



MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Aransas County Commissioners Court

9:00 AM – Monday, January 12, 2026

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on 12th DAY of JANUARY, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. AT THE ARANSAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 308 N. LIVE OAK, ROCKPORT, TEXAS, 78382. The meeting video recordings are available by following this link: Commissioners Court Minutes and Agendas (aransascountytexas.gov), then scroll to the bottom of the page and select the date you wish to view.

Present: **Ray A. Garza**, County Judge
Jack Chaney, Commissioner Precinct 1-1A
Leslie Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Robert Dupnik, Commissioner, Precinct 4-4A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Video Time 4:58

II. INVOCATION

Video Time 5:30

III. PLEDGES

Video Time 7:34

IV. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Video Time 8:09

V. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Video Time 8:23

☼ There were none.

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Approve Joint Proclamation #JP-01-2026, Recognizing the Year 2026 as a Semiquincentennial Celebration Year in Aransas County, the City of Rockport and the Town of Fulton – Judge Garza
Video Time 8:30
☼ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
☼ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

2. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the December 4, 2025 Special Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
3. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the December 8, 2025 Regular Meeting - Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
4. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the December 8, 2025 Workshop Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
5. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the December 22, 2025 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
☼ These were approved with a correction on item # 25.
☼ The motion to disapprove was passed 3-2
6. Discuss and accept a memorial donation in the amount of \$100.00 to the Aransas County Public Library given by Marshall & Catherine Bryant & Grace Braziel – Iris Sanchez/Judge Garza
Video Time 13:29

- ✧ **Motion to accept the consent agenda:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

VII. COUNTY REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

7. Report from the Courthouse, Community Center and Celebration Plaza Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on January 28, 2026 – Doreen Bronner/Judge Garza
Video Time 14:42
County Report from Aransas County Animal Care – 2025 Animal Care Annual Report – Caitlan Frazier/Judge Garza
Video Time 19:51
9. Discuss, approve or disapprove Order #O-01-2026, an Order of the County of Aransas, Texas, prohibiting Outdoor Burning for a period of up to sixty (60) days – Judge Garza
Video Time 36:08
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

IX. COUNTY ROADS AND FLOODPLAIN

10. Discuss, approve, or disapprove a request for a variance on County minimum lot size requirements to replat 127 Copano Heights Blvd from four lots into two lots – Katherine Comeaux/Judge Garza
Video Time 36:48
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
11. Discuss, approve or disapprove a request for a variance on County minimum lot size requirements to replat 1916 & 1920 Hardee St from two lots into one lot – Katherine Comeaux/Judge Garza
Video Time 37:34
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

X. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

12. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign Amendment 1 to the EKOS Agreement – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 38:25
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
13. Discuss, approve, or disapprove a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Marshals Service in which the Marshals Service agrees to reimburse Aransas County for up to \$5,000 in overtime expenses related to Aransas County Deputies serving warrants – Jack Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 40:04
 - ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
14. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign an agreement with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center, a 501c(3) non-profit organization, to provide interpreting services to

persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, low vision or deaf/blind on an “as needed” basis – Judge Garza

Video Time 41:16

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

XI. PLANNING AND BUDGET

15. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Report for December 2025
- Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 42:19

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

16. Discuss, approve or disapprove the funding for emergency food distribution needs to Aransas County Council on Aging with Health Care Sales Tax funds, changing their annual budget from \$60,000 to \$100,000 – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 43:43

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

17. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities –
Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 49:10

✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

XII. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND DEPARTMENT HEADS – NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Video Time 52:15

- ✧ Sheriff Mills
- ✧ Judge Garza
- ✧ Commissioner Dupnik
- ✧ Darrell Seibert
- ✧ Commissioner Rousseau
- ✧ Commissioner Chaney

XIII. REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST – NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Video Time 59:14

- ✧ Judge Garza – Open Ceremonies for the new courthouse
- ✧ Commissioner Rousseau – Maritime Museum

XIV. CLOSED SESSION

18. Convene into a Closed Session in accordance with Texas Government Code §551.071, 551.072 – 551.076, 551.086, 551.087, 551.089 to consult with counsel Marsha Perez of Chaves, Obregon & Perales, LLP, or other retained Counsel, on matters related to any items posted on this agenda, and receive legal

advice about pending settlement offers, or other attorney-client privileged matters that may be discussed in an Executive Session, including, but not limited to, the items listed below:

- i. Consult with outside legal counsel, Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP regarding proposed contractual terms related to the Interlocal Agreement among Aransas County, the City of Rockport and the Aransas County Navigation District concerning the City of Rockport's Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) No. 1; and
- ii. The Downtown Anchor Project, including the County's permissible actions under its various contracts and reports on proposed mediations, insurance claims, and /or formal review; and
- iii. Discuss personnel matters and update the Court on future plans involving this personnel matter, pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, PERSONNEL MATTERS; CLOSED MEETING
 - a) Consult with Legal counsel regarding a written demand submitted by Tamara Wren to the Aransas County Sheriff's Office, including legal rights, obligations and available legal options
 - b) This chapter does not require a governmental body to conduct an open meeting:
 - 1) To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or
 - 2) To hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee
 - c) Subsection a) does not apply if the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing, requests a public meeting.

Video Time 1:00:07

- ⊛ **Motion to move into closed session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
- ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

- ⊛ Judge Garza called for a fifteen-minute break prior to moving into closed session.

Video Time 1:02:49

XV. OPEN SESSION

19. Reconvene into Open Session – Judge Garza

Video Time 2:47:17

- ⊛ **Motion to reconvene into open session:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
- ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

20. Discuss and take action, if any, on matters discussed in Closed Session, including approval, modification, or disapproval of the Interlocal Agreement related to the City of Rockport's TIRZ No. 1 and authorization for the County Judge to execute the agreement – Marsha Perez/Judge Garza

Video Time 2:47:35

- ⊛ **There was no action taken.**

21. Discuss and take any action deemed appropriate following executive session regarding the demand of Tamara Wren, including direction to legal counsel – Marsha Perez/Judge Garza

Video Time 2:47:37

- ⊛ **Motion to approve taking action as discussed and approved in closed session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ⊛ Motion to reject the claim regarding a demand from Tamara Wren, and including our direction to the legal council as discussed.
- ⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

22. Motion to approve, allowing legal council Marsha Perez to take action as discussed in closed session pertaining to the Community Center, by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

- ✧ Marsh Perez, legal council asked Commissioner Rousseau to read agenda item 18 ii under "Closed Session," or that the motion pertains to that item.
- ✧ Amended motion: I move to approve Marsh Perez, legal council to take action as discussed in closed session pertaining to the Downtown Anchor Project including the County's permissible actions under its various contracts and reports on proposed mediation, insurance claims, and/or formal review as sighted in 18 ii, by Commissioner Rousseau, motions was seconded by Commissioner Chaney.
- ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

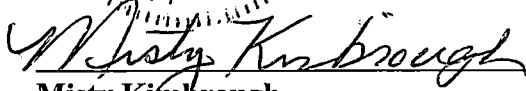
XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Video Time 2:49:18

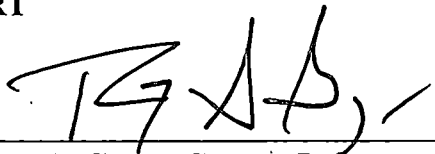
- ✧ **Motion to adjourn:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- ✧ **Meeting adjourned at 11:44 AM**

ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT




Misty Kimbrough,
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

1-26-26
Date signed and attestation.


Ray A. Garza, County Judge
1/26/2026
Date signed.