

MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR MEETING - MARCH 28, 2016

On the 28th day of March, 2016, 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 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; **David Vyoral**, Road Administrator; **Collin Jackson**, IT Director; **Carrie Arrington**, Office & Contracts Manager for the County Attorney's Office; **David Reid**, Drainage Engineer/Stormwater Management Engineer; **Michael Geer**, Airport Manager; **James Jackson**, Environmental Health Director;

Other persons present include: **Diane Probst**, Area Chamber of Commerce, President/CEO; **C. J. Wax**, City of Rockport Mayor; **Barbara Gurtner**, Council Member, City of Rockport; **Brian Olsen**, Unopposed Candidate for Precinct 3 Commissioner in upcoming General 2016 Election; and **Norma Martinez**, Managing Editor 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

Rockport Arts District Designation introduced by Jennifer Day. She stated that she is here today to talk about the Cultural Arts District Designation for Rockport. She is asking the Court for their continued support through a resolution approval that will be attached to an application for the Texas Commission of the Arts (TCA) ultimate approval. We are sponsored by the Rockport Heritage District Association. They are in the process of redoing their bylaws and changing their name, we will be a part of that and our title will be the Rockport Arts District. In 2005 there was a bill passed for these particular designations with a goal of promoting economic development and community revitalization. Rockport is unfortunately losing local artists to death and we need to attract more artists to this area. Incentives for Art Districts include tax credits for preservation of cultural properties, enhancing property values, encouraging business and job development, tourism, and housing. Jennifer explained that the five million in grant money has already been distributed for this year. We are asking for help from the County and the City of Rockport to help fund at this time:

- 1) hiring a grant writer - \$5,000
- 2) website design - \$2,500
- 3) required (in order to qualify) audio/visual - \$2,500

We will then submit our application for designation and when accepted, we will then be able to apply for the grants.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

1. Minutes from the Commissioners' Court Regular Meeting of March 14, 2016.

Question. Motion carried excepting Commissioner Chaney who was absent in the courtroom for this item.

It is so ordered.

18. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve reducing speed limit signs from 30 mph to 25 mph on North Fulton Beach Road.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

2. Public Official Blanket Bond for the Aransas County IT Department.

3. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners' Court; 2015 Texas Veterans Commission Certification of Completion of training for Mike (David M.) Kuertz, Veterans Service Officer (VSO).

4. Acknowledge receipt of and record in the minutes of Commissioners' Court; 2015 Certificate of Continuing Education & 2015 Certificate of Public Funds Investment Act for Alma Cartwright, County Treasurer.

6. Approve Resolution #R-09-2016 authorizing execution of a participation agreement and trust instrument for Local Government Investment Cooperative (LOGIC).
7. Approve Resolution #R-04-2016 adopting Investment Policy as Amended.
8. Approve Resolution #R-05-2016 appointing investment officers.
9. Approve Resolution #R-06-2016 approving investment broker/dealer list.
11. Resolution #R-10-2016 supporting the Keep Texas Beautiful, Inc. organization in Aransas County and establishing a Keep Aransas County Beautiful Committee.
12. Resolution #R-11-2016 honoring the Coastal Bend Council of Governments (COGS) on its 50th Anniversary.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

CONSENT ITEMS WITH DISCUSSION

5. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to authorize the Airport Manager to lease a temporary building for the purpose of providing additional space for the offshore helicopter passengers, their luggage and Island Operators personnel.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

10. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution #R-08-2016 for

certification and authorizing funding up to \$10,000 for a Cultural District to be named: Rockport Arts District.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

COUNTY REPORTS & APPOINTMENTS

13. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to accept Jim Bounds resignation from the Board of Directors of Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend and approve the appointment of Kari Kelley to said board.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

14. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve the appointment of David Reid as Road & Bridge Administrator Pay Group 34 effective April 4, 2016.

Norma Martinez asked for clarification on the salary increase.

Judge Mills responded: This pay group is above what he is making now, but not as much as David Vyoral currently makes.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

15. Motion was made by Commissioner Stiles and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the appointment of County Treasurer, Alma Cartwright, to the Community Action Committee of Victoria Texas (CACVT) Board of Directors and to represent Aransas County on said board.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

16. Motion was made by Commissioner Chaney and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve the appointment of early Voting Clerks for the May 7, 2016 Special Election.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

COUNTY ROADS

17. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles to approve assessment on property owners at the rate of five percent per annum over a five year period beginning on the second anniversary of the date of assessment, per Transportation Code Title 6, Subtitle C, Section 253, for construction costs on Janacek Road improvements.

Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

PLANNING & BUDGET OFFICE

19. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Chaney to approve promotion for Moises Lopez from Equipment Operator II to Equipment Operator III Pay Group 17 effective March 28, 2016.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

20. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline to approve an increase from \$250 to \$400 in the Petty Cash Fund for the Transfer Station.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

21. Motion was made by Commissioner Casterline and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve putting a lien in the amount of \$4,152.14 on the property at 206 Lazy Lane due to abatement costs.

Question. Motion carried unanimously.

It is so ordered.

22. There were no Budget Line Item Transfers.

23. Motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Casterline 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

County Treasurer, Alma Cartwright, stated that the Agricultural Extension office has started their community garden and they had about ten people that may be interested in the planting classes they are offering.

REPORTS ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

REGARDING WHICH NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

There were none.

The Court entered into closed session at 9:45 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 10:16 a.m. with all members present, and further proceedings were had and done to wit:

No action taken after closed session.

No further business presenting, the Court adjourned at 10:18 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stiles.

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

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