

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING - AUGUST 27, 2018

On the 27th day of August, 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 **Jerry Brundrett**, County Surveyor; **Kristen Barnebey**, County Attorney; **Jeri Cox**, Tax Assessor-Collector; **Alma Cartwright**, Treasurer; **Pam Heard**, District Clerk; **Suzy Wallace**, County Auditor; **Bill Mills**, Sheriff; **Linda Garcia Haynes**, Executive Assistant to the County Judge; **Carrie Arrington**, Office and Contracts Manager for the County/District Attorney; **Sue Pash**, Chief Deputy Treasurer; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Jacky Cockerham**, Assistant County Auditor; **Tana Taylor**, Assistant Auditor; **Elizabeth Guerra**, Human Resources Assistant; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Rene Butler**, Facilities Maintenance Director; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **Valerie Gonzalez**, Environmental Health Director; **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Ronell Burke**, Chief Animal Control Officer; **Diana Espinoza**, Drainage Engineer; **John Gutierrez**, Chief Deputy Sheriff; **Roman Cortez**, Deputy Chief/Jail Operations and

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

Keith Barrett, Harbor Master, Aransas County Navigation District;

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

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:

Commissioner Stiles: Are we going to entertain employee COLA's?

Judge Mills: We can, but I don't recommend giving a COLA raise.

Commissioner Olsen: No, I don't think we need to do COLA's this year, the employees are eligible for the step increases if the Department Head's and the Elected Official's opt to give them.

Commissioner Stiles: I understand.

REGULAR MEETING:

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Recognize and Present Proclamation #P-04-2018, Proclaiming September 2018 as Pediatric Cancer Month.

Judge Mills: Two young ladies, Jessica Hester (who lost her daughter, Brooke) and Jennifer Haynes (who lost her son, Trenton), came to visit me about a month ago, because of their

losses they started an organization to raise money for pediatric cancer awareness. They were supposed to be here to receive this proclamation today but I got an e-mail and they both have sick children and couldn't be here. They are going to hold a fund raiser golf tournament at the Portland North Shore Country Club next month and that is also Pediatric Cancer Awareness month, that's why you see these Gold Ribbons hanging there. This organization is named after Brooke, Brook's Blossoming Hope for Childhood Cancer, a 501C3 non-profit established in 2012.

Linda Garcia-Haynes: Read the proclamation.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

2. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 20, 2018.
3. Proclamation #P-04-2018, proclaiming September, 2018 as Pediatric Cancer Month.
4. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a Certificate of Completion presented by TxSWANA - Lone Star Chapter to Valerie Gonzalez, Environmental Health Director, for completion of 9.0 hours of attendance of Continuing Education Training at the TxSWANA 2018 Conference April 16-18, 2018 in Denton, TX.
5. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners Court a Certificate of Attendance presented to Alma Cartwright, Aransas County Treasurer for completion of 15 hours of instruction specific to investment education

(Inserts)

that satisfies Section 2256.008 of the Texas Public Funds Investment Act from Texas Association of Counties at the 2018 Conference of the County Investment Academy June 27-29, 2018 in Georgetown, TX.

6. Public official Blanket Bonds for the County Clerk and District Clerk Offices for the Deputy Clerks.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

7. Potential legislation for the upcoming Legislative session including TWIA proposals and proposed rate hikes, law enforcement abilities after declared disasters and the options for court jurisdictions went into closed session.

COUNTY ROADS

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to TABLE approving modifications to the Aransas County Right-of-Way Policy regarding disposal of abandoned water craft, motorized vehicles and recreational vehicles.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve a variance and approval of the Final Plat of Lots 4-R & 6-R, Copano Ridge Subdivision, Unit 7.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, GRANTS & LEASES

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign an Independent Contractor Agreement with Randy Bingham, P.A., to provide inmate medical services at the Aransas County Detention Center.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign an agreement with X-Ray on Wheels to provide mobile radiological services to the inmates at the Aransas County Detention Center.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve issuing requests for proposals and qualifications for services related to 2019-2020 Community Development funding as administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve a Joint Election Contract between the Aransas County Elections Administrator and the Aransas County Navigation District for an election to be held November 6, 2018.

(Inserts)

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign a Letter of Interest (LOI) on behalf of the Aransas County Airport to the Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Division for a future grant to rehabilitate all airfield pavement.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to authorizing the Sheriff's Office to award bid for purchase and installation of radar equipment to Victoria Communication Services.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the July 2018 Treasurer's Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve the Aransas County Navigation District (ACND) Tax Rate Levy for 2108 (Total effective tax rate levy of \$0.059822/\$100 valuation).

(Inserts)

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

18. 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.

19. 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.

20. Discussion and possible action of Proposed 2019

Budget.

Judge Mills: We are not going to be able to do anything until September 10, 2018.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &

DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Commissioner Olsen: 4-H is going to hold a membership drive and ice cream social tomorrow night at the AG Life Building from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. They are looking to build their membership so if you know of any children, youngsters up to high school, that want to join 4-H bring them out, they will learn about what clubs are available to join, I will do a public speaking session with the kids, there are all sorts of different things from livestock to archery, all sorts of things that youngsters can join.

Sheriff Mills: I just wanted to report that they completed the stacking of the new tower for our antennae, now we just have to go through the process of inspection and certification on the tower.

Commissioner Stiles: We had a very successful Harvey reunion at the Lamar Fire Department and I thank everybody for coming out, we had some good food and it was kind of like a family reunion.

Suzy Wallace: Read the Fees Report.

(Inserts).

The Court entered into closed session at 9:18 a.m. to discuss and review potential litigation issues and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1)(a); and to discuss real estate negotiations, including Pathways Projects pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072; and resumed Open Meeting at 10:15 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:

No action taken.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 10:16 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

August 27, 2018



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



VALERIE K. AMASON,
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT