

THE STATE OF TEXAS           §

COUNTY OF CAMERON         §

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 8th day of NOVEMBER, 1996, there was reconvened 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:

PRESENT:

11:00 A. M.

GILBERTO HINOJOSA

COUNTY JUDGE

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:

LUCINO ROSENBAUM, JR.

---

---

At this time, upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session.

The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on November 4, 1996, at 2:38 P.M.

(1)     **APPROVAL TO CANVASS THE NOVEMBER 1996 GENERAL ELECTION**

Commissioner Cascos moved that to accept the results of the November 1996 General Election canvassing, as recommended by the Elections Administrator and the Canvassing Committee.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz.

At this time, Ms. Amalia Cano, Elections Administrator, reported that the total vote for the November 1996 General Election was fifty-seven thousand, five-hundred and fifteen, inclusive of the early voting results of eighteen thousand votes, noting that fifty-nine thousand votes in 1992.

Commissioner Matz noted that there were twenty-five percent (25%) more registered voters in 1996 than in 1992.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the "Kids Voting" Program contributed to the number of votes being cast and suggested that the Elections Administrator should visit the participating School Districts to report the results of the student voting and express the County's gratitude for their participation in the Election.

At this time, Mr. Neto Lopez, Candidate for Commissioner Precinct No. 1, stated that the Election was unfair and fraudulent and added that the citizens were misinformed and denied the right to vote due to the voting machine malfunctions, noting that the issue resulted in low voting results.

Judge Hinojosa questioned whether the "write in votes" were disqualified in Precinct No. 1 and Mr. Lopez responded that the "write in votes" were not posted on some of the voting machines.

Judge Hinojosa recommended that the names of the Precincts and the names of the people who were discouraged from voting should be reported in order to review the issue. He noted that the "Democratic Palanca Vote" affected the number of votes regarding the Road Consolidation issue and added that the number of votes would have been higher if the voting machines were programmed correctly.

Commissioner Matz stated that Ms. Juanita Brodecky, Rio Hondo resident, had expressed concern regarding the printing of the Ballots on a valley printer, as opposed to utilizing a Dallas printer, and the relocation of the Polling Places and the Elections Administrator, responded that Bids had been advertised and stated that letters had been sent to the United States Department of Justice for clearance of the polling places.

Commissioner Matz stated that the Court should refer to the Attachment of the Resolution passed by the Court, setting the target date of January 1, 1997, for the Road Consolidation, as reference in the following Brownsville Herald Article, published on Sunday, November 3, 1996:

At this time, Mr. Manuel Saenz, Chief Deputy, stated that there was a high turnout at the Precinct No. 46 polling location, resulting in congestion, and suggested that the Court should consider a larger location for the Precinct.

Commissioner Matz suggested that the voting results being delivered to the Central Jury should be organized, in order for the Press to receive the results in a timely manner.

Commissioner Peña noted that based on all the facts presented, "Road Consolidation is no longer an issue, it is a fact", and that as a team working together, services would be provided to the constituents of Cameron County.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the canvassing results of the November 1996 General Election, were approved as follows:

**The Results are as follow:**

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



**APPROVED** this **19th** day of **November, 1996**.

---

**GILBERTO HINOJOSA**  
**COUNTY JUDGE**

**ATTEST:**

---

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

