



MINUTES

Aransas County Commissioners Court

9:00 AM – Monday, April 25, 2022

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met in **Regular Session** on Monday, April 25, 2022, at 9:00 AM, in the Aransas County Courthouse, 2840 Hwy 35 N, Rockport, Texas.

Present: **C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr.**, County Judge
Jack Chaney, Commissioner Precinct 1-1A
Leslie Casterline, Commissioner, Precinct 2
Pat Rousseau, Commissioner, Precinct 3
Wendy Laubach, Commissioner, Precinct 4

Absent:

I. Call to Order & Pledges

The meeting convened at 9:00 AM, followed by pledges to the American and Texas flags.

II. The Invocation was given by County Surveyor Jerry Brundrett.

III. Roll Call was taken. **A Quorum was declared**, and the following proceedings were had and done, to wit:

IV. Citizens to be Heard – There were none.

V. Presentations –

1. **Kathleen Hicks** of the Regional Pool Alliance was listed on the agenda as the first presenter, however, her presentation was tabled until next meeting, Monday, May 9, 2022.
2. **Pam Stranahan** gave a quarterly report for Friends of the History Center, which highlighted Aransas County's Vietnamese community in an exhibit titled, "Vietnamese Culture: 40 Years on the Coastal Bend" as well as in related monthly programs. The programs were well-received with around 375 people in attendance. An important part of this particular program involved videotaping and archiving stories from 17 members of our Vietnamese community.

VI. Items for Deliberation and/or Action

Consent Agenda:

3. Minutes from the April 11, 2022 Regular Meeting
4. Donation of \$100.00 for supplies from Janet Rodriguez to Aransas County Animal Control

5. Donation of \$800.00 for kennels and supplies from the Humane Society of Rockport-Fulton to Aransas County Animal Control
6. Donation of puppy food valued at \$85.00 from Andrew Church to Aransas County Animal Control
7. Donation of \$150.00 for supplies from Hendrik Kruger to Aransas County Animal Control
8. Donation of \$100.00 from William and Martha Silva to Aransas County Animal Control
9. Donation of supplies valued at \$75.00 from Vicki Pitluk to Aransas County Animal Control
10. Donation of gates for livestock pen valued at \$250.00 from Melissa Van Winkle to Aransas County Animal Control
11. Donation of 1/2" exterior-grade plywood boards valued at \$750.00 for the Facilities Maintenance Department from Pat and Cecil Rousseau.
12. Certified Order from the District Court Appointing Jacky Cockerham as County Auditor for a term of two (2) years, beginning April 1, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Casterline to approve the Consent; seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

County Reports:

13. Rockport Center for the Arts Report

Motion by Commissioner Casterline to approve the 1st Quarter 2022 Report for the Rockport Center for the Arts; seconded by Commissioner Rousseau.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

14. Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce Report

Motion by Commissioner Casterline to approve the 1st Quarter 2022 Report for the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce; seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

15. Order #0-07-2022 Prohibiting Outdoor Burning

Motion by Commissioner Chaney to approve Order #0-07-2022, an Order of the County of Aransas, Texas, Prohibiting Outdoor Burning for a Period of Up to an Additional 30 Days due to the existence of conditions that have created a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

16. 2021 Annual Library Report

Motion by Commissioner Casterline to approve the 2021 Annual Library Report for the Texas State Library and authorize the County Judge to sign the report; seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

County Roads & Floodplain:

17. Order #O-08-2022 to Close, Abandon, and Vacate Alleyway

Motion by Commissioner Rousseau to approve Order #O-08-2022, an Order to close, abandon, and vacate the 20-foot alleyway lying in Block 185, Manning Addition, Aransas County, Texas recorded in Vol.1, Pg. 7, of the Plat Records of Aransas County, Texas, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds on Exhibit "A" and "B" attached to the Petition; seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

18. Order #O-09-2022 to Close, Abandon, and Vacate Alleyway

Motion by Commissioner Rousseau to approve Order #O-09-2022, an Order to close, abandon, and vacate the 20-foot alleyway lying in Block 346, Manning Addition, Aransas County, Texas, recorded in Vol. 1, Pg 7, of the Plate Records of Aransas County, Texas, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds on Exhibit "A" and "B" attached to the Petition; seconded by Commissioner Laubach.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

19. Hood Street Ballots

Motion by Commissioner Rousseau to table authorizing County staff to arrange to distribute ballots to homeowners on Hood Street for them to vote on proposed road improvements for their neighborhood; seconded by Commissioner Laubach.

Vote: Motion to Table carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

Contracts, Agreements, Grants & Leases:

20. Copano Heights Street Improvement Project – Plans and Specs

Motion by Commissioner Casterline to approve the plans and specifications for the Copano Heights Street Improvement Project, a project funded by the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program administered by the Texas General Land Office and included in Grant Contract No. 20-065-098-C270 and authorize the County Judge to send a letter confirming approval to John Besteriro, Grant Manager, Community Development & Revitalization, of the Texas General Land Office; seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

21. Copano Heights Street Improvement Project – Request for Bids

Motion by Commissioner Casterline to approve authorizing the issuance of a Request for Bids for the Copano Heights Street Improvement Project, a project funded by the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Program administered by Texas General Land Office and included in Grant Contact No. 20-065-098-C270; seconded by Commissioner Rousseau.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

22. Contract Change Order

Motion by Commissioner Casterline to table the proposed Change Order No. 2 to the Contract with the Marshall Company, Ltd. to build the parking lot for the Rockport Center for the Arts to include the labor and materials necessary to install the electrical service rack which will result in an increase in cost of \$6,045.00, said funds being available and provided by a Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Program Grant, Contract No. 20-065-098-C270, awarded and administered by the Texas General Land Office; seconded by Commissioner Rousseau.

Vote: Motion to Table carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

Planning & Budget Office:

23. Treasurer’s Report

Motion by Commissioner Laubach to approve the March 2022 Treasurer's Report; seconded by Commissioner Rousseau.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

24. Treasurer’s Investment Report

Motion by Commissioner Laubach to approve the 1st Quarter Treasurer's Investment Report; seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

25. Aransas County Environmental Policy

Motion by Commissioner Rousseau to table the adoption of the Aransas County Environmental Policy to acknowledge the County's environmental responsibilities as a recipient and sub-recipient of grant funds and to designate the County Judge as the Certifying Official for the County; seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

Vote: Motion to Table carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

26. Auditor’s Report

Motion by Commissioner Chaney to approve the March 2022 Auditor’s Monthly Report; seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

27. Budget Line Item Transfers

Motion by Commissioner Laubach to approve a budget Line item transfer from the District Court Department moving \$15,000.00 from the regular full time salary line to the part time salary Line; seconded by Commissioner Casterline. (Per Auditor Cockerham, there were none.)

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

28. Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities

Motion by Commissioner Casterline to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities; seconded by Commissioner Chaney. (Per Auditor Cockerham, it includes payments from Clerk's ARPA grant (\$150,000) and Clerk's Archive fee (\$75,000) towards County Clerk's Imaging, Indexing, and Preservation Project, as well as \$1.3 million to Mott-MacDonald for 1.5 years of GLO grant engineering work on streets and drainage projects.)

Vote: Motion carried 5-0; it was so ordered.

VII. Reports from Commissioners, Elected Officials & Department Heads – No action will be taken –

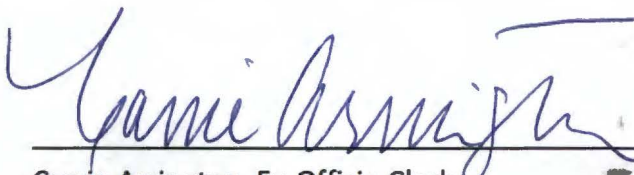
Judge Mills recognized Collin Jackson and his staff for the new individual monitors for Commissioners Court.

Carrie Arrington, County Clerk, gave a "shout out" to Lori Cesar and her officers out at Animal Control. "In addition to the wonderful donations we keep hearing about every week, there's also a beautiful new cat mural and so many other nice changes there over the years."


Arrington also expressed a concern about the 55mph speed limit and the lack of turn lanes on Business 35 from Airport Road to the causeway due to our increasing population and traffic. She stated that she knew that it wasn't our jurisdiction but thought that someone in the room might know more about the situation and have the right contact information. Judge Mills stated that TxDOT was in the process of addressing the turn lane issue.

VIII. Adjournment

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 9:52 AM on a motion duly made by Commissioner Rousseau and seconded by Commissioner Laubach.



Carrie Arrington, Ex-Officio Clerk
of the Commissioners Court


C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr., County Judge