

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - MARCH 9, 2020

On the 9th day of March, 2020, there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioners' Court in the Commissioners' Courtroom, 2840 Hwy 35 N, 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; **Charles Smith**, Commissioner, Precinct 3; **Wendy Laubach**, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and **Valerie K. Amason**, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were **Alma Cartwright**, Treasurer; **Bill Mills**, Sheriff; **David Klanica**, Executive Assistant to the County Judge; **Barbara Hanson**, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge; **Jacky Cockerham**, Interim County Auditor; **Tana Taylor**, First Assistant County Auditor; **Latisha Murphy**, Assistant Auditor; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Rene Butler**, Facilities Director; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Christopher Randall**, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor; **Linda Doane**, Human Resources Director; **Elizabeth Guerra**, Human Resources Assistant; **Michele Carew**, Elections Administrator; **Lois White**, Chief Deputy Treasurer; **Lori Cesar**, Animal Control Director; **John Gutierrez**, Chief Deputy Sheriff; **Gavin Harrison** Training Coordinator for the Sheriff's Office; **Valerie Gonzalez** Environmental Health Director; **Long-Term Recovery Specialists: Will Whitson, Randall Freeze;**

Members of Local City Government, Community Groups and other Interested Parties present:

Aransas County Navigation District: Keith Barrett, Harbor Master;  
Malcolm Dieckow, Commissioner, Precinct 3;

City of Rockport Council Members: Barbara Gurtner, Ward 4;

Aransas County Citizens: Pat Rousseau; Ric Young; Patricia Asack;

The Rockport Pilot Newspaper: Mike Probst, Editor and Publisher;

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

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

**Pat Rousseau:** Concerning Agenda Item #'s 9 & 10, no information is given as to the purpose for which this will be used or the amount of money involved but since the Agenda Packet is not available to the public before the meeting maybe more information could be included on the Agenda for the public. As to Item #18, it is interesting that no new monies is involved, I don't know if this is attributed to attrition or what, but if you go up eight pay grades it seems that there would be an increase in the budget.

PRESENTATIONS

**1. Texas Association of Counties (TAC) Healthy County:**

**Biral Patel,** Wellness Consultant, presented The Benefits of Promoting Employee Health and Wellness through a Healthy County Committee.

(See Power Point)

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve:

2. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 24, 2020.
3. Official Public Blanket Bond for Aransas County Clerk.
4. Forming a Healthy County Committee with employee volunteers to help promote Healthy County participation.
5. Resolution R-02-2020, a Resolution encouraging Aransas County residents to participate in the 2020 Census.
6. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners' Court, Commissioners' Education Certificates of Completion for Lendon J. Chaney, Wendy Laubach, Leslie Casterline, and Charles Smith from the County Judges & Commissioners Association of Texas for successfully completing the continuing education provisions of Article 81.0025 of the Texas Local Government Code for 2019.
7. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners' Court, a Certificate of Course Completion from the Paternity Opportunity Program, certifying that Valerie K. Amason, County Clerk, has completed training on Acknowledgement of Paternity on March 04, 2020.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve awarding the Banty Lane

(Inserts)

construction contract, per Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) 7219007, to Mo-Con Services, Inc., the recommended bidder of the project engineer Hanson Professional Services, Inc.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign an Agreement with Texas Department of Agriculture for Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) 7219490.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign an Agreement with Texas Department of Agriculture for Colonia Fund Construction, Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) 7219025.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve and authorize Fleet Maintenance to advertise for proposals for the county fuel system.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to TABLE authorizing County Judge to sign an Amended Medical Services Agreement with Lone Star Ambulance 1, dba Allegiance Ambulance, for a one year period with a cost of \$196,674.00.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign an Agreement with Strand Engineering for design and engineering services for Pathways Southern Trail Project.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve distribution to Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), first payment of \$6,345.00, local match for Aransas Pathways Southern Trail Project, funds from a bond for venue capital projects.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to TABLE authorizing the County Judge to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Aransas County Navigation District to provide grant funds budgeted from FEMA Hazardous Mitigation 404 grant program, benefitting the Little Bay drainage target area.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the February 2020 Indigent Health Care Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve renewing Property and Casualty Insurance Coverage for Aransas County with GSM Insurers/Regional Pool Alliance and authorizing payment of invoice for the same.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

18. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve reclassifying one of the Detention Center Medical Assistant/Med-Aide positions pay grade 12 to a LVN (Licensed Vocational Nurse) position, pay grade 20. No new monies.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Budget Line Item Transfers and Amendments due to unforeseen emergencies with disaster recovery, necessary to amend the Aransas County 2020 Budget.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**(Inserts)**

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities including \$355,185. Insurance Premium.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

**REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &**

**DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN**

**Michele Carew:** I'd like to report that everything went smoothly on Election Day, our voter turnout was down by 10 1/2% compared to the 2016 Election. We did have one polling site that had a line, the propositions slowed the process some, but no one complained and wanted to change locations when they were told that the other sites were not busy, we did have a complaint from someone that cast their ballot and someone they wanted to vote for was not on the ballot, but there is nothing we can do about that. If there were any complaints sent to you I would be happy to address them, the State asks that I submit a report so if there are any complaints that I need to share with the State, if you know of any please share with me so I can relay it to them.

**Commissioner Casterline:** It appears that the Oysterfest was successful this year.

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*No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 9:50 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney.*

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March 9, 2020



*[Handwritten signature]*

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C. H. "BURT" MILLS, JR., COUNTY JUDGE



*Valerie K. Amason*

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VALERIE K. AMASON,

EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT