

MINUTES OF THE

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

REGULAR MEETING - JANUARY 23, 2017

On the 23rd day of January, 2017, 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; **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; **Alma Cartwright**, Treasurer; **Pam Heard**, District Clerk; **Lezlie Kirk**, County Auditor; **Bill Mills**, Sheriff; **Lynn Doane**, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge; **Suzy Wallace**, 1st Assistant County Auditor; **David Reid**, Road Administrator/Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Pat Rousseau**, Human Resources Director; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **Valerie Gonzalez**, Interim Environmental Health Director; and **John Strothman**, Pathways Project Manager; **Diana Espinoza**, Drainage Engineer;

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

City of Rockport Council Members: **C. J. Wax**, Mayor; and **Barbara Gurtner**, Ward 4;

Diane Probst, President/CEO - Area Chamber of Commerce;

Greg Harlan, Owner of The Grant Connection;

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

Christopher Mace, President of the Rockport Aquarium Board of Directors;

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:

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS

President of the Master Gardener Program, Melody Waggoner, started by recognizing all Master Gardeners in attendance and praised them for the "thank you breakfast" they prepared this morning for some of the County Officials. She reported that according to the National figure of \$23.56 per hour, they completed 6,354 volunteer hours at a value of \$149,936 last year and they also host an Odyssey gardening program for children. She announced that Planting Day is coming up this Saturday at the AIM Hospice Center, a plant sale March 4th from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., stressed the importance of waiting until about February 15th before you start pruning efforts around your home and that Virginia Easton-Smith, County Extension Agent, has put out an article on this subject which is available at her office.

(Insert)

CONSENT ITEMS

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

1. Minutes from the Commissioners' Court Regular Meeting of January 9, 2017.
2. Acknowledge receipt of and record in minutes of Commissioners' Court the District Judge's Salary Order for the County Auditor and Auditor Staff for Fiscal Year 2017.
3. Accepting a donation of a "2000" Genie Scissor GS1930 Electric scissor lift, serial number 40891, valued at \$1000 to the Aransas County Facility Department.
4. Auctioning items in the Surplus Trailer, Forfeiture and Abandoned vehicles, R&B Equipment, SO and Public Facility vehicles and 4 pallets of old miscellaneous scrap parts.
5. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners' Court a certificate from the Texas Association of Elections Administrators certifying Michele Bennett, Elections Administrator as the 51st Certified Registered Election Official in the State of Texas.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

COUNTY REPORTS

6. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the Maritime Museum Expended 4th Quarter 2016 Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Funds Report.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

7. Motion was made by Commissioner Olsen and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the Rockport Center for the Arts Expended 4th Quarter 2016 Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Funds Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

8. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve Aquarium at Rockport Harbor Expended 4th Quarter 2016 Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Funds Report.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONTRACTS & AGREEMENTS

9. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign a contract with Derrick Construction Company, Inc. for Improvements at the St. Charles Bay Boat Ramp Facility.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign an agreement with Mott MacDonald Engineering for Construction Phase Services for the St. Charles Bay Boat Ramp Project.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

(Inserts)

11. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve authorizing the County Judge to sign a contract with Greg Harlan to write a TXDOT Grant Application for improvements on Aransas Pathways Southern Trail Project.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.
12. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve authorizing the County Judge to enter into and sign an agreement with Schlitterbahn Waterparks for county employees to receive promotional discounts on the purchase of electronic tickets to the park. (There is no cost to the county for this service.)
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.
13. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve Danny Adams request to renew the lease on John Wendell Road with a final five (5) year option.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.
14. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve a Thomson Reuters E-Book Order (thirty six (36) month term) for the County District Attorney along with a Non Availability of Funds Addendum which allows for the possibility to cancel the order after the initial twelve (12) months.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

COUNTY ROADS

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve a final plat of Lots 20-A, 20-B & 20-C, Block 3, C. B. Lucas Subdivision.
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 Purchase Order for The Floating Kayak Launch at St. Charles Bay Boat Ramp Facility. (This is an Aransas Pathways Project).
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.
17. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve allowing the Transfer Station to drop off and pick up two (2) Roll-Off Containers at the San Patricio Fair Grounds and to also pay disposal fees in connection with the San Patricio and Aransas Counties Agriculture and Homemakers Show on January 23rd - 30th, 2017.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.
18. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Olsen to approve renewing Property & Casualty Insurance Coverage for Aransas County with GSM Insurers and authorizing payment of invoice for the same.
Question. Motion carried unanimously.
It is so ordered.

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

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

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

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

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

Commissioner Chaney thanked the Environmental Services and the Road/Bridge Department for the clean-ups performed at Lewis Park.

Commissioner Stiles stated that she attended a Holiday Beach Home Owners' Association meeting last Saturday and attendees were thrilled that two new roads that were being put in out there and also the work being done on Belaire Survey.

Commissioner Olsen reported that he came back from his first conference with a wealth of knowledge and also a lot of homework to do and that he will be visiting all the department heads to decipher what their jobs are.

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

There were none.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 9:45 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles.

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

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