

MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Aransas County Commissioners Court



9:00 AM – Monday, October 13, 2025

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on 13th DAY of October, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.
AT THE ARANSAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 2718 HWY. 35 NORTH, 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, *was late and came in at Video Time 10:03*
Leslie Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Robert Dupnik, Commissioner, Precinct 4-4A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Video Time 5:16

II. INVOCATION

Video Time 5:31

III. PLEDGES

Video Time 6:57

IV. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Video Time 7:24

V. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Video Time 7:44

☺ There were none

VI. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Presentation by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agents and 4-H Youth of Proclamation #P-14-2025, a Proclamation designating October 5 – 11, 2025 as National 4-H Week in Texas – Melinda Cobb/Judge Garza
Video Time 7:53
2. Accept Proclamation #P-15-2025 Recognizing October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month – Judge Garza
Video Time 12:19
3. Presentation from Gary Guillory, Co-Chair, about the Restore Little Bay Initiative. This is a Tier 1 project approved a few years ago by the General Land Office (GLO) in the Clean Coast Texas Program. Including governmental entities, individuals, and stakeholders, this group addresses best practices to resolve environmental challenges and restore and preserve the bay's historical and ecological significance – Commissioner Pat Rousseau
Video Time 14:24
4. Discuss, approve or disapprove the recommendation of the Aransas Pathways Steering Committee's (APSC) Selection Committee of placing a sculpture by Kirk Seese at Linda S. Castro Nature Site. This sculpture is funded by a donation from Matt Corpora in memory of his mother, Debra Corpora – Jim Farnsworth, Rene Butler, Commissioner Pat Rousseau
Video Time 36:59

- ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
- ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

5. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the September 22, 2025 Public Hearing Meeting for the 2025 Tax Rate – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
6. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the September 22, 2025 Public Hearing Meeting for the 2026 Budget – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
7. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the September 22, 2025 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza
8. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the September 29, 2025 Special Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza

Video Time 40:49

- ✧ **Motion to accept the consent agenda:** by Commissioner Rousseau; motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
- ✧ Commissioner Rousseau noted a mistake in VI, 9-22-25 Regular Meeting minutes, correction to change the name Mark Ocker to Matt Ocker, this will be corrected prior publishing those minutes.
- ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

VIII. COUNTY REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

9. The Governmental Collector Association of Texas (GCAT) Awarded Melissa Brown, the Aransas County Collections Specialist, the 2025 Collector of the Year – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza

Video Time 41:41

IX. COUNTY ROADS AND FLOODPLAIN – NONE

X. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

10. Discuss, approve or disapprove entering into an Interlocal Agreement for emergency and disaster response between the Aransas County Sheriff's Department and the Rockport-Fulton Independent School District (ISD) and authorize the County Judge to sign all necessary documents – Sheriff Mills/ Judge Garza

Video Time 43:37

- ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
11. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Procurement Specialist to solicit for engineering and design for construction and relocation of the airport bulk fuel farm – Mike Geer/Judge Garza

Video Time 45:20

- ✧ **Judge Garza** struck this item from the agenda
12. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Airport Surface Observation System (ASOS) equipment – Mike Geer/Judge Garza

Video Time 45:26

- ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
- ✧ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

13. Discuss, approve or disapprove request to solicit Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Firm(s) for future capital projects – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza
Video Time 47:06
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
14. Discuss, approve or disapprove Resolution #R-38-2025, Designation of the County Judge as the Authorized Official and contact person to apply for, accept, decline, modify, or cancel the Indigent Defense Grant Program. The County Auditor is designated as the Financial Officer for this grant – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 52:11
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
15. Discuss, approve or disapprove Ratifying the County Judge's Signature on the Execution of Documents for Amendment No. 1 to the GLO Contract No. 24-065-128-E986 – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 53:41
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
16. Discuss, approve or disapprove accepting the Statement of Qualification (SOQ) and awarding Electrical Engineering Services to Garver for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Generator Environmental Health Project 2025 – Elle Moralez/Eric Smith/Judge Garza
Video Time 54:58
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
17. Discuss, approve or disapprove the acceptance and authorize the County Judge to execute all necessary documents related to the \$500,000 Notice of Award for the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act (CERPA) 1825 Lamar Beach Road Feasibility Study and Alternatives Analysis Project for Aransas County, Texas. This project includes the Lamar Beach Road Drainage, a FEMA disaster recovery-approved project No. DR-4332-0015 via sub-award agreement with TDEM (Texas Division of Emergency Management) as a HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Project) – Elle Moralez/Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 57:18
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
18. Discuss, approve or disapprove the acceptance of the bid tabulation and award the Contract to Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. for the Government Land Office (GLO) – Coastal Erosion Planning & Response Act (CEPRA) 1825 Lamar Beach Road Feasibility Study and Alternatives Analysis Project for Aransas County, Texas. This project includes Lamar Beach Road Drainage, a FEMA disaster recovery-approved project No. DR-4332-0015 via sub-award agreement with TDEM (Texas Division of Emergency Management) as a HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Project) – Elle Moralez/Eric Smith/Judge Garza
Video Time 58:47

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 19. Discuss, approve or disapprove and authorize the County Judge to sign all necessary documents between Aransas County and Anchor QEA for Addendum No. 1, adding \$31,000 for additional services required in response to the request from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the Shell Ridge Road Flood Protection Phase II project USACE permit extension. Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) funding is being utilized for the re-engineering design and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit extension request. Aransas County's Federal Emergency Management Agency/Texas Division of Emergency Management – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (FEMA/TDEM-HMGP) Sub-Award grant agreement #DR-4332-016 provides federal funding for grant management and construction of the project – Elle Moralez/Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:00:46
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- XI. PLANNING AND BUDGET**
- 20. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Report for September 2025 – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:03:39
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 21. Discuss, approve or disapprove the formation of the Assistant Director position for the Information Technology Department. No new monies – Collin Jackson/Desiree Upton/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:04:09
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 4-1: Commissioner Rousseau voted nay, it was so ordered
- 22. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Aransas County Navigation District proposal for 2025/2026 No New Revenue Tax Rate of \$0.030599/\$100 – Judge Garza
Video Time 1:12:28
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 23. Discuss, approve or disapprove the September 2025 Auditor's Monthly Report - Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:13:44
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 24. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:15:50
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

- ★ **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 1:19:32

- ★ Judge Garza
- ★ Josh Nguyen, Director of Navigation District
- ★ Commissioner Dupnik
- ★ Commissioner Casterline

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

Video Time 1:25:14

- ★ There were none

XIV. CLOSED SESSION

25. Convene into a Closed Session in accordance with Texas Government Code §551.071 to consult with counsel Marsha Perez, Chaves, Obregon & Perales, LLP, 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
- vi. Discuss 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 of 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 1:25:23

- ★ **Motion to convene into closed session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner

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

Video Time 1:28:12

- ★ **Judge Garza called for a 10-minute break before going into closed session**

XV. OPEN SESSION

26. Reconvene into Open Session

Video Time 1:38:19

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

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

27. Discuss and take action on matters discussed in closed session – Marsha Perez/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:38:38

- ★ **Motion to approve taking action as discussed and approved in closed session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

- ★ **Action:** Hire Dayna Justice as the Commissioner Court Legal Liasson, at a salary of pay group 22, step 5. This is a one-step increase from her current salary.

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

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Video Time 1:39:13

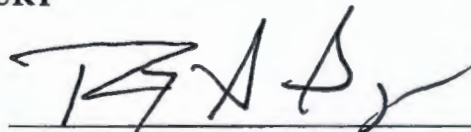
- ★ **Motion to adjourn:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau

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

- ★ **Meeting adjourned at 11:18 AM**

ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

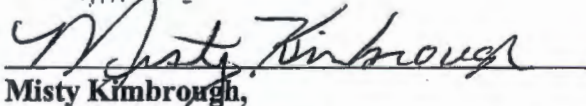




Ray A. Garza, County Judge

10/27/2025

Date signed.



Misty Kimbrough,

Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

10-27-25

Date signed and attestation.

