

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CAMERON

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 19th day of MAY, 1997, there was conducted a SPECIAL 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:

11:00 A. M.

PRESENT:

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

PEDRO "PETE" BENAVIDES
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.

The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on May 16, 1997, at 10:14 A.M.:

**(1) AUTHORIZATION TO OPEN BIDS FOR THE
SALE OF COLLECTOR-S COINS AND BILLS**

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Bids for the Sale of Collector-s Coins and Bills were opened.

The Bids are as follow:

(4) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS

At this time, the County Auditor presented the additional late claim as to Hildreth Investigations, Warrant No. 35601, in the amount of \$6,861.36, for approval.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the County Claims were approved as presented by the County Auditor, inclusive of the late claim as to Warrant No. 35601, in the amount of \$6,861.36.

The Budget Officer's Comments Report is as follows:

**(5) APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS
AND/OR SALARY SCHEDULES**

Commissioner Matz moved that the Fiscal Year 1997, Budget Amendment No. 97-17, be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

The Budget Amendment is as follows:

(6) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 15, 1997

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held April 15, 1997, at 4:00 P.M., be approved.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Cascos and Judge Hinojosa

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: Commissioners Benavides and Matz.

(7) ADOPTION OF A PROCLAMATION DECLARING OPENING DAY OF MAY 25, 1997, AS RIO GRANDE VALLEY WHITE WINGS DAY IN CAMERON COUNTY

At this time, Mr. Brian Borchard, Rio Grande Valley White Wings, expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the Proclamation declaring the Opening Day as the Rio Grande Valley White Wings in Cameron County.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Proclamation declaring opening day of May 25, 1997, as Rio Grande Valley White Wings Day in Cameron County was adopted.

(8) ADOPTION OF A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MAY 18-24, 1997, AS HURRICANE AWARENESS WEEK FOR HURRICANE SEASON BEGINNING JUNE 1, 1997, TO NOVEMBER 31, 1997

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Proclamation designating May 18-24, 1997, as Hurricane Awareness Week for Hurricane Season beginning June 1, 1997, to November 31, 1997, be adopted.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa noted that a Meeting would be scheduled with the Department Heads, in order to outline the County's duties and responsibilities.

The Proclamation is as follows:

(9) PRESENTATION OF THE MONTHLY REPORT(S) AS REQUIRED BY LEGAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 114.026, FOR THE MONTHS OF MARCH 1996, THROUGH APRIL 1997

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Presentation of the Monthly Report(s), as required by Local Government Code Section 114.026, for the months of March 1996, through April 1997, was acknowledged.

The Reports are as follow:

(11) **IN THE MATTER OF THE PAYMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,065.00, TO MILLER MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE 9-1-1/RURAL ADDRESSING SYSTEM (TABLED)**

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the Rural Addressing Project was sporadic and that the funds had been cut from the Budget, not knowing whether the County would be billed in the 1996-1997 Fiscal Year. He suggested that the Vendor should provide the status of the Project and stated that the funds would need to be appropriated through the Lapsed Salaries Fund, which would be reimbursed to the County.

Commissioner Cascos questioned the responsibility of the Project and the County Auditor responded that the Engineer's Office was responsible and that the County should apply for the reimbursements and review the terms of the Grant regarding the reimbursement to the County.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED** for one (1) week.



(10) **ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENTION TO REIMBURSE CERTAIN EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE LOS TOMATES INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PROJECT WITH BOND PROCEEDS**

At this time, Mr. Noe Hinojosa, Estrada - Hinojosa and Company, Incorporated, stated that the Resolution provided for the County to make certain commitments and to be reimbursed for the funding utilized in the Project.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the Resolution was required, in order for the County to be reimbursed from Bond Funds.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the County had obligated 3.8 million dollars for the Project, noting that the original amount owed was 3.55 million dollars and added that funds utilized from June 12, 1997, through August 3, 1997, would be additional finances allocated from the reimbursements in Fund Balance. He clarified that seven million dollars was requested, in order for the Project not to be limited, as opposed to the five million dollars stated in the Resolution.

