



MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Aransas County Commissioners Court

9:00 AM, July 28, 2025

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on **28th DAY of JULY, 2025 at 9:00 P.M. AT THE ROCKPORT AQUARIUM EDUCATION CENTER LOCATED AT 706 NAVIGATION CIRCLE, ROCKPORT, TEXAS, 78382.** The meeting video recordings are available by following this link: [Commissioners Court Minutes and Agendas \(aransascourttx.gov\)](https://aransascourttx.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
Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Absent: **Leslie Casterline**, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Robert Dupnik, Commissioner, Precinct 4-4A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Video Time 5:41

II. INVOCATION

Video Time 5:55

III. PLEDGE

Video Time 6:40

IV. ROLL CALL

⊛ Commissioner Casterline & Commissioner Dupnik were absent

Video Time 7:08

V. DECLARE QUORUM

Video Time 7:19

VI. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Video Time 7:25

⊛ There were none

VII. ITEMS FOR DELIBERATION AND/OR ACTION

1. Presentation on the Wings Rescue Center in Aransas County – Kay Adams/Judge Garza
Video Time 7:31
⊛ Kay Adams, with Wing Rescue Center in Aransas County

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

2. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the July 14, 2025 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
3. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court the V.G. Young Institute of County Government's Certificate of Completion to Commissioner Leslie

“Bubba” Casterline for successfully completing 4 hours of Emergency Management Educational Training at the 91st Annual South Texas CJCA Conference –

Commissioner Casterline

4. Acknowledge and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a donation of \$100.00 for Aransas Pathways received from Rhonda Mieth in appreciation of the Kayaks at Sunset event held June 21st at Howard Murph Park –
Melissa Zieschang/Rene Butler/Commissioner Rousseau
5. Acknowledge and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a donation from the Friends of the Aransas County Public Library in the amount of \$375.84 for the cost and placement of an electric power pole and breaker in the Library for the Pod Carrels – Iris Sanchez/Judge Garza
6. Discuss, approve or disapprove allowing the Aransas County Public Library to donate 330 discarded books to the Friends of the Aransas County Public Library for their on-going book sale – Iris Sanchez/Judge Garza

Video Time 16:26

- ★ **Motion to accept the consent agenda:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

- ★ Judge Garza struck item # 9

Video Time 17:34

IX. COUNTY REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

7. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Friends of the Fulton Mansion 2nd Quarter 2025 Report – Jane Hill/Judge Garza
Video Time 17:49
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered
8. Discuss, approve or disapprove Resolution #R-28-2025, a Resolution of Aransas County, Texas, certifying that the County has made a \$50,000 grant to Aransas County Council of Aging, an organization that provides home-delivered meals to homebound persons in the County who are elderly and/or have a disability, and certifying that the County has approved the organization’s accounting system or fiscal agent – Debbie Thompson/Judge Garza
Video Time 24:33
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered
9. Discuss, approve or disapprove Resolution #R-29-2025, a Resolution of the Aransas County Commissioners Court regarding the appointment of members to the Board of Directors of the Aransas County Appraisal District – Judge Garza
 - ★ **Struck by Judge Garza** Video Time 17:34
10. Discuss, approve or disapprove Hiring Resolution #R-30-2025, to award the contract to Stantec for improvements to Linda S. Castro and the Airport Kayak sites as previously approved at the May 12, 2025 Commissioners Court meeting, and to authorize the County Judge to execute necessary documents, provide for severance of invalid provisions and confirm compliance with the Open Meeting Act - Commissioner Pat Rousseau

Video Time 26:07

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

X. COUNTY ROADS AND FLOODPLAIN – NONE

XI. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

11. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with REAL Transportation for evacuation assistance during disasters – Mike Geer/Judge Garza

Video Time 27:38

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

12. Discuss, approve or disapprove and authorize County Judge to sign G&W Engineers Amendment No. 03 as a contract extension of time through 09/03/2025, unless amended or extended by action of Commissioners Court. G&W Engineers provides professional services for three, FEMA, disaster recovery - approved generator projects via Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Sub-Awards with TDEM (Texas Division of Emergency Management). The generator projects are the Airport Field Lighting Generator, DR-4332-0197; the Road & Bridge Office Generator, DR-4332-0202; and the Transfer Station Generator, DR-4332-0203 – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 29:59

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

13. Discuss, approve or disapprove extending the Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement between Rockport Property Entity, LLC, EVC-CC Land Holdings, LLC, and Aransas County, Texas by fourteen (14) days for the purchase of approximately 972.952 acres of land out of the A6 Joseph Fessenden Survey, J. Smith Survey, and A14 Anselmo Bergara Survey, near Cape Valero and 1751 FM in Aransas County, for Two Million Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$2,350,000.00), to provide additional time, if necessary, to finalize the agreement for the receipt of grant funds from the GOMESA Program, CMP Cycle 29 for Projects of Special Merit, and authorize the County Judge to execute necessary documents – Katherine Comeaux/Judge Garza

Video Time 38:21

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
- ★ **Amended motion to correct the address:** to read as 1751 FM 1781 in Aransas County, by Commissioner Chaney, seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
- ★ **Vote on amended motion:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

14. Discuss, approve or disapprove the FY2026/2027 Interlocal Agreement with the Regional Public Defender's Office for Capital Criminal Cases, funded in part by the Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC) Multi-Year Discretionary Grant Program Funds and in part by Program Participants, to provide court-appointed counsel for individuals charged with the offense of capital murder in the participating counties and who cannot afford to hire their own attorney; Cost for services is based on our 2020 census numbers and the latest

ten-year capital case data reported by our District Clerk (Oct. 1, 2010 – Sept. 30, 2020) with \$5,661.00 being Aransas County's cost share – Amanda Oster/Judge Garza

Video Time 41:18

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

★ Commissioner Rousseau requested to add the address for the County Judge's Office

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

15. Discuss, approve or disapprove an Additional Services Fee Proposal for Broadus & Associates for the new Aransas County Courthouse – Judge Garza

Video Time 42:57

★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Judge Garza

★ **Motion to table by Judge Garza:** Commissioner Chaney amended motion to table, seconded by Commissioner Rousseau

★ **Vote on amended motion:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

16. Discuss, approve or disapprove DLF Two, Inc.'s Change Order No. 014 for the Aransas County Community Building/Plaza/Parking Lot General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Contract #20-065-098-C270. This change order will extend the contract time by 103 days to August 11, 2025 – Elle Morales/Judge Garza

Video Time 48:42

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

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

17. Discuss, approve or disapprove selecting and hiring Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. based on County Staff recommendation, to complete a USACE (United States Army Corp. of Engineers) Permit Extension Request #SWG-2019-00743 in the amount of \$5,429.00 and authorize the County Judge to sign all necessary documents. The current USACE permit expires on 12/31/2025 for the Aransas County Lamar Beach Road Phase II Flood Protection project; FEMA disaster recovery project No. DR-4332-0015-TX Hurricane Harvey; Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Phase II Sub-Grant Award for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – Elle Morales/Judge Garza

Video Time 52:30

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

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

18. Discuss, approve or disapprove an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2025-2026 between Aransas County, Texas and the Town of Fulton, Texas – Anna Marshall/Judge Garza

Video Time 55:07

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

★ Commissioner Rousseau requested to correct the address for the County Judge's Office for this agreement and the following four agreements.

★ **Vote on amended motion:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

19. Discuss, approve or disapprove an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2025-2026 between Aransas County, Texas and the City of Rockport, Texas – Anna Marshall/Judge Garza

Video Time 56:18

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

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

20. Discuss, approve or disapprove an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2025-2026 between Aransas County, Texas and the Aransas County Navigation District – Anna Marshall/Judge Garza

[Video Time 56:43](#)

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

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

21. Discuss, approve or disapprove an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2025-2026 between Aransas County, Texas and the Rockport-Fulton Independent School District – Anna Marshall/Judge Garza

[Video Time 57:06](#)

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

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

22. Discuss, approve or disapprove an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Tax Assessment and Collection of Property Tax in 2025-2026 between Aransas County, Texas and the Municipal Utility District No. 1 – Anna Marshall/Judge Garza

