

MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Aransas County Commissioners Court



9:00 AM – Monday, December 22, 2025

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on **22nd DAY of DECEMBER, 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 \(aransascourttx.gov\)](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
Leslie Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Robert Dupnik, Commissioner, Precinct 4-4A

I. CALL TO ORDER

[Video Time 4:37](#)

II. INVOCATION

[Video Time 4:53](#)

III. PLEDGES

[Video Time 6:16](#)

IV. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

[Video Time 6:43](#)

V. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

[Video Time 6:54](#)

★ *There were none*

VI. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

★ *There were none*

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Acknowledge and accept donation of Steve Russell's original palette knife Sailor painting donated by Judge Burt Mills, valued at \$5,000, and to be placed in the new Courthouse – Judge Garza
2. Acknowledge and accept donation of Steve Russell's Railroad Depot giclee, valued at \$225 and donated by the Rockport Cultural Arts District to be placed in the new Courthouse - Jennifer Day/Judge Garza
3. Discuss, approve or disapprove accepting a donation to the airport from Jerry and Katrina Brown of a 1998 Ford Econoline Van valued at \$2,000.00, a table saw valued at \$100.00, and a drill press valued at \$100.00 – Mike Geer/Judge Garza
4. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court – 2025 Continuing Education Transcript of Completion and Compliance with Texas Property Tax Code Section 6.23(d) for Anna Marshall, Tax Assessor-Collector – Anna Marshall/Judge Garza
5. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court the District Judge's Salary Order for the County Auditor and Auditor staff for Fiscal Year 2026 – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
6. Set Terms for Commissioners Court for 2026 [2nd and 4th Mondays (or Tuesday for Monday holidays) of each month, except for August when Court will be held every Monday] – Judge Pro-Tem Casterline/Judge Garza
7. Set Terms for Statutory County Court for 2026 (two terms – January to June and July to December) – Judge Bianchi/Judge Pro-Tem Casterline/Judge Garza

8. Set Terms for JP (Justice of the Peace) Courts for 2026 (one month terms beginning the fourth Monday of each month – Judge Dupnik, Judge McGinnis/Judge Pro-Tem Casterline/Judge Garza

Video Time 7:03

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

VIII. COUNTY REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

9. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Appointments/Reappointments for a three-year term per Resolution R-30-2023A to the Aransas Pathways Steering Committee of the following:

Jim Farnsworth, Kayaks, reappoint
Steve Ferguson, Mater Naturalist – Mid-Coast Chapter, new appointee
Dr. Rebekah Rylander, birding, reappoint
Shelly Steckler, at-large/Aransas First, reappoint
Dr. Pam Stranahan, history, reappoint
Commissioner Rousseau/Judge Garza

Video Time 8:27

- ★ **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 authorizing the County Judge to sign Order #O-21-2025 accepting encroachment at 210 Bermuda Drive and filing with the Aransas County Clerk's Office to attach to the Property Plat – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

Video Time 10:52

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
- ★ There is an error on the order that will be corrected to be the same as it is on the agenda.
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

I. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

11. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to execute documents necessary to complete the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement True-Up Order, through SHI Government Services under the Texas Department of Information Resources Cooperating Contracts Program (DIR CPO), Contract No. DIR-CPO-5237 as required on each anniversary of the three-year agreement executed in December of 2023. No new monies – Collin Jackson/Judge Garza

Video Time 12:52

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

12. Discuss, approve, or disapprove authorizing the procurement Nutanix, with required hardware, software, and support services to replace the current Broadcom VMware System and utilizing WayPoint as our reseller partner, to deploy and install the solution under the Interlocal Purchasing System "TIPS", Contract #230105 and Texas Department of Information Resources Cooperative Purchasing Office Contract (TC DIR CPO) #5792 – Collin Jackson/Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 14:48

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 4-1, Commissioner Rousseau voted nay: it was so ordered

13. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign the Equipment Addendum to the AvFuel Aviation Fuel Supply Agreement – Mike Geer/Judge Garza

Video Time 23:55

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik

- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
14. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the Airport Manager and the County Procurement Specialist to solicit Engineering Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Airport Fuel Farm Project – Mike Geer/Judge Garza
Video Time 24:50
★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
15. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign a two-year land lease agreement with Bushnell Aviation, Inc. for a surveyed parcel of approximately 1,096 square feet at the Aransas County Airport, Commencing January 1, 2026 – Mike Geer/Judge Garza
Video Time 25:49
★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
16. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign a two-year lease agreement with Bushnell Aviation, Inc. for approximately 3,300 square feet of hangar space at the Aransas County Airport, commencing January 1, 2026 – Mike Geer/Judge Garza
Video Time 30:43
★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
17. Discuss, approve or disapprove a request from Community Development to apply for the Q4 T-Mobile grant to fund a furniture purchase for the Aransas County Community Center Building, and research and apply for additional grant funding opportunities for furniture – Elle Morales/Judge Garza
Video Time 32:27
★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
18. Discuss, approve or disapprove that Garza/Bomberger & Associates (GBA) complete 100% aquarium design plans as presented by Roy Lewis on October 27, 2025, at the Aransas County Commissioners Court – Elle Morales/Judge Garza
Video Time 33:17
★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
19. Discuss, approve or disapprove accepting the Geotechnical Services Proposal from UES Professional Solutions 45 as the lowest-cost proposal received – Elle Morales/Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 34:45
★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
20. Discuss, approve or disapprove Amendment No. 1 to the General Land Office (GLO) Contract No. 25-047-000-E868, as a contract to transfer funds in an amount not to exceed \$2,430,050.00 to Aransas County for the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Beneficial Use of Material – CAP204 Project, and authorize the County Judge to sign all necessary documents – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 35:30
★ **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 accepting responsive Engineering firms for the On-Call Engineering Services Pool for Aransas County Capital Projects and creating a pre-approved pool consisting of the five (5) highest scoring Engineering Firms in each specialty with an initial term valid from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, with one-year optional renewal with the approval of the Aransas County Commissioner's Court – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza
Video Time 38:00
★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

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

22. Discuss, approve or disapprove Hiring Resolution #R-42-2025 for the On-Call Engineering Services Pool for Aransas County Capital Projects – Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

Video Time 39:55

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

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

23. Discuss, approve or disapprove adoption of the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Rockport, Aransas County, and Aransas County Navigation District related to the City of Rockport's Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) #1 and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement – Commissioner Rousseau

Video Time 41:07

★ **Motion to disapprove this version of the document presented:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

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

XI. PLANNING AND BUDGET

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

Video Time 47:05

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

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

25. Discuss, approve or disapprove new job descriptions for the County Attorney's support staff. These job descriptions provide for cross coverage between support staff positions for the Administrative Assistants, Legal Assistant, Lead Paralegal, Paralegal, and combines the main duties of the Office Manager and Victim Assistance Coordinator. This helps reach the goals expressed by the salary study of having accurate and proper job descriptions – Amanda Oster/Judge Garza

Video Time 47:30

★ **Motion to disapprove:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Judge Garza

★ **Vote:** Motion to disapproved carried 3-2; Commissioner Chaney, Commissioner Dupnik, voted nay: the motion to disapprove carried.

26. Discuss, approve or disapprove job placement of newly approved job descriptions with current staff to: Legal Assistant & VAC 2 - Kristy Silva 16-2; Office Manager and Victim Assistance Coordinator – Sara Bell 21-2; Lead Paralegal – Sabrina Austell 19-6; Paralegal – JoAnn Juarez 18-8 – Amanda Oster/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:12:49

★ **Judge Garza struck them from the agenda**

27. Discuss, approve or disapprove the 2026 Grant and Financial Policies as presented:

1. Section 3 and Economic Opportunities Policy
2. Code of Conduct
3. Fraud Detection
4. Fixed Asset Methodology
5. Aransas County Environmental Grant
6. Fund Balance
7. Aransas County Financial Policy and Procedures
8. Cash Handling
9. GASB 34 Uncollectible Receivables Policies
10. Excessive Force Policy
11. Civil Rights Policy
12. Hazard Communication Policy

Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:12:59

- ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 28. Discuss, approve or disapprove Resolution R-41-2025 Adopting the Section 3 and Economic Opportunities Policy – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:14:32
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 29. Discuss, approve or disapprove the 2026 Internal Control Policy for the System Award Management (SAM) Procedures – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:15:21
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 30. Discuss, approve or disapprove the November 2025 Auditor’s Monthly Report – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:16:25
 - ★ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
 - ★ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- 31. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:19:19
 - ★ **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 1:21:33
★ Judge Garza

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

Video Time 1:23:06
★ None

XIV. CLOSED SESSION

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. 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
- ii. 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) 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.

iii. Shell Ridge Road Project, including the County's existing and anticipated contractual obligations; compliance with grant, regulatory, and permitting requirements; and options available to the County.

Video Time 1:23:10

⊛ **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 ten-minute break**

Video Time 1:25:22

XV. OPEN SESSION

32. Reconvene into Open Session

Video Time 2:34:23

⊛ **Motion to reconvene into open session:** by Judge Garza, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline

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

33. Discuss and take action on matters discussed in Closed Session – Marsha Perez/Judge Garza

Video Time 2:34:44

⊛ **No action to be taken**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Video Time 2:34:47

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

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

⊛ **Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM**

ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT



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

1-12-26
Date signed and attestation.

Ray A. Garza
Ray A. Garza, County Judge

1/12/2026
Date signed.