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Resolution be adopted declaring the intention to reimburse certain expenditures related to the Los Tomates International Bridge Project with Bond Proceeds.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa noted that the State Department was demanding part of the cost of obtaining the Diplomatic Notes and that the construction of the Bridge should begin on June 14, 1997, prior to the June 18 deadline.

Commissioner Matz expressed concern regarding the financial analysis and the potential toll increases.

Mr. Hinojosa stated that a survey was performed comparing the bridge crossings from 1994 to 1997 and added that the toll fees would affect the General Fund.

Judge Hinojosa noted that Cameron County had the lowest toll fee compared to the border Counties in Texas, which was affecting the County financially and added that the low toll fees would also affect the Bond ratings for the County.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Resolution was adopted declaring the intention to reimburse certain expenditures related to the Los Tomates International Bridge Project with Bond Proceeds.

The Resolution is as follows:

**(16) APPROVAL TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT
BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY AND COSTEP,
MCALLEN, TEXAS, FOR THE COLLECTION OF
DELINQUENT FINES AND COURT COSTS**

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Contract be executed between Cameron County and CoStep, McAllen, Texas, for the Collection of Delinquent Fines and Court Costs, subject to Legal review.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Contract is as follows:

**(20) APPROVAL OF THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR
THE BOOT CAMP ADMINISTRATOR**

At this time, Judge Hinojosa stated the Boot Camp was scheduled to open January 1998, and added that there were two (2) options regarding the operation of the Program, that being the retaining of a private consultant or an Administrator, which would be less expensive and would allow a quicker and smoother transition for operations once the construction was completed.

Mr. Amador Rodriguez, Juvenile Probation Director, recommended that the Administrator should be retained as soon as possible, in order to begin implementing policies and placing the demographics needed to operate the Program.

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Job Description for the Boot Camp Administrator be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides.

At this time, Commissioner Cascos stated that the Personnel Director be directed to assure that the Job Description was advertised.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Job Description for the Boot Camp Administrator was approved.

The Job Description is as follows:

(14) AUTHORIZATION TO ADD THREE (3) POSITIONS TO HANDLE CIVIL MATTERS WITHIN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY-S OFFICE

At this time, Ms. Yolanda de Leon, District Attorney, stated that the District Attorney-s Office did not have sufficient personnel or resources available to handle Civil matters, noting that the Criminal Attorney-s were dealing with the Civil cases. She noted that the total amount for the three (3) slots would be \$104,000.00, which would be supplemented from the Drug Forfeiture Funds.

Commissioner Matz stated that AJudge, I would like to go ahead a make a motion on this. And that is to authorize two (2) Attorney Positions and one (1) Secretary Position in the County District Attorney-s Office to perform various legal functions such as, and I have got five (5) of them here, and these are just exemplarily:

- 1) To prosecute and defend law suits brought by or against the State in all cases in the District and inferior Courts in Cameron County;
- 2) To defend employees or Officials of the County sued in their individual capacity when authorized by the Commissioners= Court;
- 3) To handle Legal aspects of property acquisition, assist in preparation of proposed administrative regulations and legislation, and recover damages to County property, all when requested by the Commissioners= Court=
- 4) To handle the statutory duties of the County (Criminal District) Attorney-s Office; and
- 5) To support and work with the Commissioners= Court Civil Legal Division.

And this is not exhausting in what we ought to do, subject to a delineation of duties to ascertain no duplication of duties with the Commissioners= Court Civil Legal Department and subject to an understanding that the new positions will work with and support the Court-s Civil Legal Department. So, what I am saying is, let us go ahead and do this. These are the sort of things that I think we want to talk about in your Civil Division doing that we still need to sit down with ours and I do not anticipate any problems, Yolanda, and I do not think you do either.®

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa expressed his concerns regarding the duplication of activities and the background that had occurred in the last months as a result of said issue. He stated that the Court had made a unanimous and reaffirmed decision in December 1996 to transfer the Civil Division to the Commissioners= Court and added that most of the job description duties were currently performed by the Commissioners= Court Civil Legal Division.

Commissioner Matz confirmed that there were duplications in the duties of the position descriptions in the past, but added that the duties were modified and submitted to the District Attorney so there would be no duplications.

Judge Hinojosa expressed concern regarding the recommendation to approve the positions from the Auditor and added that the Auditor's Office had been discussing that the tax increases seemed imminent over the effective rate and beyond funding for Project Road Map.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that additional Attorneys would be needed for the proposed additional County Court.

Judge Hinojosa clarified that the Budget estimates for the proposed additional County and District Courts included an Assistant District Attorney Position and stated that said positions did not relate and would not be utilized for the proposed Courts.

Ms. de Leon clarified that the criminal cases were not being done due to the Civil cases and added there were many Civil matters required by statutes that were performed by the District Attorney's Office.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the County was extremely limited in resources at the current time and highlighted the proposed Projects which were pending due to funding matters. He suggested that the matter of transferring the Civil Division in December 1996, should be examined if the matter was an improper action.

Commissioner Benavides suggested that the matter be Tabled, in order to examine the issue further and explained that he had inherited many of the issues and was having difficulty understanding the matter.

Commissioner Benavides moved that this Item be **TABLED** for one (1) week.

The motion was seconded by Judge Hinojosa and the vote is as follows:

AYE: Commissioner Benavides and Judge Hinojosa

NAY: Commissioners Cascos, Matz and Peña.

Commissioner Matz moved that the three (3) positions be added to handle Civil matters within the District Attorney's Office.

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

AYE: Commissioners Cascos, Matz and Peña

NAY: Commissioner Benavides and Judge Hinojosa.



**(15) APPROVAL OF THE PART-TIME POSITION
FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PRECINCT NO. 3-
1**

At this time, Judge Oscar de la Fuente, Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 3-1, requested that the Part-time Position be approved, which would be allocated from Lapsed Salaries from a full-time Secretary Position that had not been filled.

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Part-time Position for Justice of the Peace Precinct No. 3-1, was approved.

**(32) AUTHORIZATION OF THE TWO (2) NEW FULL-
TIME SECRETARIAL POSITIONS TO PROVIDE
ASSISTANCE TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY**

At this time, Lieutenant Laurencio Saenz, Department of Public Safety, stated that citations given by the troopers had increased by three thousand in the last two (2) years and added that many of the tickets were not being processed and resulted in a large backlog.

Commissioner Cascos questioned whether the positions would be picked up by the State and Lieutenant Saenz responded the requests would be submitted for the upcoming budget.

Commissioner Cascos moved that two (2) new Full-time Secretarial Positions be approved to provide assistance to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides.

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the funds would need to be allocated and that the funding proposals would be submitted to the Court.

Commissioner Matz expressed concern regarding the funding for administrative and secretarial positions compared to the major metropolitan areas and added that the Rio Grande Valley area does not receive the adequate necessary funding, noting that a letter should be drafted in support of said issue.

Judge Hinojosa stated the County was faced with a financial bind and a possible tax increase and added that the positions would be approved until October 1, 1997, but the positions were not guaranteed to be approved in the next fiscal year-s budget.

Upon motion by duly made by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the two (2) new full-time Secretarial Positions were approved to provide assistance to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

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(12) **AUTHORIZATION TO NOTIFY THE LAW FIRM OF HEARD, GOGGAN, BLAIR AND WILLIAMS OF THE TERMINATION CONTRACT FOR THE DELINQUENT TAX ATTORNEY SERVICES**

Commissioner Benavides moved that the Law Firm of Heard, Goggan, Blair and Williams be notified of the Termination Contract for the Delinquent Tax Attorney Services, that being to retain the existing Firm until the completion of the Contract in June 1998, for the sake of the employees and as a gratitude for the thirteen (13) years of service.

At this time, Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, notified the Court that the vote was not properly on the Agenda and added that the vote not to give notice had the same effect. He stated that if the Court failed to give the thirty (30) day notice and the present Firm continued the Contract, the issue would need to be handled in the subsequent Item by changing the effective date concerning the Contract-s services with the new Firm. Mr. Wright stated that the Agenda did not include the extension of time and added that the Court should consider amending the Item and not providing notice to the Firm.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos and the vote is as follows:

AYE: Commissioners Benavides and Cascos

NAY: Commissioners Matz and Peña

ABSTAINED: Judge Hinojosa.

Commissioner Peña moved that the Law Firm of Heard, Goggan, Blair and Williams be given the Thirty (30) Day Notice of Termination of the Contract for the Delinquent Tax Attorney Services.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz.

At this time, Commissioner Matz questioned the number of law suits that were filed in the previous week and requested an explanation as to why said cases were filed and the County Attorney responded that there were nineteen hundred and thirteen cases filed.

Mr. Oliver Heard, Heard, Goggan, Blair and Williams, stated that the cases were delinquent tax law suits and added that it was an attempt to make the landowners aware and come forward. He reported that one thousand five hundred and twenty law suits had been filed in the period of May 1996, through April 1997.

Commissioner Matz expressed concern regarding the conflict of interest concerning the collection of current taxes and the relationship between the Brownsville Independent School District and Calame, Linebarger, Graham and Peña.

At this time, Mr. Juan Peña, Calame, Linebarger, Graham and Peña, stated that Firm currently had a Contract with the Brownsville Independent School District, noting that due to ethics and morals, the Contract would not be broken, noting that the Firm would terminate the Contract if the School Board allowed it.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the conflict of interest should not apply to the current issue, but should apply at the time of competition, in order to take a tax collection slot.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Law Firm of Heard, Goggan, Blair and Williams was give the Thirty (30) Day Notice of Termination of the Contract for the Delinquent Tax Attorney Services.

[REDACTED]

(13) **AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO THE LAW FIRM OF CALAME, LINEBARGER, GRAHAM AND PEÑA FOR DELINQUENT TAX ATTORNEY SERVICES**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Contract for Professional Services was awarded to the Law Firm of Calame, Linebarger, Graham and Peña for Delinquent Tax Attorney Services, noting that the starting term date would be July 1, 1997.

At this time, Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, questioned whether the Court was giving County Counsel the authorization to notify the Firm of Heard, Goggan, Blair and Williams, not to file additional law suits and added that there were several problems regarding the law suits, in which the parties involved were not the proper parties, notices not properly given and the Title and Court Costs not being paid, noting that the District Clerk-s Office would lose money in these cases.

Commissioner Benavides suggested that the new Firm should consider retaining the current Firm-s employees, due to the experience and location.

The Contract is as follows:

**(17) APPROVAL OF THE CONDEMNATION AWARD,
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$424.00, FOR THE LOS
TOMATES BRIDGE PROJECT**

Commissioner Matz moved that the Condemnation Award be approved, in the amount of \$424.00, for the Los Tomates Bridge Project.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

**(18) AUTHORIZATION TO UTILIZE HARTMAN
MEDICAL AS THE SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER
OF HEMOCUE PRODUCTS FOR THE
PURCHASE OF HEMOCUEVETTE
HEMOGLOBIN EXAMS**

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, Hartman Medical was utilized as the sole source provider of Hemocue Products for the purchase of Hemocuevette Hemoglobin Exams.

**(19) APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM CONTRACT NO. 714025 WITH THE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, EXTENDING THE
CONTRACT ENDING DATE FROM APRIL 30,
1997, TO NOVEMBER 30, 1997**

Commissioner Cascos moved that Amendment No. 1 be approved to the Texas Community Development Program Contract No. 714025, with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, extending the Contract ending date from April 30, 1997, to November 30, 1997.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

The Amendment is as follows:

**(21) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT OF THE LOS
TOMATES INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE TO
SUMMIT CONTRACTING, INCORPORATED**

At this time, Judge Hinojosa expressed concern as to whether the Bonding Company had been reviewed and approved in case any problems arose, in which the County's money would be returned.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the Bonds were reviewed and were well surplus and added that upon notification of the Contract, the Company had ten (10) days to provide additional insurance information. He stated that the Insurance Advisor had reviewed and recommended the Insurance Company of Great America.

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Construction Contract of the Los Tomates International Bridge was awarded to Summit Contracting, Incorporated, Weslaco, Texas.

The Contract is as follows:

(22) **AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD S&B ENGINEERING A SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT TO THE EXISTING ENGINEERING CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT OF THE LOS TOMATES BRIDGE, ROADWAY APPROACHES AND THE GSA BUILDING PADS**

At this time, Commissioner Matz expressed concern as to the Agenda Item Request regarding the Bids for the Geotechnical Engineering Services that was needed at the sites, which was not placed on the Agenda.

Judge Hinojosa clarified that the additional wording was background information to the Agenda Request and that the Geotechnical Engineering Services would be brought to the Court at a later Meeting.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Supplemental Agreement was awarded to the S&B Engineering existing Engineering Contract for the Construction Management of the Los Tomates Bridge, roadway approaches and the GSA building pads.



(23) **AUTHORIZATION TO KEEP ROBERTO RIVERA AS PART OF THE WORK FORCE IN CAMERON PARKS**

Commissioner Benavides moved that Mr. Roberto Rivera, Maintenance and Operation Consolidated Precinct, be retained as part of the work force in Cameron Parks.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

There was some discussion regarding the completion date of the Project and Judge Hinojosa stated that a new Project was being proposed, in which the Consolidated Program would be utilized.



(24) **AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 WITH BRAZOS RIVER INTERNATIONAL**

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, Change Order No. 3 was executed with Brazos River International.

The Order is as follows:

(25) APPROVAL OF A 1997-1998 MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF CAMERON, HIDALGO COUNTY, STARR COUNTY AND WILLACY COUNTY

Commissioner Matz moved that the 1997-1998 Mutual Aid Agreement between the County of Cameron, Hidalgo County, Starr County and Willacy County be approved.

(26) APPROVAL OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BASIC PLAN AS PART OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CAMERON COUNTY

At this time, Ms. Graciela Salinas, Director of Management, stated that the Plan would be reviewed and edited for a final and complete document, which would be presented to the Policy Committee and the final form would then be submitted to the Court.

Commissioner Matz expressed concern regarding the Plan not including the Laguna Madre Area and the Parks System and stated that the Plan would need to be updated.

Judge Hinojosa clarified that the motion would be to make the Plan a part of the Administrative Policies and Procedures once the Plan was finalized.

Commissioner Matz moved that the Emergency Management Basic Plan be approved as part of the Administrative Policies and Procedures for Cameron County.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

(27) APPROVAL FOR THE ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR TO CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE TO CONDUCT THE RUNOFF ELECTION TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1997

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Election Administrator was authorized to Contract with the City of Brownsville to conduct the Runoff Election to be held on Saturday, May 31, 1997.

The Contract is as follows:

(28) APPROVAL FOR JAMES PACE HIGH SCHOOL TO BORROW THREE (3) VOTING MACHINES FOR THEIR STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 15, 1997

Upon motion by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Lease of three (3) voting machines was approved from James Pace High School for their Student Council Election to be held on May 15, 1997.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa suggested that said issues be placed on the Consent Agenda Item list for consideration and approval.



(29) AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR ABETTER LIVES FOR TEXAS® GRANT FROM THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND AUTHORIZATION OF THE COUNTY MATCH

Commissioner Matz moved that an Application be submitted for ABetter Lives for Texas® Grant from the Texas Department of Human Services and that the County match be approved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.



(30) ADOPTION OF THE 1997-1998 AND 1998-1999 PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY PARKS SYSTEM

At this time, Mr. Kenneth Conway, Parks System Director, presented the Staff and Board Proposal of the two (2) year System Fees and stated that the two (2) year Proposal was created, in order to predict the County-s revenues. He added that the Fees were compared to other Parks Systems in Texas and that the cost of including business and cost increases and the value received were analyzed in creating the Fee Schedule. Mr. Conway stated that the Fees could be changed based on yearly reviews.

Commissioner Matz recommended that the public be made aware of the Parks System Fees.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the 1997-1998 and 1998-1999 Proposed Fees Schedules for the Cameron County Parks System were approved.

The Fee Schedule is as follows:

(31) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY JUVENILE DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE ON A MONTH TO MONTH LEASE

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Cameron County Juvenile Department was authorized to enter into a Lease Agreement with Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, on a month to month Lease.

The Agreement is as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

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

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the AConsent® Agenda Items were approved as follow:

(33) APPROVAL OF TRAVEL AND/OR TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR THE FOLLOWING, SUBJECT TO FUNDS IN THEIR BUDGET:

- a) Tactical Intelligence Agent to exchange one (1) leased vehicle in San Antonio, Texas, on May 1, 1997;
- b) Solid Waste Enforcement Secretary to attend the AExceptional Assistant Seminar® in McAllen, Texas, on June 9, 1997;
- c) County Judge and Administrative Assistant to attend the ANew York Immigration Conference® in New York, New York, on June 8-10, 1997;
- d) Juvenile Probation employee to attend the AExceptional Assistant Seminar® in McAllen, Texas, on June 9, 1997;
- e) Juvenile Probation Accountant to attend the AProcurement Training for Buyers Workshop® in McAllen, Texas, on May 13-14, 1997;
- f) Chief Juvenile Probation Officer to attend Committee Meetings and the ATexas Corrections Association 1997 Annual Conference and Exposition® in El Paso, Texas, on May 30, 1997, through June 4, 1997;
- g) Seven (7) Health Department employees to attend the ATexas Department of Health Satellite Broadcast® in Harlingen, Texas, on May 29, 1997;
- h) Six (6) Health Department employees to attend the AArkansas County Environment Health Membership Meeting and Workshop® in Kingsville, Texas, on May 22, 1997;
- I) Two (2) Health Department employees to attend the A10th Annual Texas HIV Sexually Transmitted Diseases Conference® in Austin, Texas, on June 28, 1997, through July 3, 1997;
- j) Health Department employee to attend the Nursing Practice for Nurse Administrators Conference® in Austin, Texas, on May 29-30, 1997;
- k) 197th Court Coordinator to attend the ATexas Court for Judiciary Professional Development Program® in Huntsville, Texas, on June 16-20, 1997; and
- l) 107th District Judge to attend the ATCDLA Advanced Criminal Law Seminar® in San Antonio, Texas, on June 4-8, 1997.

At this time, the Court reconvened in Regular Session.

(3) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Confer with County counsel to discuss the potential litigation regarding the Dancy Building.

Judge Hinojosa reported that the Commissioners=Court Civil Legal Division should be authorized to begin the negotiations per settlement involving the terra-cotta on the Dancy Building.

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Commissioners=Court Civil Legal Division was authorized to begin the negotiations per the settlement involving the terra-cotta on the Dancy Building.

- b) Confer with County Counsel to discuss the status of the case and authorization to hire Counsel for Sheriff Omar Lucio.

Judge Hinojosa reported that Mr. Alberto Lopez, Attorney at Law, should be retained to represent Sheriff Omar Lucio, in the case styled Terry Vinson vs. Cameron County.

Commissioner Peña moved that Mr. Alberto Lopez, Attorney at Law, be retained to represent Sheriff Omar Lucio, in the case styled Terry Vinson vs. Cameron County.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

- c) In the matter of the deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning the Port Isabel - Unsubdivided, Point 1, Tract D, 4.41 acres. **(TABLED)**

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

- d) Confer with County Counsel to discuss the acquisition of a certain tract of land adjoining the Cameron Park Community Center for the Cameron Park Recreation Project.

Judge Hinojosa reported that the offer, in the amount of \$45,000.00 plus \$15,000.00 of donation, should be accepted for the purchase of the Real Property for the construction of the Cameron Park Recreation Project.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the offer, in the amount of \$45,000.00, plus \$15,000.00 of donation, was accepted for the purchase of the Real Property adjoining the Cameron Park Community Center for the construction of the Cameron Park Recreation Project.

- e) Confer with County Counsel to contract with Moore and Robinson Appraisers to perform appraisals for Parcels No. 3 and No. 4, for U.S. 77/83 extension.

Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, reported that the Contract for Professional Services should be authorized with Moore and Robinson Appraisers regarding said matter.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Contract for Professional Services with Moore and Robinson Appraisers was approved to perform appraisals for Parcels No. 3 and No. 4, for U.S. 77/83 extension.

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 17th day of **June, 1997**.

GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

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