[Video Time 57:27](#)

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

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

★ **Judge Garza called for a six-minute break**

[Video Time 57:50](#)

★ **Judge Garza called the meeting back into session**

[Video Time 1:05:16](#)

XII. PLANNING AND BUDGET

23. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the June 2025 Treasurer's Report – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

[Video Time 1:05:20](#)

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

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

24. Discuss, approve or disapprove 2nd Quarter Aransas County Treasurer's Investment Report – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

[Video Time 1:05:45](#)

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

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

25. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing County Judge to sign the Optional Health Care Services Notification for Aransas County Indigent Health Care optional services allowed for the fiscal year September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. There are no changes in services covered – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:08:28

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered
26. Discuss, approve or disapprove allowing the Information Technology department to seek proposals to develop and launch a new County Website – Collin Jackson/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:09:22

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered
27. Discuss, approve or disapprove implementing a County Specific Wellness Incentive Program beginning October 1, 2025 – Desiree Upton/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:11:50

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered
28. Discuss, approve or disapprove the updates to the Aransas County Employee Handbook – Desiree Upton/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:13:31

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ★ **Amended motion to table:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
 - ★ **Vote on amended motion:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered
29. Discuss, approve, or disapprove the Budget Line Items Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:18:45

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
 - ★ **Amended to read:** Budget Line-Item Transfers
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered
30. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:19:19

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

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

Video Time 1:24:10

- ★ Judge Garza, Introduced Ashlee Sims, new Administrative Assistant
- ★ Desiree Upton

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

Video Time 1:25:25

- ★ Pam Hernandez, with REAL Transportation

XV. CLOSED SESSION

31. Convene into a Closed Session in accordance with Texas Government Code §551.071 to consult with counsel and receive legal advice about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or other attorney-client privileged matters, including, but not limited to, any items posted on this Agenda and the items listed below:
- i. *Aransas County Texas v. Endurance American Specialty Insurance Company, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 23-0021; and
 - ii. *Northstar Recovery Service, Inc. v. Aransas County Independent School District and Aransas County*; Aransas County, District Court Cause No. 23-0066 consolidated with *Northstar Recovery Services, Inc. v. HR&R, LLC, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 20-0159; and
 - iii. *Western Steel Company v. T2J Partners, LLC DIE/A FPS Recovery, LLC and Aransas County, Texas*: Cause No. 24-0072 in the 36th District Court of Aransas County, Texas; and
 - iv. *Oldcastle Building Envelope, Inc. D/B/A Graham Architectural Products v. Sharp Glass, LLC, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 24-0099; and
 - v. 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

Discuss a personnel matter 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) 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.
- (b) Subsection (a) does not apply if the office or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public meeting – Judge Garza

[Video Time 1:29:29](#)

★ **Motion to move into closed session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

★ **Judge Garza Called for a five-minute break**

[Video Time 1:32:56](#)

XVI. OPEN SESSION

32. Reconvene into Open Session

[Video Time 1:39:35](#)

★ **Motion to reconvene into open session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

★ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

33. Discuss, approve or disapprove taking action or issuing instructions to the County Attorney's Office to act on the County's behalf regarding any of the pending matters

identified for Closed Session and authorizing County Attorney's Office to act accordingly
– Amanda Oster/Adela Martinez/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:39:43

⊛ **Judge Garza: no action to be taken from closed session**

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

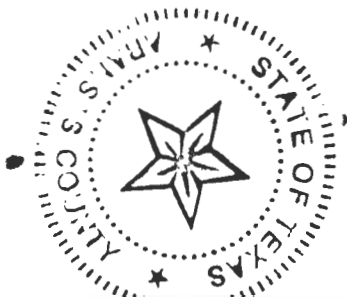
Video Time 1:39:47

⊛ **Motion to adjourn:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by
Commissioner Chaney

⊛ **Vote:** Motion carried 3-0: it was so ordered

⊛ **Meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM**

ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT



Misty Kimbrough

**Misty Kimbrough,
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court**

8/4/25

Date signed and attestation.

Ray A. Garza, County Judge

8/04/2025

Date signed.