

Honorable County
Joe Cruz
Commissioner, Pct. 1



Honorable County
Commissioner Jesse Gonzales,
Pct. 3

Honorable County
Raul Gomez
Commissioner Pct. 2

Honorable County
Commissioner Florencio "Flo"
Melendrez, Pct. 4

Honorable County Judge Cindy Martinez-Rivera

REGULAR MEETING

April 19th, 2023

Notice is hereby Given Pursuant to the requirement of Section 551.001 ET EQ., Texas Government Code that the Commissioner Court of Zavala County will meet in a Special Session, Wednesday, April 19th, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at the Commissioners' Courtroom Zavala County Courthouse located at 200 E. Uvalde Street, Crystal City, Texas.

THE COURT MET AT 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT:

Honorable County Judge Cindy Martinez-Rivera
Honorable County Commissioner Joe Cruz Pct. 1
Honorable County Commissioner Raul Gomez Pct. 2
Honorable County Commissioner Jesse Gonzales Pct. 3
Honorable County Commissioner Florencio "Flo" Melendrez Pct. 4

APPROVED BY C.C.
This 17th day of May, 2023
At 11:30 o'clock, A M
MICHELLE B. URRABAZO
County Clerk, Zavala County, Texas
By [Signature]

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michelle B. Urrabazo, County Clerk; Carlos Pereda, County Auditor; Rosario Benavidez, Tax Assessor; Janie Patching, Nutrition Center; Deputy Jimenez; Deputy Rios; Will Bittick, IT; Noelia Ramirez; Matt Martinez and Nora Guerrero

1. **ESTABLISH QUORUM:**

The County Clerk Michelle B. Urrabazo called roll. A legal quorum was established with the County Judge and four County Commissioners present. (Pct.1, 2, 3 & 4)

2. **WELCOME THE PUBLIC:**

Judge Rivera presiding over the meeting welcomes everyone present.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Rene Ramirez addressed the court to bring a concern. Mr. Joe Barajas is opening an event center across his home. Mr. Barajas has a live band practicing outdoors during the week until late at night. He stated the music is loud and keeps his children from sleeping and he has called the Sheriff's office to report it. He would like for Commissioner's court to look over this concern.

4. **PRESENTATION BY DIVINITY FAMILY SERVICES & BELONG:**

Richard Garza gave a brief presentation for the Divinity Family Services & Belong.

DELIBERATE AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

5. **CONSIDER APPROVING BILLS AND REQUISITIONS:**

Motion made by Commissioner Gomez Second by Commissioner Cruz to approve the bills and requisitions for Juan Saucedo and Mario Santoya to attend Armorer Certification; Joey Isquierdo and Randy Loera to attend Texas Jail Association Conference; Julia Velasquez to attend experience court personnel seminar; Carlos Pereda to attend County Auditors Institute and Michelle Urrabazo reimbursement. Motion carries. 5/0 vote

6. **APPROVE PAYROLL TRANSFERS:**

Motion made by Commissioner Gomez Second by Commissioner Gonzales to approve payroll transfers. Motion carries. 5/0 vote

Honorable County
Joe Cruz
Commissioner, Pct. 1



Honorable County
Commissioner Jesse Gonzales,
Pct. 3

Honorable County
Raul Gomez
Commissioner Pct. 2

Honorable County
Commissioner Florencio "Flo"
Melendrez, Pct. 4

Honorable County Judge Cindy Martinez-Rivera

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Commissioner Joe Cruz, Pct. 1 and 1A gave his March monthly report for distribution of commodities, picked up branches, cleaned parks and repair streets in Batesville.
- B. Commissioner Raul Gomez, Pct. 2 gave his March monthly report for distribution of commodities, picked up branches in precinct 2 and 3, mowed and weed eat at Zavala County Nutrition Center and Road Department, met with Betty Sifuentes about office space for Middle Rio Grande, met with Mario Obledo about invoice of SA Food Bank, spoke to Maribel Rangel TXDOT director in the area about projects and met with Mr. Snowden concerning Old Uvalde Hwy for TXDOT CTIF grant.
- C. Commissioner Jesse Gonzales, Pct. 3 gave his April monthly report for the distribution of commodities, picked up branches, attended county cyber security training, yard maintenance at the Zapata Park, El Chico Park, Chula Vista Park and Bike Hike Trail, clean and grease equipment, change oil and oil filter on Ford pickup and picked up branches in Chula Vista.
- D. Commissioner Florencio Melendrez, Pct. 4 submitted his March monthly report for distribution of commodities, picked up branches, clean yard and serviced equipment, picked up trash at the Nueces River and patched holes.
- E. Constable John Simpson, Pct. 1, did not submit his March monthly report.
- F. Constable Joe Flores, Pct. 2 submitted his April monthly report that completed rifle course, patrolled areas in precinct 2, conducted traffic stops and issued verbal warnings and citations, and available to assist local law enforcement agencies.
- G. Constable Luis E. Hinojosa, Pct. 3 did not submit his March report.
- H. Constable Jesse Hernandez, Pct. 4 submitted his March monthly report for patrolling residential areas, businesses, school zone areas in La Pryor and Crystal City, conducted traffic stops, issued citations, attended crisis intervention training in Eagle Pass and assisted local agencies.
- I. Utility Department, Anselma Rocha submitted her March monthly report for total collections Utility Revenue \$32,564.05 and Landfill Revenue \$1,084.00.
- J. Sheriff Eusevio Salinas submitted his March monthly report for Operation Lonestar, OSPG 2021 Balance, LBSP 2023 Balance, citations, jail monthly billing, arrest, offense/incident reports, undocumented persons turned over to BP and recovered stolen vehicles.
- K. AgriLife Extension Office, Leslie Dominguez submitted her March monthly report for all the activities participated.
- L. Nutrition Center, Janie Patching submitted her March monthly report for Middle Rio Grande \$9,162.54 and Title XX \$2,272.68.

Motion made by Commissioner Gomez Second by Commissioner Melendrez to approve the departmental reports submitted by each department.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION APPROVING DRIVER'S LICENSE OFFICE TO ADD SIGNS IN FRONT AND SIDE OF COURTHOUSE TO DIRECT THE PUBLIC TO THE OFFICE LOCATION:

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzales Second by Commissioner Gomez to TABLE this agenda due to no one from the Driver's license office present to address the court.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

Honorable County
Joe Cruz
Commissioner, Pct. 1



Honorable County
Commissioner Jesse Gonzales,
Pct. 3

Honorable County
Raul Gomez
Commissioner Pct. 2

Honorable County
Commissioner Florencio "Flo"
Melendrez, Pct. 4

Honorable County Judge Cindy Martinez-Rivera

9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON TAX ASSESSOR'S CHIEF DEPUTY SALARY ADJUSTMENT ACCORDING TO BUDGET:

Motion made by Commissioner Melendrez Second by Commissioner Cruz to TABLE this agenda item.
Motion carries. 5/0 vote

10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON MAKING ONE MAIN ENTRY WAY TO THE ZAVALA COUNTY COURTHOUSE:

Judge Rivera recommends to have a main entry way for the courthouse. She recommends for the safety of the employees. Commissioner Gonzales stated that we need a safety plan in place before there is one main entrance.

Motion made by Judge Rivera Second by Commissioner Melendrez to approve making one main entry way to the Zavala County Courthouse. Commissioner Gonzales, Commissioner Gomez and Commissioner Cruz opposed.

Motion did not pass. 2/3 vote

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzales Second by Commissioner Gomez to TABLE this agenda item. Judge Rivera opposed
Motion carries. 4/1 vote

11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO HIRE A FULL-TIME SECURITY GUARD FOR COURTHOUSE

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzales Second by Commissioner Gomez to TABLE this agenda item.
Motion carries. 5/0 vote

12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO HIRE A HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE AGRILIFE EXTENSION OFFICE SUITE #221 LUNA BUILDING DUE TO HEALTH SAFETY CONCERNS:

Judge Rivera stated Ms. Dominguez is requesting a health inspector to inspect the office. Ms. Dominguez has been having issues with a strong odor they are not sure if it's mold or what it is. Commissioner Gomez stated they need to send a letter to the landlord to address any issues and if the landlord doesn't take care of it then bring back to Commissioners court.

Motion made by Commissioner Gomez Second by Commissioner Gonzales to approve recommending the Ms. Dominguez to send the landlord a letter to address the issues, if landlord doesn't take care of it then to bring back to Commissioners court.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON COMPLETION OF SIDEWALKS, HANDICAP RAMPS AND STAIRS AT THE ZAVALA COUNTY COURTHOUSE:

Nora Guerrero from Aztex Building addressed the court in regards the completion of the sidewalks. She stated back in January she submitted a change order and Mr. Pereda was going to check if within the 25%. She stated that Mr. Pereda finally responded that she is within the 25%. She stated they will proceed to complete the sidewalks as soon as they are done with Popeye Lake Project.

Discussion Commissioner Gomez would like to include in his motion to check the legalities of the change order of including other projects to the project approved.

Commissioner Gonzales stated that the change order needs to be within the project and needs to be approved through Commissioners court.

Motion made by Commissioner Gomez Second by Commissioner Gonzales to approve to check the legalities of the change order. Judge Rivera opposed.

Motion carries. 4/1 vote

Honorable County
Joe Cruz
Commissioner, Pct. 1



Honorable County
Commissioner Jesse Gonzales,
Pct. 3

Honorable County
Raul Gomez
Commissioner Pct. 2

Honorable County
Commissioner Florencio "Flo"
Melendrez, Pct. 4

Honorable County Judge Cindy Martinez-Rivera

14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON SAN ANTONIO FOOD BANK INVOICES:

Mario Obledo Jr. from San Antonio Food Bank Services provided information on the Food Bank. He also stated the 501C3 doesn't need to go through the Chamber of Commerce. He doesn't have an explanation of when and why it was done that way. He also stated they have not received payment from the county.
No action taken for this agenda item.

