

MINUTES OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - JULY 23, 2018

On the 23rd day of July, 2018, there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioners' Court in the Commissioners' Courtroom in the County Courthouse, located at 2840 Highway 35 North, 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; **Brian Olsen**, Commissioner, Precinct 3; **Betty Stiles**, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and **Valerie K. Amason**, County Clerk.

Other County Officers present were **Alma Cartwright**, County Treasurer; **Suzy Wallace**, County Auditor; **Linda Garcia Haynes**, Executive Assistant to the County Judge; **Latisha Murphy**, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Jacky Cockerham**, Assistant County Auditor; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Linda Doane**, Human Resources Director; **Rene Butler**, Facilities Maintenance Director; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Michele Bennett**, Elections Administrator; **John Gutierrez**, Deputy Chief/Jail Operations and Grievance Officer; **Gavin Harrison**, Training Coordinator for the Sheriff's Office;

Long-Term Recovery: **William Whitson**, Specialist; **Randall Freeze**, Specialist; **Jennifer Heard**, Volunteer Coordinator; **Deanna Spruce**, Public Information Officer;

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

**Betty Collier**, Director of Client Relations, Rockport/Fulton Field Office, Grantworks, Inc.;

**Greg Harlan**, Owner of The Grant Connection;

City of Rockport Council Members: **Pat Rios**, Mayor; **Barbara Gurtner**, Ward 4;

Chamber of Commerce: **Sandy Jumper**, Director of Tourism.

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

Rockport Maritime Museum: **Kathy Roberts-Douglas**.

**Wendy Laubach**, Candidate Elect for Commissioner, Pct. 4;

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

**Todd Kocian**, Citizen;

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**

There were none.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve:

1. Minutes from the Workshop Meetings of June 19, 2018 and June 20, 2018, and the Special Meeting of July 5, 2018, and the Regular Meeting of July 9, 2018.

(Insert)

2. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a Certificate of Participation from The V.G. Young Institute of County Governments presented to Leslie Casterline, County Commissioner, Precinct 2, for successfully completing 10.00 hours of educational training during the 2018 South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association Annual Conference June 11-14, 2018 in McAllen, TX.
  3. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a Certificate of Completion from the Election Center presented to Michele Bennett, Elections Administrator, for successfully completing five courses equaling 60.00 hours of educational training during the PEP Summer Session.
  4. Approve the appointment of Mayor Patrick R. Rios to the Aransas Pathways Steering Committee as the City of Rockport's representative.
  5. Approve the appointment of Mayor Patrick R. Rios to the Stormwater and Floodplain Advisory Committee as the City of Rockport's representative.
- Question. Motion carried unanimously.  
It is so ordered.

**COUNTY REPORTS**

6. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly 2018 Report for the Texas Maritime Museum.
- Question. Motion carried unanimously.  
It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

7. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve April-June 2018 Quarterly Expenses HOT Report for the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce.  
Question. Motion carried unanimously.  
It is so ordered.
8. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly 2018 Report for the Rockport Center for the Arts.  
Question. Motion carried unanimously.  
It is so ordered.
9. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve and recognize a donation of \$46,970 from the One Star Foundation and Michael & Susan Dell Foundation collaborative project for the Rebuild Texas Fund to provide canopies for the bleachers at Tiger Field.  
Question. Motion carried unanimously.  
It is so ordered.

**CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES**

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Consulting Agreement with The Grant Connection, to provide grant-related resources and services as needed and requested by Aransas County.  
Question. Motion carried unanimously.  
It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve Resolution #R-09-2018, a Resolution of Aransas County, Texas authorizing the award of Recovery Grant Program Management Services contracts for Aransas County.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.
12. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve revisions to the Public Safety Communication Tower plans.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.
13. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign grant applications for three (3) projects that are included in the Aransas County Hazard Mitigation Plan: Club Lake, Copano Heights, and South Central Lamar drainage improvements.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.
14. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve authorizing the County Judge to designate the following locations as essential county facilities: Animal Shelter, Environmental Health Facility, Transfer Station, Public Safety Center, Detention Center, Road & Bridge Facility, Road & Bridge Shop, Road & Bridge Fuel Pumps, Airport Field Lighting, Airport Terminal, Elections Office, AgriLife Facility, Annex Facility, Live Oak Elementary

(Inserts)

School or Old Rockport School and Fulton Elementary School.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign a FEMA Hazardous Mitigation Grant application or the purchase of fifteen (15) generators and hookup equipment - ten (10) fixed and five (5) mobile, to be available during a time of emergencies and natural disasters. The locations are: Animal Shelter, Environmental Health Facility, Transfer Station, Public Service Center, Road & Bridge Facility, Road & Bridge Shop, Road & Bridge Fuel Pumps, Airport Field Lighting, Airport Terminal, Elections Office, AgriLife Facility, Annex Facility, Live Oak Elementary School or Old Rockport School and Fulton Elementary.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign a FEMA Hazardous Mitigation Grant application to purchase and install a dedicated fiber-optic cable network for the purpose of re-establishing communications to County, City, and other essential facilities during and after natural disasters. Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign contract amendment for Crowder Gulf for stump

(Inserts)

extractions.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

18. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve allowing PHI (Petroleum Helicopters Incorporated) to opt-out early in their lease in exchange for turning over ownership of their hangar and improvements back to Aransas County.

It is so ordered.

**COUNTY ROADS**

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline to set a fine of \$5,000 and record a letter of non-compliance in the property records as a condition of granting a variance.

Sub-motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve granting a variance to 205 Drum Drive, a new structure that was constructed non-compliant with minimum finished floor elevations requirements in the Aransas County Floodplain and Watershed Protection Order, setting a fine of \$8,000 and issuing a letter of non-compliance to be filed in the property records.

Question. Motion carried with Commissioner Casterline voting no.

It is so ordered.

**PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE**

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve the June 2018 Treasurer's

(Inserts)

Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

21. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve the Treasurer's 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Investment Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

22. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve applying for and accepting monetary assistance from HEB, through their Community Assistance Program, for the "Aransas County Kool Down" box fan distribution.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

23. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve Budget Line Item Transfers of which there were none.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

24. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll/Payroll Liabilities.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

25. General discussion of 2019 Budget with elected officials and department heads.

**Suzy Wallace:** We will begin the second round of budget meetings next Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday.

(Inserts)



REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &

DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

**Commissioner Olsen:** There is a blood drive today at the Public Safety Center from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Collin Jackson:** Introduced his new employee, Judy Sutterfield.

**Suzy Wallace:** Read the fee report for the month of May.

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*No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 9:47 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline.*

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



*Valerie K. Amason*

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VALERIE K. AMASON,

EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT