



MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Aransas County Commissioners Court

9:00 AM, September 8, 2025

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met on 8th DAY of September, 2025 at 9:00 A.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
Leslie Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Robert Dupnik, Commissioner, Precinct 4-4A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Video Time 34:16

II. INVOCATION

Video Time 34:34

III. PLEDGE

Video Time 36:02

IV. ROLL CALL

Video Time 36:28

V. DECLARE QUORUM

Video Time 36:38

VI. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Video Time 36:41

✪ Scott Mapes

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS –

1. Presentation by Ray Presley regarding the Aransas County Appraisal District – Judge Garza
✪ Mr. Presley was not present, this presentation will be re-scheduled
Video Time 38:54
2. Proclamation #P-13-2025 - Texas Navy Week – Michael Ables/Judge Garza
Video Time 39:45
✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

3. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Minutes from the August 25, 2025 Regular Meeting – Misty Kimbrough/Judge Garza

4. Acknowledge and accept a donation of blankets and pillowcases from Elain McCollum, to be distributed by the Aransas County Assistance Dept. to residents that need them – Alma Cartwright/Commissioner Chaney/Judge Garza
5. Acknowledge and accept a memorial donation to the Aransas County Public Library from Ronny & Pat Barker in the amount of \$50 in memory of James “Jim” Elliott Friebele – Iris Sanchez/Judge Garza
6. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court the County Judges and Commissioners Court Association of Texas’ Continuing Education Transcript for Commissioner Dupnik with 21 hours earned – Commissioner Dupnik
7. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court the County Judges and Commissioners Court Association of Texas’ Continuing Education Transcript for Commissioner Casterline with 24 hours earned – Commissioner Casterline
Video Time 43:57
 - ✪ **Motion to accept the consent agenda:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
 - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

VIII. COUNTY REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

8. Discuss, approve or disapprove the request from the Rockport Center for the Arts (RCA) to place a sculpture by internationally renowned French artist Bernar Venet in the Celebration Plaza courtyard of the new Aransas County Courthouse. Venet is a celebrated conceptual artist, recipient of the 2016 International Sculpture Center’s Lifetime Achievement Award, and recognized worldwide for his dynamic, thought-provoking large - scale works – Karen Ernst, Executive Director - RCA/Commissioner Pat Rousseau
Video Time 46:32
 - ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
 - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
9. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Rockport Cultural Arts District 2nd Quarter Report for 2025 – Jennifer Day/Judge Garza
Video Time 58:03
 - ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
 - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
10. Discuss, approve or disapprove the distribution of the \$102,322.00 US Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge Revenue Sharing Account Annual Payments to Local Governments for Lands under their Administration for Fiscal Year 2024, received in 2025 – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza
Video Time 1:07:44
 - ✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik
 - ✪ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

IX. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

11. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign contract with Kofile for Custom Archival Storage Solution Services. Storage is for the County Clerk projects SO 209036, 208027, 209092, 20916510 and District Clerk project SO 20917123 – Misty Kimbrough/Zach Westlake/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:09:44

- ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ✧ **Amended motion to allow the Judge to sign with the approval of the attorney:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ✧ **Vote on amended motion:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

12. Discuss, approve or disapprove a contract renewal with Austin Wood Recycling, Inc.; Aransas County and Austin Wood Recycling entered into an agreement on April 14, 2025 for an initial term ending December 31, 2025 with four (4) one-year renewal options for Brush Grinding Services – Anthony Van Meter/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:11:51

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

13. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing the County Judge to sign the Notice to Proceed between Aransas County and Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., for the Lamar Beach Road Drainage projects for the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit extension request. The Federal Emergency Management Agency/Texas Division of Emergency Management – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (FEMA/TDEM-HMGP) Sub-Award grant agreement #DR-4332-0015 provides federal funding for grant management and the construction of the project. Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) funding may be utilized for the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit extension request – Elle Moralez/Darrell Seibert/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:13:12

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

14. Discuss, approve or disapprove request to execute Notice to Proceed (NTP) with Lowrey Property Advisors – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:14:40

- ✧ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Chaney, 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 an annual agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the 2025 Routine Airport Maintenance Program (RAMP) Grant M2616RCKP, which reimburses 90% of costs for eligible airport maintenance projects up to \$100,000.00 – Mike Geer/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:15:33

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

16. Discuss, approve or disapprove authorizing payment to WayPoint, our reseller partner, to renew our Mission Critical Server Software and Hardware licensing at a total cost of \$129,586.87, which is due by September 18, 2025 – Collin Jackson/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:16:34

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

17. Discuss, approve or disapprove accepting the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program's (CBBEP) funding award of \$80,000 for the Aransas Pathway's "Airport Kayak Launch Site Improvements" – Jim Farnsworth/Aransas County Pathways Steering Committee/Rene Butler, Facilities Director/Commissioner Pat Rousseau

Video Time 1:20:26

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

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

18. Discuss, approve or disapprove a Supplemental Engagement Letter with Will W. Allensworth to continue providing legal services related to the Aransas County Courthouse project; authorize a not-to-exceed amount of \$60,000; and authorize the County Judge to execute the Supplemental Engagement Letter – Judge Garza

Video Time 1:21:41

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

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

X. PLANNING AND BUDGET

19. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Aransas County Indigent Health Care Report for August 2025 – Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:23:08

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

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

20. Discuss, approve or disapprove the Aransas County Indigent Health Care End of Year Report FY 2024-2025 - Alma Cartwright/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:25:02

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Dupnik

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

Video Time 1:25:46, Commissioner Rousseau had a question about # 20 after the vote

21. Discuss, approve or disapprove the updated job descriptions for the Director and Senior IT Technician roles in the Information Technology Department – No new Monies – Collin Jackson/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:26:33

✪ **Motion to approve:** by Commissioner Dupnik, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

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

22. Discuss, approve or disapprove the July 2025 Auditor's Monthly Report – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:31:51

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

✪ **Motion to table due to errors in dates:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney

✪ **Vote on motion to table:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

23. Discuss, approve, or disapprove Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities – Jacky Cockerham/Judge Garza

Video Time 1:33:02

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

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

Video Time 1:36:47

- ⊛ Misty Kimbrough, Aransas County Clerk

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

Video Time 1:39:01

There were none.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

- 24. 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 – Marsha Perez/Judge Garza
 - i. *Aransas County Texas v. Endurance American Specialty Insurance Company, et al*, Aransas County District Court Cause No. 23-0021;
 - ii. *Northstar Recovery Services, 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;
 - iii. *Western Steel Company v. T2J Partners, LLC D/E/A FPS Recovery, LLC and Aransas County, Texas*; Cause No. 24-0072, in the 36th District Court of Aransas County, Texas;
 - 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
 - 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 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 officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public meeting – Judge Garza

Video Time 1:39:10

- ⊛ Judge Garza removed i-iv of this item.

- ⊗ **Motion to move into closed session:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Casterline
- ⊗ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

- ⊗ Judge Garza called for an eight-minute break prior to going into closed session
Video Time 1:40:45

XIV. OPEN SESSION

25. Reconvene into Open Session

Video Time 2:43:47

- ⊗ **Motion to reconvene into open session:** by Commissioner Casterline, motion was seconded by Commissioner Rousseau
- ⊗ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered

26. 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 – Marsha Perez/Judge Garza

Video Time 2:44:01

- ⊗ **There were no actions taken from closed session**

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Video Time 2:44:04

- ⊗ **Motion to adjourn:** by Commissioner Rousseau, motion was seconded by Commissioner Chaney
- ⊗ **Vote:** Motion carried 5-0: it was so ordered
- ⊗ **Meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM**

ARANSAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT



Misty Kimbrough

Misty Kimbrough,
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court

9/22/25
Date signed and attestation.

Ray A. Garza

Ray A. Garza, County Judge
9/22/2025

Date signed.