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ZAVALA COUNTY TXDOT CTIF GRANT, OLD UVALDE HIGHWAY:

Mr. Snowden gave a brief report on the grant and on the Old Uvalde Highway. He stated that TXDot responded that segment is not on there map and belongs to the county.

Motion made by Commissioner Gomez Second by Commissioner Gonzales to approve to proceed with the project.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REQUESTING PAYMENT FOR LABOR ONLY TO COMPLETE THE ZAVALA CO. ROAD DEPARTMENT RENOVATION PROJECT PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT:

Commissioner Gomez submitted three quotes.

1. Jose Gutierrez \$2,400.00
2. JF Painting \$2,900.00
3. E. Villareal \$2,975.00

Motion made by Commissioner Gomez Second by Commissioner Gonzales to approve the quote from Jose Gutierrez int the amount of \$2,400.00.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

17. CONSIDER AND APPROVE INCREASING CREDIT CARD LIMIT TO THE COUNTY CREDIT CARD:

Mr. Pereda stated the credit card will increase from \$3,000.00 to \$7,000.00.

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzales Second by Commissioner Cruz to approve increasing credit card limit from \$3,000.00 to \$7,000.00 to the county credit card.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

18. CONSIDER AND APPROVE STIPEND FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:

Judge Rivera stated she brought back this item because Commissioners Gomez had requested to check other counties how much they pay their EMC. She stated Eagle Pass pay \$10,000.00 and Dimmit County pays \$5,000.00. Judge Rivera recommends to pay \$18,000.00 a year that is \$1,500.00. a month.

Discussion Commissioner Gonzales to submit a Budget Amendment if necessary.

Motion by Commissioner Gonzales Second by Commissioner Gomez to approve stipend for Emergency Management Coordinator.

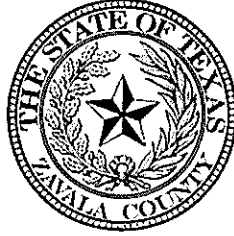
Motion carries. 5/0 vote

19. CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL OPENING BIDS FOR BROADBAND INTERNET PROVIDER:

Motion made by Commissioner Gomez Second by Commissioner Cruz to approve opening bids for broadband internet provider.

1. Command Link \$2,537.50
2. Telesystem \$2,735.91

Honorable County
Joe Cruz
Commissioner, Pct. 1



Honorable County
Commissioner Jesse Gonzales,
Pct. 3

Honorable County
Raul Gomez
Commissioner Pct. 2

Honorable County
Commissioner Florencio "Flo"
Melendrez, Pct. 4

Honorable County Judge Cindy Martinez-Rivera

20. CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL AWARDING BIDS FOR BROADBAND INTERNET PROVIDER:

Will Bittick, IT reviewed the two bids received and he recommends Telesystem in the amount \$2,735.91.

Motion made by Commissioner Gonzales Second by Commissioner Gomez to approve awarding bid to Telesystem in the amount \$2,735.91.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

21. CONSIDER AND APPROVE A SERVER FOR THE UTILITY DEPARTMENT:

Motion made by Commissioner Second by Commissioner Gomez to approve a server for the Utility Department.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

22. CONSIDER AND APPROVE A NEW REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER AND KITCHEN SUPPLIES FOR THE BATESVILLE NUTRITION CENTER:

Motion made by Commissioner Cruz Second by Commissioner Melendrez to approve a new refrigerator/freezer and kitchen supplies for the Batesville Nutrition Center.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

23. CONSIDER LIFTING BURN BAN FOR ZAVALA COUNTY:

Deputy Jimenez advised that it is dry and to keep burn ban.

No action taken for this agenda item.

24. CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES, TO WIT:

a. March 8, 2023

Motion made by Commissioner Cruz Second by Commissioner Melendrez to approve Commissioner court minutes for March 8th, 2023.

Motion carries. 5/0 vote

25. COMMISSIONER REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

(No action or discussion may occur during this agenda item)

No items requested at this time.

26. ADJOURN

Motion made by Commissioner Cruz Second by Commissioner Melendrez to adjourn the Regular Meeting. There being no further business before the Court, Judge Rivera adjourned the Regular Commissioners Court for April 19th, 2023 at 12:20 P.M.

If during the course of meeting, discussing of any item on this Agenda be held to a closed meeting, the Court will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D and E, including consultation with counsel under section 551.071 and certain personnel matter under section 551.074. Before any closed meeting convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the Section or Sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, action, or decisions to be taken in open meeting.

Honorable County
Joe Cruz
Commissioner, Pct. 1



Honorable County
Commissioner Jesse Gonzales,
Pct. 3

Honorable County
Raul Gomez
Commissioner Pct. 2

Honorable County
Commissioner Florencio "Flo"
Melendrez, Pct. 4

Honorable County Judge Cindy Martinez-Rivera

Duly approved by vote of the Zavala County Commissioner's Court sitting in session in the county seat of Zavala County, Texas, on this 17th day of May, 2023.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 17th day of May, 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cindy Martinez-Rivera".

Hon. Cindy Martinez-Rivera, County Judge

Attest:



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle B. Urrabazo".

Michelle B. Urrabazo, County Clerk