

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - JULY 22, 2019

On the 22nd day of July, 2019, 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: **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 were **Richard Bianchi**, County Court at Law Judge; **Kristen Barnebey**, County District Attorney; **Alma Cartwright**, Treasurer; **Pam Heard**, District Clerk; **Bill Mills**, Sheriff, and wife, **Bobbie**; **Suzy Wallace**, County Auditor; **Linda Garcia Haynes**, Executive Assistant to the County Judge; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Linda Doane**, Human Resources Director; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **Valerie Gonzalez**, Environmental Health Director; **Debra Simank**, Health Inspector; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Michele Bennett**, Elections Administrator; **Jacky Cockerham**, First Assistant County Auditor; **Lois White**, Chief Deputy Treasurer; **Mike Kuertz**, Veteran's Service Officer;

Long-Term Recovery: **Randall Freeze**, Long Term Recovery Specialists;

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

District Judges': **Starr Bauer**, 36th Judicial District Judge; **Patrick Flanigan**, 156th Judicial District Judge; **Joel Johnson**, Retired Judge, 156th Judicial District; **Ronald Yeager**, Retired Judge, 36th Judicial District;

Former Elected Officials: **Betty Stiles** (former County Commissioner, Pct. 4 & 4A;

City of Rockport Council Members: **Pat Rios**, Mayor;

Town of Fulton: **Jimmy Kendrick**, Mayor; **Rick McLester**, Police Chief, & wife, **Bobbie**;

City of Rockport Law Enforcement: **Jerry Lawing**, CID Commander; **Larry Sinclair**, Patrol Commander; **Spencer Yarnall** & wife, **Meredith**;

County of Aransas Law Enforcement: **John Gutierrez**, Chief Deputy Sheriff; **Gavin Harrison** Training Coordinator for the Sheriff's Office; **Michael Brooks**; **Chris Molina**; **Christopher Hill**; **Rodney Cox**; **Matthew Baird** (former deputy);

Former County Judges: **Glenn Guillory** and wife, **Lynda**; **William Adams** and wife, **Kay Harlan**;

Area Attorneys: **James L. Anderson, Jr.** (Retired) & wife, **Vickie**, and son, **Jason**; **James Teague**; **Anita O'Rourke** (Retired); **Patricia Asack** (Retired);

Aransas County Citizens: **Mary Sherman** (former appointed District Clerk); **Karen & Ed McQueen**; **Anna Robertson**; **Michael Hynes**; **Gayle Wright**; **Ty Husak**; **Patti & Herb John**; **Tom Forney**; **Gregory Kindle**; **Pam & Grey Hill**; **John Jackson**; **Lynda & Brett Bohn**; **John Debler**; **Laura & Jerry Kissling**; **Harriet & Joe Layne**; **Larry Barnebey**;

Out of County Visitors: Tammy & Paul Story;

Chamber of Commerce: Diane Probst, President/CEO;

Rockport Center for the Arts: Luis Puron, Executive Director;

Aransas County Historical Society: Cheryl Livingston,
President; Janie White; Jackie Shaw; Pam Stranahan;

Rockport Maritime Museum: Kathy Roberts-Douglas, CEO;

Mike Probst, Editor and Publisher of the Rockport Pilot
Newspaper;

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:

PUBLIC HEARING/CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

District Court's Technology Fund or other public comments:

Pam Heard: This is the same \$10.00 fee as approved in previous
years, it just has to be approved each year. (No questions)

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by
Commissioner Casterline to adjourn the Public Hearing.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PRESENTATION I

1. Recognize and Present Proclamation #P-07-2019, in Official Recognition and Tribute, Proclaiming August 1, 2019 as "Guy Clark Day in Aransas County". **Cheryl Livingston** read the Proclamation.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

2. Minutes from the Budget Workshop Meeting of June 18, 2019, the Regular Meeting of July 8, 2019, and the Special Joint Meeting of July 8, 2019.
3. District Court Technology fund and Fee of \$10.00, 2020 for the preservation and restoration of the district Court's Records pursuant to Texas Government Code Sec. 51.305 and request approval of funding a records management expenditure .
4. Proclamation #P-07-2019, in Official Recognition and Tribute proclaiming August 1, 2019 as "Guy Clark Day in Aransas County".
5. Proclamation #P-08-2019, in Official Recognition of Jams "Jim" L. Anderson and his lifetime contributions to Aransas County.
6. Official Public Blanket Bond for the Aransas County Transfer Station Employees.
7. Acknowledge receipt of an record in the minutes of Commissioners Court, a Certificate of Participation awarded to C. H. Mills from the V.G. Young Institute of County

(Inserts)

Government for successfully completing 8.00 hours of Educational Training during the 85th Annual South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association Conference June 10-13, 2019 in San Antonio, TX.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

COUNTY REPORTS

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve 2nd Quarterly 2019 Report for the Maritime Museum.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve 2nd Quarterly 2019 Report for the Rockport Center for the Arts.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

COUNTY ROADS

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve preliminary alteration of Sagebrush Street Right-of-Way adjacent to Copano Cay Unit 1, Lots 10 and 11.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve preliminary closure of Oak Street Right-Of-Way adjacent to 403 and 404 Oak Street

(Inserts)

with the caveat that necessary waivers will be obtained from abutting property owners and that a Re-Plat will be prepared with possible needed adjustments on frontage access as deemed necessary.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

- 12.** Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve reducing the speed limit of Lands End Street from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES

- 13.** Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Grant Agreement with the Ed Rachal Foundation for \$118,000. Grant Number 2018-419 is to be used for property enhancements and improvements for the Aquarium.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

- 14.** Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign an Affidavit of Public Notice Posting for Community Development and Revitalization of The Texas General Land Office. Aransas County will submit a CDBG-DR

(Inserts)

(Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery) application for \$53,860,274 for Drainage System Improvements, Alternate Drainage System Improvements and Other Improvements in Aransas County related to Hurricane Harvey declared disaster events to the GLO (General Land Office). This Affidavit of Public Notice will be posted on the County's website and the bulletin board in the main lobby of the Aransas County Courtroom from July 22, 2019 - August 21, 2019.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to TABLE authorizing the County Judge to sign an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement by and between the County of Aransas with the City of Rockport for the Preliminary Planning Phase of the Downtown Anchor Project.

Question. Judge Mills and Commissioner Smith voted against the Motion. Motion carries with majority vote to Table.

It is so ordered.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Sheriff's Department transferring a 2013 Chevy Silverado 2WD Crew Cab Truck to the Aransas County Airport.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve accepting a donation from the Christopher and Karra Crowley Charitable Fund to the Aransas County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$14,000. The donation is to be used for radio equipment for the Aransas County Independent School District.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

18. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve accepting the Aransas County Detention Center Commissary Contract awarded to Keefe through the bid process.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Laubach to approve June 2019 Treasurer's Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Treasurer's 2nd Quarter Investment Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

21. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve keeping the current Texas Association of Counties as the County's Major Medical Insurance Company and also to authorize the County Judge to sign an agreement.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

22. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve new job description for Jailer/Kitchen Supervisor - no new monies.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

23. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve appointing John Kroll as the Aransas County Veterans Service Officer.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

24. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Renewal of our Adoption Agreement and Certificate of Resolution (#R-25-2019) for the Section 125 Premium Only Plan. This plan is offered to all eligible County Employees as a benefit to reduce their tax liability on payment of health, dental, and qualifying life insurance premiums.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

25. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve County Treasurer requesting funds from the State for the Unclaimed Property Capital for Counties, and to allocate any such funds received, to the Literacy Programs offered at the Aransas County Public Library per Local Government Code 381.004.

26. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Budget Line Item Transfers of with there were none.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

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

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Insert)

28. General discussion of the 2020 Budget with elected officials and department heads.

Judge Mills: I don't think we have anything to discuss, we are going to have a budget workshop on July 29th and we should have it all done in a short amount of time, the budget came together pretty easily. **Commissioner Smith:**

Yes, this is a busy week Judge and we should be receiving the approved certified rolls this week which is a huge piece of the budget, setting the tax rates. **Commissioner**

Chaney: I want to thank all of the Department Heads and

Elected Officials for their staying as close to budget this year and helping us get through the shortage.

PRESENTATION II

29. Recognize and Present Proclamation #P-08-2019, in Official Recognition of James "Jim" L. Anderson and his lifetime contributions to Aransas County. **Linda Haynes** read the Proclamation.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &

DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

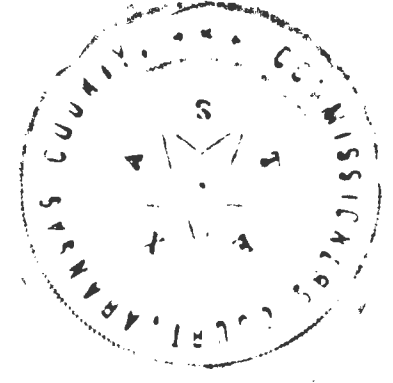
Suzy Wallace read the fee report.

Alma Cartwright: On June 27th and 28th the Community Action Committee, which is an agency for Aransas County to get their programs from the State, they did a blitz out in the lobby for Utility Assistance and they were impressed to assist the County with \$12,000 worth of additional assistance to people in need.

Judge Mills: Read a Letter from the Election Center, The National Association of Election Officials, designating Michele Bennett Carew as a Certified Elections/Registration Administrator, the highest professional achievement.

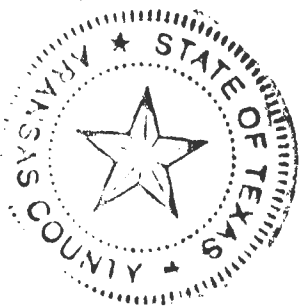
(Insert)

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 10:00 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. H. Mills, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

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



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Valerie K. Amason", written over a horizontal line.

VALERIE K. AMASON,

EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT