



# MINUTES

## Aransas County Commissioners Court

9:00 AM – Monday, March 14, 2022

The Aransas County Commissioners Court met in **Regular Session** on Monday, March 14, 2022, at 9:00 AM, in the Aransas County Courthouse, 2840 Hwy 35 N, Rockport, Texas.

Present: **C. H. "Burt" Mills, Jr.**, County Judge  
**Leslie Casterline**, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
**Jack Chaney**, Commissioner Precinct 1-1A  
**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 Commissioner Jack Chaney.

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

IV. **Citizens to be Heard – Roy Rivera and Patricia Hinojosa**, from Peninsula Oaks, each voiced their concerns about people speeding on Griffith Street—an action which recently resulted in the deaths of three cats over a three-day period.

Mr. Rivera stated that he has called dispatch and asked for more patrol because people are driving 40-50 mph on Griffith Street. He said he also spoke with Commissioner Chaney about it and that he believes the County should add some speed bumps on Griffith.

Ms. Hinojosa, who has lived on Griffith for 37 years, said she, too, has called the Sheriff and asked for additional patrols. She added that the road has always been a problem and she is concerned for the safety of pets and children. She asked for a reduced speed limit of 30 mph, more signs, and increased patrol.

Mr. Rivera also expressed his displeasure with the grass in the medians by Live Oak Elementary, which he says is allowed to grow too tall and is a disgrace. He believes that Rockport was beautiful and well-maintained back when he was a kid but it's not now—which he doesn't understand since there are more people moving here so there should be more money coming into the system. He was also unhappy about the removal of the crossover at Sweet Bay. [County Clerk's note: The school is located within the City of Rockport.]

### V. Presentations –

1. AgriLife representatives **Megan Glidden** and **Ginger Easton** gave a presentation about the recent Agriculture and Homemaking Show. Aransas County had 50 kids participate

this year—33 of whom made it to auction and, together, earned \$116,428 plus add-ons. They even had three kids that won showmanship—which indicates how much those kids know about the animals they raised.

Ginger then introduced **Kaitlyn Carruth**, a senior in high school who has been in 4-H for the last eight years and has primarily competed in Homemaking. This year, Carruth won Grand Champion in Clothing and Reserve Champion in Textiles and she showed the associated belt buckles she was awarded. She also won a number of awards for her art and photography, along with a couple of thousand dollars from the Cotton Award.

Next was **Gillian Hale**, who has been in 4-H for ten years. Gillian currently serves as President of the Aransas County 4-H Club and is active in Aransas County Ambassadors. She mainly competes in Livestock and focuses on poultry. She won Grand Champion for Pen of (three) Broilers, Reserve Grand Champion for Turkey, and Champion Tom Turkey. She also got to auction at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Finally, **Hunter Hale**, who has been in 4-H for four years, was introduced. Hunter raises broilers, roasters, and turkeys for competition, and he won fourth in all but one of his categories. He has also been going to all of the major shows. The next major show is tomorrow in Austin.

## VI. Items for Deliberation and/or Action

### Consent Agenda:

2. Minutes from the February 14, 2022 Regular Meeting
3. Minutes from the February 28, 2022 Regular Meeting
4. Receipt of 2021 Certificate of Completion for Commissioner Casterline, Precinct 2, for successfully completing the continuing education provisions of *Article 81.0025 of the Texas Local Government Code* from the County Judges and Commissioner Association of Texas
5. Receipt of 2021 Certificate of Completion for Commissioner Laubach, Precinct 4, for successfully completing the continuing education provisions of *Article 81.0025 of the Texas Local Government Code* from the County Judges and Commissioner Association of Texas
6. Receipt of 2021 Certificate of Completion for Commissioner Rousseau, Precinct 3, for successfully completing the continuing education provisions of *Article 81.0025 of the Texas Local Government Code* from the County Judges and Commissioner Association of Texas
7. Donation of 3,000 pounds of dog food and cat little from People Assisting Animals Corpus Christi to Aransas County Animal Control

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

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

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

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

**County Elections:**

**8. Order #O-06-2022 Special Election to be held May 7, 2022**

**Motion** by Commissioner Laubach to approve Order #O-06-2022, ordering the Special Election to be held May 7, 2022, for the purpose of adopting or rejecting the proposed Constitutional Amendments as submitted by the 87th Legislature, Second Called Session, and 87th Legislature, Third Called Session, of the State of Texas, and providing notice of the election; seconded by Commissioner Rousseau.

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

**County Roads & Floodplain:**

**9. Replat Variance Request**

**Motion** by Commissioner Casterline to request for variance on County subdivision regulations on minimum lot size requirements to replat 409 and 410 Charlotte Drive from two lots into one single lot; seconded by Commissioner Laubach.

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

**Contracts, Agreements, Grants & Leases:**

**10. GLO Contract Amendment Request**

**Motion** by Commissioner Laubach to approve Change Request No. 3 to Request an Amendment to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Grant Contract No. 20-065-098-C270 to Reallocate \$8.8 Million Dollars in grant funds previously set aside for a Micro Hospital to Streets and Drainage Projects; seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

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

**11. Mott MacDonald Contract Amendment Request**

**Motion** by Commissioner Casterline to amend the contract between Aransas County and Mott MacDonald for its services, which includes engineering design and construction management on all Streets and Drainage projects through Texas General Land Office (GLO) Grant Contract No. 20-065-098-C270, to increase the approved fee to Mott MacDonald by the amount of \$528,608.00 due to the increased scope of work as a result of Change Request No. 3 to the GLO Grant Contract; seconded by Commissioner Chaney.

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

**12. TDA Contract Change Order**

**Motion** by Commissioner Rousseau to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign form A505 Construction Contract Change Order for Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Colonia Contract No. 7219490, reducing the total project cost by \$13,847.05 and approving a 40-day extension to complete the project; seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

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

**13. TAC Cybersecurity Enrollment**

**Motion** by Commissioner Casterline to approve authorizing County Judge to sign the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) Cybersecurity Course Enrollment Form for Counties to comply with Texas Government Code 2054.5191; seconded by Commissioner Laubach.

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

**14. Consulting Agreement with Richard Beck d/b/a Texas Capitol Consulting**

**Motion** by Commissioner Chaney to continue the Consulting Agreement between Aransas County and Richard E. Beck d/b/a Texas Capitol Consulting which became effective on July 8, 2013; seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

After discussion, **Amended Motion** by Commissioner Laubach to allow the existing contract between Aransas County and Richard E. Beck d/b/a Texas Capitol Consulting to expire naturally at the end of its current term, on July 7, 2022, without renewing it, and to move forward immediately with an RFQ for a lobbyist for the county, utilizing the new contract drawn up for us by the County Attorney; seconded by Commissioner Rousseau.

**Vote:** Motion carried 3-2, Commissioner Chaney and Judge Mills dissenting; it was so ordered.

**Planning & Budget Office:**

**15. Indigent Health Care Report**

**Motion** by Judge Mills to the February 2022 Indigent Health Care Report; seconded by Commissioner Rousseau.

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

**16. Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Service**

**Motion** by Commissioner Laubach to approve authorizing County Judge to sign renewal of the program agreement with Texas Association of Counties (TAC) for the Affordable Care Act Reporting and Tracking Service (ARTS); seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

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

**17. Budget Line-Item Transfers and Amendments**

**Motion** by Commissioner Laubach to approve Budget Line-Item Transfers; seconded by Commissioner Casterline. (Per Auditor Cockerham, there were none.)

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

**18. Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities**

**Motion** by Commissioner Laubach to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities; seconded by Commissioner Chaney. (Per Auditor Cockerham, nothing unusual.)

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

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


*Patricia Arnold, ACMSI, wanted to address some of the discussions regarding reallocating the funds from the micro-hospital to other assigned plans. Some of the things that were discussed with ACMSI was that we do not necessarily need a micro-hospital at this time because we're still waiting to get those 35 miles; however, we were communicating with Dr. Baggerman and Amistad about bringing them into the Little Bay building. This was being discussed with the long-term recovery team because they could work with the workforce, which is right next door. So, if we've already purchased half of the building, we need to finish purchasing the rest of the building so we can continue to bring the federally-qualified healthcare center here—in place of some of these other things.*

**VIII. Closed Session – The Court went into Closed Session at 9:39 AM.**

**IX. Open Session – The Court came back into Open Session at 10:02 AM.**

**X. Adjournment**

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 10:03 AM on a motion duly made by Commissioner Rousseau and seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

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

  
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Carrie Arrington, Ex-Officio Clerk  
of the Commissioners Court

