

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF CAMERON §

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 30TH day of JANUARY, 1996, there was conducted a **REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING** of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Cameron County, Texas, at the Courthouse thereof, in the City of Brownsville, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same.

THE COURT MET AT:

1:30 P. M.

PRESENT:

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

LUCINO ROSENBAUM, JR.
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1

CARLOS H. CASCOS, C.P.A.
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2

JAMES R. MATZ
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3

HECTOR PEÑA
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

Hilda V. Treviño Deputy
COUNTY CLERK

ABSENT:



The meeting was called to order by Judge Gilberto Hinojosa. He then asked Mr. Bob Clark, Brownsville resident, for the invocation and Commissioner Cascos to lead the Court and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on January 26, 1996, at 1:49 A.M.:

(5) PRESENTATION TO INTRODUCE THE 1996 AMERICORP PARTICIPANTS THAT WILL BE WORKING THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY

At this time, Mr. Terry A. Lockamy, County Extension Agent, presented the following 1996 AmeriCorp Participants and noted their initiatives to promote environmental awareness throughout the County:

- a) Aurora De La Cruz, Harlingen, Texas
- b) Colleen Catlett, La Feria, Texas
- c) Zitlalic Gallegos, La Feria, Texas
- d) James Aramburu, Brownsville, Texas
- e) Orlando Melendez, Harlingen, Texas, and
- f) Katherine Mendoza, Los Fresnos, Texas.



(1) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, reported that there were nine (9) Purchases Without Purchase Orders and added that vendors would be notified that future claims would not be paid without Purchase Orders.

Commissioner Rosenbaum moved that the County Claims be approved as presented by the County Auditor.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.



(2) APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND/OR SALARY SCHEDULES

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that there were no Budget Amendments and/or Salary Schedules for approval.



(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 9, 1996, AND JANUARY 16, 1996

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Minutes for the Regular Meeting held on January 9, 1996, at 1:30 P.M., and the Regular Meeting held on January 16, 1996, at 1:30 P.M. were approved.



(4) **PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST QUARTER 1995-1996 REPORT ON REVENUE AND CROSSINGS ON CAMERON COUNTY INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE SYSTEM - GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE AND FREE TRADE BRIDGE**

At this time, Mr. Jose F. Galvan, International Bridge System Director, reviewed the First Quarterly Report regarding the Cameron County International Bridge System, that being the Gateway International Bridge at Brownsville and the Free Trade Bridge at Los Indios.

Commissioner Peña moved that the Presentation of the First Quarter 1996/1996 Report on Revenue and Crossings on Cameron County International Bridge System, that being the Gateway International Bridge and Free Trade Bridge, be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz.

At this time, there was some discussion concerning the decrease in crossings and Revenues which would result in shortfalls in the Budget at the end of the Fiscal Year, and the need to transfer money to subsidize the General Fund and the suggestion was made to study the matter and make the appropriate adjustments as soon as possible.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Peña, and seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Presentation of the First Quarter 95/96 Report on Revenue and Crossings on Cameron County International Bridge System, that being the Gateway International Bridge and Free Trade Bridge, was acknowledged.

The Reports are as follow:

(6) IN THE MATTER TO PROVIDE EXTRA HELP FOR CONSTABLE PRECINCT NO. 1 FOR THE SPRING BREAK PERIOD, FEBRUARY 23, 1996, THROUGH MAY 2, 1996 (TABLED)

There was some discussion concerning the transfer of Deputies for the ten (10) week period of Spring Break to Constable Precinct No. 1 and the suggestion was made to table the matter, in order to discuss the options available with other Law Enforcement Agencies.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum, and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**.



(7) IN THE MATTER OF THE EASEMENT OF SOUTHERN UNION COMPANY TO INSTALL A GAS LINE AT LOS INDIOS INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE (TABLED)

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**.

At this time, Commissioner Cascos suggested that the Easement of Southern Union Company to install a gas line at Los Indios International Bridge be discussed in Executive Session at the next Meeting.



(8) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR TO ALLOW THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCESS ONLY INFORMATION FROM THE TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR'S TAX ROLLS

At this time, Mr. Tony Yzaguirre Jr., Tax Assessor-Collector, noted that the Sheriff's Office and the Elections Administrator needed access to retrieve names and addresses from the Tax Assessor-Collector's tax rolls, and added that the information to be retrieved was not confidential.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Tax Assessor-Collector was authorized to allow the Sheriff's Office and the Elections Administrator to access "only" information from the Tax Assessor-Collector's tax rolls.



(9) IN THE MATTER OF THE TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH H.E. BUTT COMPANY TO ISSUE AUTOMOBILE RENEWAL LICENSE STICKERS WITHIN CAMERON COUNTY (TABLED)

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED**.



(10) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE TO SUBSTITUTE SECURITIES PLEDGED AGAINST DEPOSITS

Commissioner Peña moved that the authorization for the International Bank of Commerce to substitute Securities Pledged against Deposits be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously as follows:

AYE: Commissioners Cascos, Rosenbaum, Matz, and Peña

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: Judge Hinojosa.

The Agreement is as follows:

(11) AUTHORIZATION FOR COUNTY JUDGE TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 1, TO TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CONTRACT NO. 703025

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the County Judge was authorized to execute Amendment No. 1, to the Texas Community Development Program Contract No. 703025.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa noted that the Texas Department of Housing and Community Development withdrew the Regulations that would have eliminated the funding for the Community Block Grants.

The Amendment is as follows:

**(12) AUTHORIZATION TO MODIFY THE CAMERON
PARK RECREATION PROJECT GRANT
APPLICATION AND PROJECT BUDGET**

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the modification to the Cameron Park Recreation Project Grant Application and Project Budget was approved.

The Application is as follows:

**(13) APPROVAL OF THE VOTING MACHINE LEASE
AND SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CAMERON COUNTY AND THE POINT ISABEL
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Commissioner Matz moved that Voting Machine Lease and Service Agreement between Cameron County and the Point Isabel Independent School District be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried as follows:

AYE: Commissioners Rosenbaum, Cascos, Matz, and Peña

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: Judge Hinojosa.

The Service Agreement is as follows:

(14) **APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR A VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT GRANT FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION BY CAMERON COUNTY ON BEHALF OF CAMERON VICTIMS ASSISTANCE AND FRIENDSHIP OF WOMEN, INC.**

At this time, Mr. Woodie Peables, Director of the Crime Victim's Assistance Program, stated that the Grant, in the amount of \$60,000.00, would be utilized by the Victims Assistance Program to provide services North of the San Benito City Limits, and the Friendship of Women, Inc. would service the area South of the San Benito City Limits, and added that each unit would operate as a whole to satisfy the State's requirement for the Community Development Plan.

Commissioner Matz moved that the Resolution authorizing the submission of an Application for a Victims of Crime Act Grant from the Governor's Office Criminal Justice Division by Cameron County, on behalf of Cameron Victims Assistance and Friendship of Women, Inc., be adopted.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously.

The Resolution is as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE RECOMMENDED FOR "CONSENT" AND WERE EITHER RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT HEAD, WITHIN BUDGET OR AWARDED TO THE LOW BIDDER:

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the "Consent" Agenda Items were approved as follow:

(15) AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL AND/OR APPROVAL OF TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR THE FOLLOWING

- a) Chief Juvenile Officer to attend "Meetings on Alien Project with El Paso Chief and Texas Juvenile Probation Chief (TJPC)" on February 1-4, 1996, in Austin, Texas;
- b) Chief Juvenile Officer to attend "Committee Meetings and the TCA Southwest Regional Conference" on February 10-13, 1996, in San Antonio, Texas;
- c) Two (2) Drug Enforcement Task Force Officers to attend the "Lower Rio Grande Valley Police Academy Training Course" on January 29-30, 1996, in Raymondville, Texas;
- d) Four (4) Drug Enforcement Task Force Officers to attend the "Forty (40) Hour Training School" on February 5-9, 1996, in Harlingen, Texas;
- e) Two (2) Drug Enforcement Task Force Officers to attend a "Mandatory South Texas High Intense Drug Traffic Area Executive Committee" on February 6, 1996, in San Antonio, Texas;
- f) Two (2) Drug Enforcement Task Force Officers to attend a "Three (3) Day Training at the Lower Rio Grande Valley Police Academy" on February 12-14, 1996, in Raymondville, Texas;
- g) Health Department employee to attend the "Forth Annual On Site Wastewater Treatment Research Council Conference" on March 10-12, 1996, in College Station, Texas;
- h) Marine-County Extension Agent to meet with the "Washington Beach Shark Fishermen" on January 22-24, 1996, in Washington Beach, Mexico;
- I) County Agent to attend "District No. 12 4-H Council Meeting" on February 20, 1996, in Freer, Texas;

- j) County Clerk Staff Programmer to attend "IBM and the Synon Language Conference" on February 1, 1996, in San Antonio, Texas;
- k) Executive Assistant to the County Judge to attend the "Bond Issue Meeting" on January 17-21, 1996, in New York; and
- l) Executive Secretary to the County Judge to attend the "1st Annual State Wide Training Conference for County Judges Staff" on February 7, 1996, in Austin, Texas;

(16) PRELIMINARY AND FINAL APPROVAL

a) Precinct No. 4

Tony Brook Subdivision - being the East 12.96 acres
out of Block No. 11 of the Bixby Subdivision.

(17) AUTHORIZATION TO REJECT AND READVERTISE FOR BIDS OR PURCHASE FROM THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ON ONE (1) COMPACT PICK-UP TRUCK AND ONE (1) FOUR WHEEL DRIVE FLAT BED TRUCK (IN-STOCK) - PARKS DEPARTMENT

(18) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD BID FOR A MOTORGRADER FOR PRECINCT NO. 4

NUECES POWER AND EQUIPMENT - San Benito, Texas
Motorgrader with Trade - \$87,761.00

(19) AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE ONE (1) FOUR WHEEL DRIVE 3/4 TON FLAT BED TRUCK FROM HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

(20) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD BIDS FOR

A) ANNUAL BIDS - PATROL TIRES

ROUND TIRE - Harlingen, Texas

Item	Description	Cost
a)	P225-70R15	\$47.00
b)	P235-70R15	\$49.00

B) ANNUAL BIDS - TAMALES

LUPITA'S TORTILLAS - Brownsville, Texas

Item	Description	Cost
a)	Tamales - Chicken	\$2.30
b)	Tamales - Pork	\$2.30

C) ANNUAL BIDS - LIGHT BULBS AND BALLASTS

ELECTRIC FIXTURE - Brownsville, Texas

Item	Description	Cost
a)	F40 T12 Cool White 40 Watt	\$1.08
b)	F96 T12 Cool White 75 Watt	\$2.60
c)	H096 T12CW 75 Watt	\$3.00
d)	Incandescent Bulbs - F/W 150 Watt/130 V	\$0.76
e)	Incandescent Bulbs - F/W 75 Watt/130 V	\$0.30
f)	Ballast 40T12 120V	\$9.80
g)	Ballast 40T 12 277V	\$9.80
h)	Ballast 90T12 120V	\$15.00

D) ANNUAL BIDS - LAUNDRY SOAP

ECO LAB - St. Paul, Minnesota

Item	Description	Cost
a)	Powder Detergent	\$1.30

ASTRO - McAllen, Texas

Item	Description	Cost
b)	Liquid Detergent	\$9.00

R & E ENTERPRISES - Brownsville, Texas

Item	Description	Cost
c)	Liquid Bleach	\$1.33

(21) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD BIDS FOR PICK-UP TRUCKS - MAINTENANCE AND FLEET MAINTENANCE

TIP-O-TEX CHEVROLET - Brownsville, Texas

Pick-Up ½ Ton - Extended Cab with Trade - \$15,608.16

L.T. BOSWELL - San Benito, Texas

Pick-Up ½ Ton - Regular Cab without Trade - \$14,940.00

KELLOGG CHEVROLET - San Benito, Texas

Pick-Up ½ Ton - Extended Cab without Trade - \$18,958.00

(22) EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 2:00 P.M. to discuss the following matters:

- a) Confer with Legal Counsel regarding Property Acquisition for the Los Tomates Bridge Project; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072;
- b) Deliberation of Personnel Matters regarding Olga Cisneros, Case Management Worker for the Child Welfare Department; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.074 (a) (1&2);
- c) Confer with Legal Counsel concerning possible litigation involving Del Mar Heights; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (1)(A);
- d) Discuss status of various pending County Cases in litigation; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (2); and
- e) Rolando Flores vs. Cameron County, et. al., B-90-223, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Brownsville Division, and Case No. 90-12-7708-B, in the 138th Judicial District, Cameron County, to receive advise of Counsel and discuss settlement; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (1)(A)&(B).

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session at 3:10 P.M.

(23) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Confer with Legal Counsel regarding Property Acquisition for the Los Tomates Bridge Project.

Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, reported that after some discussion, it was the consensus of the Court as determined by polling, that the County Engineer's Office should be authorized to obtain Title and Appraisal work for the completion of the acquisition, including the possible condemnation of said matter, and to proceed along the terms and conditions as outlined in Executive Session.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the County Engineer's Office was directed to obtain the appraisal for the completion of the Property Acquisition for the Los Tomates Bridge Project, including possible condemnation, and to proceed along the terms and conditions as outlined in Executive Session.

- b) Deliberation of personnel matters regarding Olga Cisneros, Case Management Worker for the Child Welfare Department.

Commissioner Cascos reported that after some discussion, it was the consensus of the Court as determined by polling, that the Report from the Personnel Director and the County Auditor be acknowledged, and that the steps necessary to discuss said matter be taken.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Report from the Personnel Director and the County Auditor was acknowledged concerning the personnel matters regarding Olga Cisneros, Case Management Worker for the Child Welfare Department.

- c) In the matter of conference with Legal Counsel concerning possible litigation involving Del Mar Heights. **(TABLED - NOT DISCUSSED)**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Item was **TABLED**.

- d) Discuss status of various pending County Cases in Litigation.

Commissioner Cascos reported that after some discussion, it was the consensus of the Court as determined by polling, that the Report from County Counsel should be acknowledged regarding said matter:

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Status Report from County Counsel concerning various pending County Cases in litigation was acknowledged.

- e) Rolando Flores vs. Cameron County, et al., B-90-223, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Brownsville Division, and Case No. 90-12-7708-B, in the 138th Judicial District, Cameron County, to receive advise of Counsel and discuss settlement.

Commissioner Cascos reported that after some discussion, it was the consensus of the Court as determined by polling, that the Report from County Counsel should be acknowledged and that County Counsel should be directed to proceed along the terms and conditions as outlined in Executive Session regarding said matter:

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Rosenbaum and carried unanimously, the Status Report from County Council was acknowledged and County Counsel was directed to proceed along the terms and conditions as outlined in Executive Session regarding Rolando Flores vs. Cameron County, et al., B-90-223, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Brownsville Division, and Case No. 90-12-7708-B, in the 138th Judicial District, Cameron County, to receive advise of Counsel and discuss settlement.



There being no further business to come before the Court, upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the meeting was **ADJOURNED**.

APPROVED this 6th day of February, 1996.

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

JOE G. RIVERA,
COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK
OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF
CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS