food. Fisher House has 10 rooms and is free of charge for the families of hospitalized Veterans.

(Presentation inserted)

ITEMS FOR DELIBERATION AND/OR ACTION

MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the minutes for the Workshop Meeting of February 3, 2015 and the Regular Meeting of February 9, 2015.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**FOURTH QUARTER 2014 REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE HISTORY CENTER
FOR ARANSAS COUNTY**

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the Fourth Quarter 2014 report from the Friends of the History Center for Aransas County.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

FOURTH QUARTER 2014 REPORT - AQUARIUM AT ROCKPORT HARBOR, INC.

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the Fourth Quarter 2014 Hotel Occupancy Tax Funds expended report for the Aquarium At Rockport Harbor, Inc.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

WALMART GRANT - LIBRARY

Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve a request from the Library Director, Iris Sanchez, to apply for a \$2,000.00 Wal-Mart Grant.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

2015 BUDGET - ANIMAL CONTROL

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve adopting the 2015 budget for the Animal Control department.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

(Budget inserted)

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT - ANIMAL CONTROL

Motion was made by County Judge and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the City of Rockport and Town of Fulton for Animal Control 2015.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

(Agreement inserted)

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT - ROADS

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve authorizing the Aransas County Judge to sign an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the City of Rockport for Roads 2015.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

(Contract inserted)

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign a Construction Contract awarding base bid amount of \$243,941.00 for Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Contract No. 713055 to Mercer Construction for the Doughty and Kossuth area for Sanitary Sewer Grant Improvements.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Contract inserted)

EMERGENCY 911/EMERGENCY TRANSFER SERVICE - HALO-FLIGHT, INC.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign a confirmation form for providing Emergency 911 or Emergency Transfer Service in a county other than the county of licensure with Halo-Flight, Inc.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Confirmation form inserted)

PLANNED USE DEVELOPMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to table this item.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PRELIMINARY PLAT

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to table this item.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PUBLIC OFFICIAL BOND

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Public Official Bond on **Timilu Latham**, Chief Deputy Treasurer.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Bond inserted)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve the Treasurer's Report for December 2014.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

TREASURER'S 4TH QUARTER 2014 INVESTMENT REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the Treasurer's 4th Quarter 2014 Investment Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

TREASURER' S REPORT

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2015.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve budget line item transfers.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Transfers inserted)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the Accounts Payable Report presented by the County Auditor.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Report inserted)

FEE REPORT

This item was not on the agenda and no action was taken.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &
DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Commissioner Stiles commented on the successful La Mardi Gras event this year, beautiful weather the first day and had a great turn out.

REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

None.

PRESS QUESTIONS

Norma Martinez, Managing Editor for the Rockport Pilot asked if the county is still looking to negotiate turning over animal control to the City of Rockport. Commissioner Stiles stated there would be no transfer, period.

The court did not hold closed session.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 9:56 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Smith duly seconded by Commissioner Stiles.

February 23, 2015

C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr. COUNTY JUDGE

VALERIE K. AMASON, COUNTY CLERK &
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT