

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING - AUGUST 24, 2015

On the 24th day of August, 2015, there was a Regular Meeting of the Commissioners' Court in the Courthouse, 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; Betty Stiles, Commissioner, Precinct 4; and Valerie K. Amason, County Clerk.

Other County Officers, Employees and Distinguished Guests present were Jerry Brundrett, County Surveyor; Jeri Cox, Tax Assessor-Collector; Lezlie Kirk, County Auditor; Bill Mills, County Sheriff; Linda Garcia, Executive Assistant to the County Judge; Pat Rousseau, Human Resources Director; Timilu Latham, Chief Deputy County Treasurer; David Reid, Drainage Engineer; John Strothman, Pathways Project Manager; Collin Jackson, IT Director; James Jackson, Environmental Health Officer; Michael Geer, Airport Manager; Ginger Easton, Agriculture Extension Office; and Jimmy Kendrick, Mayor of Fulton.

The Meeting was convened at 9:00 a.m. at which time a quorum was declared by County Judge Mills, WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had and done to wit:

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Thelma Edmundson and Rebecca Cornwall, advocates for the City/Community Pool, stressed the importance of what the pool means to so many who live in and visit Aransas County. They urged the Commissioners' Court to continue their support by allocating \$45,000 in the County's 2016 Budget, the same amount as provided in the past

Center for Aransas County, as presented by Pam Stranahan.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE ITEMS

5. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to **Table** the 2014 Fiscal Year Comprehensive Financial Audit of Aransas County as presented by Michael A. Arnold, CPA.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

6. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve Budget Line Item Transfers.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

7. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve Accounts Payable.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

8. Regarding Action on the Proposed 2016 Budget:

Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve continuing to fund \$45,000 in the 2016 Budget for the Community Pool with the requirement of full disclosure to be conducted.

Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Stiles and Judge Mills voted against the motion.

Motion was made by Judge Mills and seconded by Commissioner Smith to fund \$30,000 in the 2016 Budget for the Community Pool with the requirement that a Business Plan be implemented and furnished to the court along with full disclosure financial quarterly reports. Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to fund \$32,176.00 in the 2016 budget for six new solid waste containers at the Transfer Station. Question. Motion carried unanimously. It is so ordered.

**REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS &
DEPARTMENT HEADS WHEREIN NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN**

Commissioner Smith asked James Jackson if he was anticipating any increase in user fees at the Transfer Station. Mr. Jackson's response was, no.

**REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST REGARDING
WHICH NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN**

There were none.

The court did not enter into closed session.

PRESS QUESTIONS

Norma Martinez, Managing Editor of the Rockport Pilot:

Regarding the Transfer Station, the two cards per household use, what is the projection of cost savings from cutting the issuance of two cards to one card per household per week?

Judge Mills: They just recently changed the procedure and those figures are not available at this time.

Commissioner Smith: Were all of the cards passed out being used?

Mr. Jackson: If you take into account the cards that were passed out and compare the amount of weight, of the amount of weight that was available, 100% of that was being used.

Commissioner Smith: If we just change the configuration, more households would take advantage of it, but it's not going to increase the costs.

Ms. Martinez: Actually, if you increase the costs, basically, you get up to 500 lbs. free and then have to pay the excess. If you only get one card a month, will that increase revenues to the transfer station?

Commissioner Casterline: It's a possibility that you would get twice as many people getting one card and not less people getting two.

Commissioner Chaney: I think one thing we need to remember is we did not anticipate that this was going to increase the revenue, but that

August 24, 2015

we would see less trash showing up on the side of the road.

Mr. Jackson: We still get debris. About two years ago we picked up about 30 tons of trash in the unincorporated areas along county roads. This year will probably be about 28 tons.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 9:46 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Smith duly seconded by Commissioner Casterline.

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

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