## MINUTES OF THE

#### COMMISSIONERS' COURT

## REGULAR MEETING - AUGUST 24, 2020

On the 24th day of August, 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 in person, via ZOOM, or via YouTube: 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 in person, via YouTube, or via Zoom, were Jeri Cox, Tax Assessor-Collector; Pam Heard, District Clerk; Alma Cartwright, County Treasurer; Richard P. Bianchi, County Court At Law Judge; Tracy Orr, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge; Jacky Cockerham, County Auditor; Tana Taylor; First Assistant County Auditor; Latisha Murphy, Assistant Auditor; David Reid, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; Katherine Comeaux, Development Services Coordinator; Michael Geer, Airport Manager; Valerie Gonzalez, Environmental Health Director; John Strothman, Pathways Project Manager; Rene Butler, Facilities Director; Collin Jackson, IT Director; Linda Doane, Human Resources Director; Elizabeth Guerra, Human Resources Assistant; Michele Carew, Elections Administrator; Lori Cesar, Animal Control Director; Misty Kimbrough, Collections Specialist; John Gutierrez, Chief Deputy Sheriff;

Long-Term Recovery Specialists: Will Whitson; Kim Foutz;

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

Aransas County Citizens: Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Pct. 3, Elect; Amanda Oster, County/District Attorney, Elect; Mark Wagnon; John Jackson; Allen Smith; Mike Fields; Jatin Bahkta; Rhonda Konieczny;

RBC Global Asset Management (U.S.) Inc.: Robert "Bob" V. Henderson, Senior Portfolio Manager;

<u>Del Mar College:</u> Lenora Keas, Vice President of Workforce Development and Strategic Initiatives;

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

Jeff Hutt: We have an EDC and each entity gets to pick a representative for the EDC, the County picked Mark Wagnon to be its representative, since that time Mark Wagnon has become an Alderman for the Town of Fulton. I believe there may be a conflict of interest with him being able to represent the interest of the County and also having the fiduciary responsibility of representing the Town of Fulton and I ask that that kind of be looked at and considered. My second thing I'd like to say is, when I saw that you had an agenda item coming up about the workforce training facility, I can't look at the agenda packet, but I did look at the City's agenda packet and on

the City's agenda packet, it said that the School District was in the process of signing an MOU with Del Mar and also in-kind money. I've reached out to the President and the Vice President of the School District and they know nothing about the MOU and they haven't heard about it from their Superintendent, and to remind you that their Superintendent, this is his last year. My statement about it, it seems like we need a workforce training center but the School District receives 66 cents out of every dollar of Ad Valorem Taxes and that seems to be under the prevue of the School The School District has buildings already and they District. already have programs that run at their school from Del Mar, they have Carpentry Programs, they have a Welding Site. It seems to me that the County, at least, is swerving outside it's lane now and the individual who needs to be bringing us a workforce training center is ACISD, not the County. Thank you.

# CONSENT ITEMS

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

- 1. Minutes from the Special Meeting of August 13, 2020.
- Minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 17, 2020. Question.
   Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

# COUNTY REPORTS

3. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to <u>TABLE</u> requiring Commissioners Court approval before placing on the County website any information or statements that purport to state the County's position on any public issue including information on any issue that might require voter approval. This requirement, in no way, is meant to restrict the County Judge's emergency authority.

Question. <u>Commissioner Laubach</u>: Does that mean we are going to put out a fact sheet without asking the Commissioners to approve it as a body first, before we publish it? <u>Commissioner Smith</u>: My answer to that would be no, if we don't take up this item this morning, it would get out to the public a lot faster. I know that our bond counsel, as well as our financial advisor, are going over that with a fine tooth comb, and I think you are included in that, to make sure that it adequately reflects exactly what is going out on the fence.

Commissioner Laubach: Yes, so I think the answer is we are going to informally review it among ourselves and publish it and then after that nothing else can be published until we have a Commissioners' Court meeting on it?

Judge

Mills: If we bring this back up, yes.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> But the first one we will just send out without a meeting?

Judge Mills: Right.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> I guess I don't understand why that makes sense.

Commissioner Smith: Commissioner, as I said just a minute ago, if we pass this, this morning, then it would be another meeting before we approved those fact sheets. In my estimation, I think it's important that we get these fact sheets out to the public as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Laubach: But in the future we are never going to face any time constraints? I don't understand.

Commissioner Smith: I can't answer that question, it hasn't come up for a vote here, I simply tabled this motion this morning.

Commissioner Laubach: Ok, well then the fact sheets that we are about to publish has not had the approval by the entire Commissioners' Court.

Commissioner Smith: That would be my understanding, yes.

Motion carried with Commissioner Laubach voting against the motion.

It is so ordered.

- 4. Motion to accept and approve the resignation of Valerie Amason, County Clerk, effective October 2, 2020 was not considered at this point - item went into second closed session at 10:52 a.m.
- 5. Motion to approve appointment of Carrie Arrington to fill the County Clerk's un-expired term, effective October 2, 2020 was not considered at this point item went into second closed session at 10:52 a.m.

## COUNTY ELECTIONS

6. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve authorizing County Judge to sign a quote with Hart Intercivic relating to Professional Services (Election Day support) on November 3, 2020.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Insert)

# COUNTY ROADS & FLOODPLAIN

7. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve proposed replat of 33 - 36 Oakshore Loop, replatting four lots into three lots, subject to receiving letter from the Sanitarian.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve proposed replat of 1208 - 1212 San Antonio Street, combining two lots into one lot.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to <a href="#">TABLE</a> replat of 134 Copano Ridge Road, combining a portion of the adjoining lot with the existing lot.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

## COUNTY SHERIFF

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Order #0-14-2020, setting fees for Sheriff and Constable.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

## (Inserts)

## CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve the Economic Development Administration Grant application to a total amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 for a workforce development and entrepreneurship center and amending matching funds based upon cash, in-kind and force account donations not to exceed \$500,000.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

Judge Mills: Ok, I understand that we probably need to go into closed session on the next item.

<u>Pat Rousseau:</u> May I ask a question, I just was curious if you could say what the extent of the time frame was for the Option, if you know that, and maybe that's not information that is available. I just wondered if it was a six month option or a twelve month option.

Commissioner Laubach: It goes through November, I have a copy.

Kim Foutz: Let me be explicit about that, we first entered into a contract at the end of December 2019 and it expired in May of this year and there was no option fee associated with that on that contract. At the time that you authorized the December 2019, you did authorize up to \$35,000 for option fees at that time. We were able to negotiate a contract that did not involve the option fees. When we asked for an extension

(Insert)

on May 14<sup>th</sup>, it's at that time that the \$35,000, \$5,800 a month, started accruing and we did have the option of sending notice to terminate that contract and terminate the option fees and that's why we are doing that at this time.

<u>Judge Mills:</u> We need to go into closed session to discuss the changes.

<u>Kim:</u> One thing sir, Mark Wagnon is here and I think he had a few words about the contract.

I'm not sure that there is a whole lot for me to talk about after the discussion that has preceded this, I would like to point out that under the new option agreement, the total option fee is capped at the \$35,000, as it was set forth in the May 2020 option agreement. The option fees that have accrued up through, apparently the end of August, is what is now called the initial option fee under the new agreement. The monthly option fees going forward are \$3,000 a month, as opposed to \$5,833 a month. The option now extends to February 14, 2021 giving us additional time, due to the delay that we anticipated getting notice that we received the grant or not. In spite of that, I think that with the money that has been donated for the environmental and appraisal costs, we should be able to close before the February 14th deadline, which should save the County some money with respect to that \$35,000 option fee. I'd also point out, I think this was discussed, that you've got an option on the North building plus a separate option on the four lots that are north of that building, that option extends to August 25, 2021. I anticipate, from what I've heard, that the intention close the North building and those simultaneously. A portion of the option fees now are applied to the purchase

price of the property, which was not the case under the original option dated May 2020. Additionally the seller is now going to provide the County with an "as built" survey for the property across parking and access agreement due to the shared entrance on Highway 35. I think Kim mentioned that there is a possibility that a portion of these option fees are going to be recoverable by the grant, but again there's no certainty that that will happen.

Commissioner Smith: Mark, the price that was mentioned, the \$75,000, that includes the four lots.

<u>Mark:</u> Yes it does, the four lots are at \$200,000 by themselves, they are pretty good sized lots. I would think that they are worth considerably more than that, but I'm not a real estate agent.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> Could you speak to Mr. Hutt's question about your simultaneously representing the County on the EDC Board, and as Alderman for Fulton?

<u>Judge Mills:</u> That's not on the agenda. We will go into closed session on this for a few minutes, it shouldn't take long.

The Court entered into closed session at 9:55 a.m. to discuss and review potential litigation issues and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1)(a); and to discuss real estate negotiations, including Pathways Projects pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072; and resumed Open Meeting at 10:12 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve a Real Estate Option Contract in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 for option fees, for the property located at 2000 Highway 35 Business North for a potential workforce development and entrepreneurship center.

Question. Motion carried with Commissioner Laubach voting against the motion.

It is so ordered.

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve authorizing County Judge to sign the grant contract between Aransas County and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for Shoreline improvements along Bay Shore Drive.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve authorizing County Judge to consent to Drainfield Easement Agreement by and between City by the Sea Property Owners Association, Inc. (GRANTOR) and Crab-N LLC (GRANTEE).

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

# PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the July 2020 Treasurer's Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

16. Discussion and possible action on the 2021 Budget.

<u>Jacky:</u> We brought the budget back last week, at the last meeting, and we were looking for direction on the COLA. This budget is based on a NO NEW REVENUE TAX RATE and we are looking for further direction on COLA for the employees.

Judge Mills: Ok, I asked for the 2.5% to be put in there, but I'm just here to say to the people who work for Aransas County that we do appreciate them and we are trying to stay in tune with the rest of the area.

<u>Commissioner Chaney:</u> I think that we've talked enough about this.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney to approve the 2021 budget with the 2 1/2% COLA and seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

Question.

Commissioner Laubach: I don't agree that we've talked enough about it. I think that we are in the position of asking our voters to approve an almost \$20,000,000 bond, we are asking everybody in the county to tighten belts, it's been a terrible year for people who don't work for the County, many have lost their jobs or businesses and are suffering badly. I think we should do no COLA and if we are going to do a COLA, at a minimum it should exclude department heads and probably everybody over a certain dollar amount of salary. I think you can make an argument that lower level wage earners, we are going to lose too many to competition, although we did not hear statistics on that last week and I don't think we are

going to hear them today. Unless we are actually losing people and can demonstrate that by putting on the record the number of people that we lost, not to competition, not to COVID, not to the difficulty of competing with people who are on unemployment, but actually those who are going to other counties or cities who pay more. At a minimum I just don't think we can give a raise to the higher paid people and I don't think we should have a raise at all, I just don't think it's a given every year.

So you had asked me to provide you with some Linda Doane: statistics, I cannot give you specific statistics for every reason an individual leaves employment, but I can tell you that in the last year, overall county wide, our turnover rate has been 26%. Only 30% of our employees have a three year tenure with the county, that shows a significant amount of turnover for the last few years and 64% have less than five years, and only 16% have ten or more years. People leave their jobs, most generally for two reasons, either they found something better, whatever that reason may be, or they were terminated because they weren't good employees to begin with, and when you have lower wages you're not going to draw in the more qualified candidates. I did break down some of the departments that have a higher turnover, the Sheriff's Office is at 28% in the last year, the Jail is at 52% turnover in one year, the Tax Office was 32%, Facilities 17%, Transfer Station Truck Drivers was 100%, they've lost two people in the last year, both of those people have been here for less than two years. So, just to kind of give you an idea of what we are looking at, if you want employees to stay, it costs money to train them, it costs money to do their background checks, do

all of the research, it takes time to get them on, it takes three people to bring them on to staff and then to terminate them as well because it has to go through three different departments every time we hire or fire somebody, or they leave. If you really want people to stay, and you want them to feel good about their jobs, you have to show appreciation somewhere. Commissioner Smith: Linda, these numbers that you gave us as far as turnover, that's for the current year, 2020?

Linda: That is for one year, from today, one year back. In one year's time that's the turnover rate.

Commissioner Smith: Well you know, at the first of the year we gave a 2 1/2% COLA increase, has it slowed down any at all during the year?

Linda: Well, with the COVID thing, I can't say that it has, it had been slowing down, we had actually had a significant slow-down in how many jobs we were having people leave. I do believe in some ways the COVID has actually slowed down the amount of people are going out, but we are having more difficulty getting people back in.

Commissioner Smith: So, if the 2 1/2% that came into effect on January 1 of this year hasn't done much to slow it down, another 2 1/2%, what do you think that's going to do?

Linda: Well, personally I think 2 ½% is a little low considering we are already low compared to some of the other entities, but every bit does make a little bit of difference in a person's pocket, especially when you are talking about the lower paid employees.

Commissioner Smith: Do you feel it might be time to go in and have a study done?

<u>Linda:</u> I do, I think that it would be a wise choice, I do know that it will not be a cheap move either, it does cost money to have someone come in and do an actual study.

Commissioner Smith: Well I had made comments, I know when we talked about COLA before, that the cost of living increase being given to the social security recipients in our community was only 1 1/2%. I'm particularly acute to that because a lot of my folks are retired folks.

Linda: You have to also look at though, we are a retirement community and there is an extreme amount of business that's coming and movement coming to our area that's going to spread from Corpus Christi into our area eventually. But right now, we are very short on the amount of workforce aged people in this community and we don't pay enough to bring most people from Corpus Christi. We do have a limited tax base and a limited workforce base.

Commissioner Smith: I do know that the overall package increase over at the City this year, according to the paper, was around 5%, but that was to cover some shortcomings over the last three or four years. They do those every five years, that's my understanding, so we can't be that far off.

Commissioner Laubach: Is it possible for us to have a separate vote, just on the COLA issue, or is our only option to vote against the entire budget if it includes the COLA, if we object to the COLA?

<u>Jacky:</u> Well, at this point, what we are looking for is direction for the COLA, because the budget does not come up for adoption until next week. So it actually it is separate, right now we are looking for direction for COLA.

Commissioner Laubauch: Then I would like to either make a separate amendment, or a second motion, or if it's more appropriate, amend Commissioner Chaney's motion, to make a motion to instruct the County Auditor to change the budget to eliminate COLA and present that to us for a vote next week instead. And I would be open to discussion, as an aside, to some kind of compromise position, a lower COLA, less than 2 ½%, I would prefer to see it apply only to workers making less than, I don't know, less than \$60,000, somebody tell what the medium is. I'm open to that discussion but as it stands, I'm proposing zero COLA.

<u>Commissioner Smith:</u> Kristen, does this court have the authority to do COLA increases for part of the employees and not all of them?

<u>Kristen Barnebey:</u> So, absolutely, however as opposed the motion to change the budget, comes dangerously close to getting rid of that, so I would back up and, if you are considering it, and simply ask the Auditor to present several different options.

Commissioner Chaney: The Auditor did that.

Commissioner Laubach: That's what we asked for last week.

<u>Kristen:</u> But if the budget's not up for finalization, and a motion does change, that would be difficult. Actually I would look to the Auditors Office for workflow and workload, it actually could be done, but that's something that would probably go from job to job to job.

<u>Jacky:</u> Well, what we would like to see is some kind of direction now, if you choose to do it for Elected Officials, or not to give it for Elected or Department Heads, then that's

something that we can do, and that does significantly reduce the hit on the fund balance.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> What do we save by excepting Department Heads?

<u>Jacky:</u> If you do that, you're probably looking at probably \$200,000.

Commissioner Laubach: So the total is \$220,000 and we would cut out \$200,000?

Jacky: I'm sorry?

Commissioner Laubach: I thought the total difference between a COLA and no COLA, was \$230,000.

<u>Jacky:</u> Right, but if Department Heads are excluded it goes down to \$200,000, it's \$30,000 to the general fund.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> So the difference is \$30,000, ok I got it.

<u>Jacky:</u> But then you're looking at a difference of another, it would probably be about \$35,000.

Commissioner Laubach: You probably aren't able to sit in here, on the spur of the moment, and give us a number, what if we say, we only give COLA to those earning \$60,000 a year or less? That would be too hard?

Jacky: I can't do that right now.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> I just want to make sure that next week, we have given you the right instructions, that one of our options will be to vote on a budget that doesn't include a COLA. If you need that instruction from us today, then my motion is, "Let us instruct the Auditor, no COLA".

<u>Judge Mills:</u> There has already been a motion and a second.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> Mine has not been, so I don't know, are we going to let it die without a second, it's a live motion?

Pat Rousseau: Judge, before you call a vote. Thank you, when I spoke on this at the public hearing which preceded the Commissioner's Court Official meeting, I would reiterate that on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020, just two short weeks ago, Agenda Item 21, General Discussion 2021 Budget, and then Agenda Item 22, Discuss, take action on Elected Officials Salaries and Expenses to be included in the budget. And the decision by this Commissioners Court was "No change in salaries on Elected Officials", and I would ask the court to remember that and to honor that when they vote on the budget next week. This is why it is important to instill trust back into the court, because if you take an action and you say you're doing something, you need to do it, you need to follow through, and I thank you.

Commissioner Laubach: I think we are talking about something different though. Is there, aren't we all on board that we said, "No Elected Official raises". I thought we were only talking about people besides Elected Officials, but tell me if I'm wrong.

<u>Commissioner Smith:</u> It is my understanding Commissioner, that there would be no change in the Elected Officials salaries.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> Right, Elected Official are off the table completely, no raise for Elected Officials period. So we are only talking about employees which includes Department Heads.

<u>Jacky</u>: What we are talking about now is just the COLA, there is a pool for the employees to get merit raises and that is in the budget, that has always been in the budget, and that is based on performance, and those are still in there. What we've been discussing right now is just COLA.

<u>Commissioner Laubach:</u> But the budget you have been describing does not include COLA for Elected Officials, right, only for employees?

<u>Jacky:</u> Right, the one that we have right now is just for employees and department heads.

Commissioner Laubach: Which employees.

<u>Jacky:</u> We have the different options, but the one I have, and we've talked about and I've presented, is just Employees and Department Heads, no Elected Officials.

<u>Pat Rousseau:</u> Thank you for that clarification, because I was looking at your, some of the changes due to COLA, and it seems that is still on there as an option. I was thinking that might still be an option.

<u>Jacky:</u> The one that I have been showing them has no COLA for Elected Officials.

Pat: Ok, thank you.

<u>Jacky</u>: What we are looking for, as I said, is whether there is going to be any COLA. There is still the option, the pool that we always put in there for merit increases, they are still in there, so those are still on the table.

Commissioner Chaney: But that's not COLA.

Jacky: No, that is totally separate from the COLA.

Commissioner Chaney: I don't know what the proper procedure is here, but whenever I made the motion to approve the COLA, I took into account, the fact that Elected Officials were not included, so my motion stands.

<u>Jacky:</u> I would ask you to put that in a motion, just so it's clear.

Judge Mills: Ok, do we have a second on Commissioner Laubach's Amended Motion? No, so that motion dies.

Motion to amend his prior motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline, to approve a 2.5% COLA across the board, except for Elected Officials.

Motion carried with Commissioner Laubach and Commissioner Smith voting against the motion.

It is so ordered.

- 17. Report receipt of the 2019 General Tax Fund Levy from Aransas County Tax Assessor and record the 8% of the Gross Revenue Tax Levy (GRTL) for the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Program Fiscal Year September 01,2020 August 31, 2021.
- 18. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve County Judge to sign Service Agreement with Govt Portal, to give Collections Department the ability to accept secure credit card payments that are fully integrated with i-Plow (the technology we use internally to collect fees, fines, court costs, restitution, probation, supervisory fees, and other monies owed the County) at no cost or obligation to Aransas County.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to <u>DEFER</u> the County offering the option to its employees to participate in the Payroll Tax DEFERRAL, per the memorandum signed by President Trump until the Court receives absolute confirmation from the Internal Revenue Service.

(Inserts)

Question. Commissioner Laubach made the motion to table instead. The motion died for lack of a second.

Original motion carried with Commissioner Laubach voting against the motion.

It is so ordered.

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Budget Line Item Transfers and Amendments of which there were NONE.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

21. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

# REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Concerning Fees Report. <u>Jacky:</u> To date we are seeing a reduction in Fines and Fees in the amount of \$179,922.

<u>Amanda Oster:</u> Can I just ask, when you were in closed session earlier, did you already discuss line items 4 & 5?

<u>Judge Mills:</u> We are going to go into closed session again on those items.

<u>Jacky:</u> I would like to remind everyone that we will be voting on the meeting for the budget, the tax rate, the tax levy, and everything next meeting on the 31st.

<u>Commissioner Smith:</u> I think the law requires that everybody be present to vote, right?

Commissioner Chaney: Super majority.

<u>Judge Mills:</u> Alright, if there's nothing else we will go into closed session again.

The Court entered into closed session at 10:52 a.m. to discuss and review potential litigation issues and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1)(a); and to discuss real estate negotiations, including Pathways Projects pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072; and resumed Open Meeting at 12:05 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:

4. Motion was made by Commissioner Laubach to table this item for a week, motion died for lack of a second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney to table this item for two weeks, until the next scheduled regular meeting, motion died for lack of a second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept and approve the resignation of Valerie Amason, County Clerk, effective October 2, 2020.

Question. Motion carried with Commissioner Laubach voting against the motion.

It is so ordered.

(Insert)

5. Motion was made by Commissioner Laubach to table this item for a week, motion died for lack of a second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve appointment of <u>Carrie Arrington</u> to fill the County Clerk's un-expired term, effective October 2, 2020.

Question. Motion carried with Commissioner Laubach voting against the motion.

It is so ordered.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 12:12 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

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

VALERIE K. AMASON,

EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT