

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CAMERON

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 12th day of AUGUST, 1997, 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:

4:00 P.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 Pro-tem Carlos H. Cascos.

The Court considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on August 8, 1997, at 8:09 P.M.:

(1) EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Court met in Executive Session at 4:08 P.M. to discuss the following matters:

- a) Confer with County Counsel concerning the possible litigation related to the Isla Blanca Park; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071(1)(A);
- b) In the matter of settlement offer with Business Records Corporation (BRC); pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.071 (1)(B); **(DENIED)** and
- c) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning the possible sale of Cameron County Trustee Property known as Port Isabel - Unsubdivided Point Part No. 1, Tract D, 4.41 acres, also known as, the Old Marchan Restaurant; pursuant to Vernon Texas Code Annotated (V.T.C.A.), Government Code, Section 551.072.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Court reconvened in Regular Session at 5:30 P.M.



At this time, Judge Hinojosa 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.



(2) ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Confer with County Counsel concerning the possible litigation related to the Isla Blanca Park.

Commissioner Cascos reported that the Status Report by the Parks System Director be acknowledged regarding the asbestos and the Laguna Madre Water District, noting the Judge's absence from the issue concerning the Laguna Madre Water District.

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Status Report by County Counsel be acknowledged regarding the possible litigation related to the Isla Blanca Park concerning the asbestos and the Laguna Madre Water District, noting that Judge Hinojosa was not present for the discussion regarding the Laguna Madre Water District.

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

AYE: Commissioners Benavides, Cascos, Matz and Peña

NAY: None

ABSTAINED: Judge Hinojosa, as to the Laguna Madre Water District.

- b) In the matter of the settlement offer with Business Records Corporation (BRC).
(DENIED)

Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, reported that the claim should be denied regarding said matter.

Commissioner Matz moved that the claim by the Business Records Corporation be **DENIED**.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

- c) Deliberation regarding the Real Property concerning the possible sale of the Cameron County Trustee Property known as Port Isabel - Unsubdivided Point Part No. 1, Tract D, 4.41 acres also known as the Old Marchan Restaurant.

Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, reported that the Property Management Coordinator should be authorized to return all unopened Bids and should be directed to re-advertise in the local County newspapers, noting that the decision of the Court would be based upon the highest Bid received.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Property Management Director was directed to return all the unopened Bids received and to re-advertise the sale of the Cameron County Trustee Property known as Port Isabel - Unsubdivided Point Part No. 1, Tract D, 4.41 acres also known as the Old Marchan Restaurant, in the local County newspapers, noting that the decision of the Court would be based upon the highest Bid received.



(3) APPROVAL OF COUNTY CLAIMS

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that Warrant No. 40927, in the amount of \$8,144.00, for Membership in the Interstate 69 Coalition needed to be paid, and added that the Bridge Systems Director would recommend the funding source.

Mr. Joe Galvan, Bridge Systems Director, recommended that the amount of \$8,144.00, for the contribution to the Interstate 69 initiative, be allocated from the Los Tomates Fund.

Commissioner Matz moved that the contribution to the Interstate 69 Initiative, Warrant No. 40927, in the amount of \$8,144.00, be allocated from the Los Tomates Fund.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cascos.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa expressed concern as to whether a problem would arise from allocating the fund from the Los Tomates Fund, since the City of Brownsville was a partner and contributing separately in the Project. He suggested that the funds be allocated from the Gateway Bridge System Fund, in order to maintain the contributing entities separate.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the additional Warrant No. 40927, as to Alliance for Interstate 69, in the amount of \$8,144.00, was approved, said funding to be allocated from the Gateway Bridge System Fund.

At this time, Mr. Yates presented the following late claims for approval:

Warrant No. 40917, as to the Cameron Park Community Center, in the amount of \$11,100.00;

Warrant No. 40918, as to the Los Tomates Construction Fund No. 76, in the amount of \$16,000.00;

Warrant No. 40919, as to the Lower Rio Grande Development Council Recycling Grant, in the amount of \$2,100.00;

Warrant No. 40920, as to Adams and Graham, LLP, in the amount of \$375.00;

Warrant No. 40921, as to the Los Cuates Subdivision, in the amount of \$25,000.00;

Warrant No. 40922, as to Robinson and Duffy, in the amount of \$550.00;

Warrant No. 40923, as to Tip-O-Tex, in the amount of \$9,515.20; and

Warrant No. 40925, as to Studio S Pottery, in the amount of \$40,000.00.

Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, stated that the Contract for the exterior terra-cotta was sent to Studio S Pottery for signatures and noted that Warrant No. 40925, in the amount of \$40,000.00, would not be sent to the firm until the Contract was complete.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the County Claims were approved as presented by the County Auditor, inclusive of the following late claims, noting that Warrant No. 40925 would not be sent until the Contract was complete with Studio S Pottery:

Warrant No. 40917, in the amount of \$11,100.00;

Warrant No. 40918, in the amount of \$16,000.00;

Warrant No. 40919, in the amount of \$2,100.00;

Warrant No. 40920, in the amount of \$375.00;

Warrant No. 40921, in the amount of \$25,000.00;

Warrant No. 40922, in the amount of \$550.00;

Warrant No. 40923, in the amount of \$9,515.20; and

Warrant No. 40925, in the amount of \$40,000.00.

At this time, Mr. Yates noted that additional information had been requested from the Court at a previous Meeting regarding Warrant No. 39513, as to the Lower Rio Grande Valley Chamber, in the amount of \$15,000.00, and

requested that the Warrant be released. He reported that information had been sent from said entity, but noted that the information sent was not detailed.

Commissioner Matz suggested that the Warrant be retained until the sufficient detailed information was received.

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**(4) IN THE MATTER OF THE BUDGET
AMENDMENTS AND/OR SALARY SCHEDULES
(NO ACTION TAKEN)**

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

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**(5) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING
THE LOS FRESNOS CONSOLIDATED
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Resolution honoring the Los Fresnos Consolidated Independent School District was adopted.

The Resolution is as follows:

**(6) PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE
PROGRESS REPORT BY THE HARLINGEN
PAPER RECYCLING FOR THE CAMERON
PARK RECYCLING CENTER**

At this time, Ms. Ignacia Omar, Harlingen Paper Recycling, presented and highlighted the Fiscal Year 1996/1997 Regional Solid Waste Grant Report on the results of the Grant-Funded Project and noted that there was participation from the surrounding areas of Cameron Park.

Commissioner Matz expressed concern as to the law being changed by the State Legislature regarding tires and whether the assistance would continue in the collection of the tires.

Ms. Omar stated that the same Company would be assisting in the tire collection, but would be imposing a Fee for the collection of the tires, as opposed to the free service in the past. She stated the company would notify the Harlingen Paper Recycling of the amount of fees to be charged and the effective date, at which time the information would be submitted to the Court for approval.

Commissioner Cascos reported that Brownsville's "Make a Difference Day" was a big success and expressed his gratitude to the Court for authorizing Precincts No. 1 and No. 2 to participate in the event.

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Presentation of the Progress Report by the Harlingen Paper Recycling for the Cameron Park Recycling Center be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

The Report is as follows:

(7) **PRESENTATION OF THE THIRD QUARTERLY
REPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE
SYSTEMS**

At this time, Mr. Joe Galvan, Bridge Systems Director, highlighted the crossings and revenues of the Gateway International Bridge at Brownsville and the Free Trade Bridge at Los Indios Quarterly Reports.

Judge Hinojosa expressed concern as to whether the fire destruction of the Maquiladoras would affect the traffic at the Los Indios Bridge and suggested that the County should be contacted for assistance if future situations arose.

Mr. Galvan stated that the Maquiladora traffic was insignificant and noted that the bulk of the truck traffic was from the tanker trucks traveling to Reynosa which began in the San Benito and the Port of Brownsville areas.

Judge Hinojosa noted that the vehicle toll increases did not show a significant impact in increase and suggested that the pedestrian tolls should be increased by \$0.10, implementing a \$0.35 token system which would generate \$300,000.00 a year.

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Presentation of the Third Quarterly Reports for the International Bridge Systems were acknowledged.

The Reports are as follow:

(8) PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNTY CLERK-S OFFICE COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT AND STATUS REPORT OF THE OUTSIDE COLLECTION AGENCY-S EFFORTS

At this time, Mr. Joe G. Rivera, County Clerk, expressed gratitude to the Court and Judge Migdalia Lopez, County Court at Law No. 2, for funding and implementing the Collections Department Project and briefly highlighted the Fines and Court Costs collected.

Judge Hinojosa expressed concern regarding the large reduction in the amount of revenues received in 1996, as compared to 1995, in County Court at Law No. 1.

Mr. Rivera clarified that the Probation Department was in charge of collecting the Fines and Court Costs for Court No. 1 and stated that the County Clerk-s Collection Department was able and willing to implement Court No. 1 into the Project.

Judge Hinojosa stated that Court No. 1 was deferring the implementation of the Program for a year and four (4) months and suggested that matter should be discussed and reviewed with the Probation Department, in order to determine the reason for the large reduction.

Mr. Rivera explained that the Contracts were executed between the defendants and the County which obligated the individuals to pay certain amounts within a definite period of time. He added that the Collections Department contacted said individuals on a weekly and/or monthly basis for the status of the payments due, noting that warrants were issued for arrests if the fines were not paid.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the collection rates were easily tracked utilizing the Collections Program and added that the Agreement with CoStep was a positive type of process in collecting the Fines and Court Costs from the defendants.

Judge Hinojosa suggested that an additional individual be hired to participate in the phone contacts for County Court at Law No. 1, in conjunction with the Probation Department, in order to attempt to eliminate the reduction problem.

At this time, Ms. Inelda T. Garcia, Chief Administrator, highlighted the status and the progress of the Agreement with CoStep in collecting the delinquent accounts and explained that CoStep would be sending out their initial letters to contact the old arrears and would also Askip trace®, in which neighbors would be contacted based on the addresses given. She reported that there were two thousand accounts which would possibly generate over the amount of \$500,000.00, and added that once the computer system information was Acleaned up® for County Court at Law No.

2, the County Court at Law No. 1 and the old account information would be forwarded to CoStep for the collection process.

Judge Migdalia Lopez, County Court at Law No. 2, stated that each of the Commissioners were benefiting by the number of hours in Community Service provided by the defendants that could not pay their fines and expressed gratitude to the Court for their support in the Program and to the Committee for input in the CoStep Program.

Commissioner Cascos moved that the Presentation of the First Annual Review of the County Clerk's Office Collections Department and the Status Reports of the outside Collection Agency's efforts be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously.

The Reports are as follow:

(9) DISCUSSION OF THE EFFECTIVE TAX RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997-1998, DIRECTION FOR SETTING THE TAX LEVY FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR AND PRESENTATION OF THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET AND ROAD AND BRIDGE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997-1998

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the Budget Meetings would need to be scheduled with the Court for direction regarding Salary increases and reported that the Departments- requested Budgets were received and compiled, but would be submitted to the Court with the recommendations made by the Auditor-s Office. He presented and highlighted the current Tax Rate Schedule, the Cameron County Taxable Property Values and the Property Tax Analysis for Fiscal Year 1997-1998.

Judge Hinojosa expressed concern as to whether the tax rate would be set below the current tax rate, given the increase in the valuations, in order to avoid the roll back rate.

Commissioner Cascos stated that some Projects might need to be deferred and expressed concern as to the Boot Camp, which would cost the County the amount of \$499,000.00 per year.

Mr. Yates reported that the County was in the process of hiring the Boot Camp Administrator and twenty-seven (27) proposed positions for half of the year.

Commissioner Cascos requested that the County Auditor add last year-s finalized Budget and the commitments made by the Court to determine the costs, in order to review the proposed Projects and determine which Projects could be deferred before committing to them completely. He noted the funds could not be encumbered in the last Budget in anticipation of the Boot Camp and expressed concern as to where the funds for this year-s Budget would be allocated for half a year.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the Boot Camp Project could not be budgeted for no more than a six (6) month budget and added that a portion of the funds would be allocated from the significant number of outside referrals, noting that the County would be receiving an additional amount of \$100,000.00 from the State for the operation of the Boot Camp.

Commissioner Peña expressed concern as to the reimbursements to the County based on the number of bed spaces at the facility and questioned whether the Project could be financed based on the reimbursements.

Judge Hinojosa clarified that the County would be reimbursed a significant amount from currents programs and added that the thirty-two (32) bed facility would not be completely filled. He stated that the figures could be projected into the Budget based on the reimbursements, the operation period and the funds received from the State.

Commissioner Cascos stated that said figures needed to be projected into the Budget by the County Auditor, in order for the Court to support the new Budget.

Commissioner Matz questioned whether the Project Road Map was reflected in the Reports and Mr. Yates responded that the 1994 and the 1995 Road Bonds provided funds for Project Road Map, noting that it had no bearing on the effective tax rate and was not figured into the eight percent (8%) Roll Back Rate.

At this time, Mr. Francisco Sinfuentes, Brownsville resident, expressed concern regarding the Reports comparing Cameron County to Galveston County which was composed of tourist attractions and an oil industry area.

Upon motion by Commissioner Matz, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the discussion of the effective Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 1997-1998, direction for setting the Tax Levy for the upcoming Fiscal Year and the Presentation of the Preliminary Draft of the General Fund and Road and Bridge Budgets for Fiscal Year 1997-1998, were acknowledged.

The Reports are as follow:

(10) AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT OF THE SOUTH TEXAS BOOT CAMP AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOOT CAMP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

At this time, Mr. Juan Bernal, County Engineer, reported that the Committee had selected and recommended that the Contract be awarded to Peacock Construction Company and added that the Fee Schedule would be negotiated.

Commissioner Cascos expressed concern as to the time frame in which the Contract had to be negotiated, whether liabilities would exist if the County had to defer the Project and questioned whether the Program could be implemented into the existing Budget.

Mr. Doug Wright, Cameron County Counsel, stated that a Non-funding Provision could be placed in the Contract, in order to eliminate any liability if the County decided not to fund the Program.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the County had already received the Grant and added that the County had an obligation to construct and operate the facility.

Commissioner Cascos stated that County might not be able to operate the facility and added that there was not sufficient information regarding the cost to the County in the current and next Fiscal Year. He stated that the County needed to examine the possibility of a deferring a certain Project, in order to avoid a tax increase and added that an out clause should be provided to protect the County from any liabilities.

Mr. Bernal suggested that the County should proceed with the negotiations and review the Contract in case the County decided to proceed with the Project.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, noted that there would be start up costs to the County and added that the issue regarding offsets, based on the amount of the budget designated for drug offenders, needed to be reviewed.

Commissioner Cascos questioned whether the proposed Tax Rate Report was exclusive of the Salary increases and Mr. Yates responded that the proposed rates were individually presented, noting that each Report displayed how much the tax rate would be, based on the current three percent (3%) increase.

Commissioner Cascos questioned what the potential tax increase would be, if the Boot Camp and the Salary increases were added to the preliminary figures, and Mr. Yates responded that based on a transfer from the Toll Bridge and based on the increase to the Roll Back Rate, the Budget was still short 2.5 million dollars.

Judge Hinojosa stated that the County needed to consider the possible increase in revenues, in the amount of 1.6 million dollars from the Toll Bridge Funds by increasing the pedestrian crossing tolls to \$0.35.

(12) **APPROVAL TO HIRE A FULL-TIME ROAD AND BRIDGE TECHNICIAN**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, a full-time Road and Bridge Technician was retained.

(13) **IN THE MATTER OF THE DISTRICT CLERK-S OFFICE TO USE THE SPACE CURRENTLY BEING CLEARED BY THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT AT THE RECORDS CENTER, LOCATED TWO (2) BLOCKS FROM THE COURTHOUSE, TO STORE CRIMINAL AND CIVIL FILES (TABLED)**

At this time, Ms. Amalia Cano Acevedo, Elections Administrator, explained that the District Clerk-s Office currently utilized a 26 x 37 square feet section at the Records Center and noted that the Voting Machines and several files and cabinets were to be moved out of the Center. Ms. Acevedo stated that she was unaware of the exact section that was being requested by the District Clerk-s Office.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, this Item was (TABLED).

(14) **AUTHORIZATION TO LEASE ADDITIONAL SPACE ADJOINING THE PRESENT LEASE WITH THE BOCA CHICA TOWER FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE**

At this time, Mr. Francisco Martinez, District Attorney-s Office, explained that the Contract was to be extended at the existing location for additional space, noting that the Contract was reviewed by the District Attorney-s Office.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, additional space was leased adjoining the present Lease with the Boca Chica Tower for the Cameron County Drug Enforcement Task Force, subject to Legal review.

The Lease is as follows:

(15) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS- COURT LEGAL COUNSEL TO DRAFT AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND RIO HONDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR SECURITY SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY CONSTABLE PRECINCT NO. 4 AND TO PLACE ONE (1) DEPUTY CONSTABLE AT THE RIO HONDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL FOR A THIRTEEN (13) MONTH PERIOD FROM AUGUST 15, 1997, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

At this time, Constable Robert Lopez, Precinct No. 4, explained that the School District requested that security be provided on the campus during school hours and added that the School District would fund one (1) Officer for twelve (12) months and a second Officer for nine (9) months.

Commissioner Cascos expressed concern regarding the Salary Schedule for said Project and as to the termination of the Contract with the School District.

Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the Salary Schedule for said Project would be presented subsequent to the matter being approved and noted an offset was anticipated regarding the funding.

Constable Lopez noted that the Security Program was in its third year and added that the School District projected to provide annual funding.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the Cameron County Commissioners- Court Legal County draft an Interlocal Agreement between the County and Rio Hondo Independent School District for Security Services to be provided by Constable Precinct No. 4 and that a Deputy Constable be placed at the Rio Hondo Independent School District High School from the period of August 15, 1997, through September 30, 1998.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

At this time, Judge Hinojosa commended the Constable's Office for the relationship with the Rio Hondo School District and added that the Mayor of Rio Hondo was pleased with the Constable's assistance regarding the Absent Student Assistant Program (ASAP) and Security Program provided for the Schools.



(16) APPROVAL OF THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DOCUMENT NO. 7460004207A97, CHANGE NO. 03, ATTACHMENT NO. 01C: BCNS - TITLE V FEE SERVICE FOR THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1996, THROUGH AUGUST 31, 1997, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$788,191.00

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Cascos and carried unanimously, the Texas Department of Health Document No. 7460004207A97, Change No. 03, Attachment No. 01C: BCNS - Title V Fee Service for the period of September 1, 1996, through August 31, 1997, in the amount of \$788,191.00, was approved.

The Contract is as follows:

(17) AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR A GRANT THROUGH THE LEVI STRAUSS FOUNDATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000.00, FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR FOR A BI-NATIONAL AIDS/TUBERCULOSIS INITIATIVE

Commissioner Matz moved that the Health Department be authorized to apply for a Grant through the Levi Strauss Foundation, in the amount of \$35,000.00, for a period of one (1) year for a Bi-National Aids/Tuberculosis Initiative.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously.

(18) AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CAMERON COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT TO CONTRACT WITH MARIPOSA THERAPY CENTER, L.L.C., TO PROVIDE PSYCHOTHERAPY, INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP COUNSELING AND FAMILY COUNSELING TO JUVENILES IN THE JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously, the Cameron County Juvenile Probation Department was authorized to Contract with Mariposa Therapy Center, L.L.C., to Provide Psychotherapy, Individual and Group Counseling and Family Counseling to juveniles in the Juvenile Detention Center.

The Contract is as follows:

- (19) **ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A CONTINUATION APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) FOR THE SHERIFF-S DEPARTMENT OCCUPANT PROTECTION (OP) SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROJECT (STEP) GRANT AND DESIGNATION OF THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE REQUIRED MATCH**
- (20) **APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A CONTINUATION APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) FOR THE SHERIFF-S DEPARTMENT-S DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED (DWI) SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROJECT (STEP) GRANT AND DESIGNATION OF THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE REQUIRED MATCH**
- (21) **APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A CONTINUATION APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) FOR THE SHERIFF-S DEPARTMENT-S SPEED SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROJECT (STEP) GRANT AND DESIGNATION OF THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE REQUIRED MATCH**

At this time, Mr. Mark Yates, County Auditor, stated that the amount of \$23,000.00, would be the funding amount by the County and noted that the matching amount increased yearly.

Mr. Omar Lucio, Cameron County Sheriff, stated that the revenues generated by said Projects would be twice as much as the County-s match.

Mr. Yates stated that the increase in revenues for said Projects were utilized to fund increases in other Programs, noting that the funds could not be Budgeted if the Projects were not approved.

There was some discussion regarding whether the funds could be budgeted to show an offset and whether the Project would pay for itself.

Commissioner Peña moved that the Resolutions be adopted authorizing the submission of the Continuation Applications to the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) for the Sheriff-s Department following Grants.

Occupant Protection (OP) Selective Traffic Enforcement Project (STEP) Grant;

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) Selective Traffic Enforcement Project (STEP) Grant; and

Speed Selective Traffic Enforcement Project (STEP) Grant.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.

The Resolutions are as follow:

(22) **AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PARKS SYSTEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1997 POWER BOAT RACES IN ASPONSOR® CAPACITY, DESIGNATING BOTH ANDY BOWIE AND ISLA BLANCA COUNTY PARKS AS THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC VIEWING STATIONS, PROVIDED THE RACE COURSE INCLUDES BOTH PARKS AND AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL ONE-DAY SURCHARGE PER CAR, IN THE AMOUNT OF 7.00, (\$10.00 TOTAL), WITH GATE RECEIPTS SPLIT 50/50 WITH THE ASSOCIATION**

At this time, Mr. Ken Conway, Parks System Director, explained that the revenues from the \$10.00 surcharge per car would be allocated equally among the County and the South Padre Island Grand Prix Association and added that the Project would promote the Parks. He recommended that the annual and the ninety (90) day passes be honored as is®, in order to avoid additional charges by the individuals possessing the passes.

Judge Hinojosa noted that not all the individuals entering the Park would be viewing the Power Boat Races and recommended that the fees be charged within a time frame beginning at 11:00 A.M. to the period of the race.

Commissioner Matz expressed concern as to why both Parks were being included, in order to have one (1) Park available with the regular entrance fee.

Mr. Conway explained that the Association had a sponsorship cost, in the amount of \$7,500.00, and their intention was to generate revenues close to the sponsorship amount, noting that Atwood Park would be available at the regular entrance fee.

Judge Hinojosa suggested that the surcharge per car, in the amount of \$6.00, be charged from the hours of 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., with a 50/50 split.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the Parks System be authorized to participate in the 1997 Power Boat Races in ASponsor® capacity, designating both Andy Bowie and Isla Blanca County Parks as the official Public Viewing Stations, provided the race course includes both parks and that the special one-day surcharge per car, in the amount of \$3.00, (\$6.00 total), be charged from 11:00 A.M. through the period of the races, with the gate receipts split 50/50 with the South Padre Island Grand Prix Association.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matz and carried unanimously.



(23) AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION OF THE CAMERON COUNTY COMMUNITY PARKS

At this time, Mr. Kenneth Conway, Parks System Director, stated that the amount of \$445,000.00, was budgeted from the Bond Proceeds for renovations of the Jose Esparza, the Santa Maria and the Santa Rosa Community Parks and added that the El Ranchito and the Santa Rosa Parks would be brought up to code, noting that if the funds were available, the Santa Maria Park would also be brought to code.

Mr. David Mendez, Gomez-Garza Architects, briefly highlighted the construction and renovations to be performed at the Cameron County Community Parks.

At this time, Commissioner Peña questioned whether the swimming pool in the Santa Maria Park was to be repaired and Mr. Conway responded that the repairs to the pool was a major project, noting that new filters would be placed in the pool in the interim.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cascos, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the Bids were advertised for the construction/renovation of the Cameron County Community Parks.

(24) AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A RENEWAL MOBILE VENDOR-S PERMIT NO. 18 TO FRANCISCO TORRES, DOING BUSINESS AS, EL REY DEL ELOTE NO. 3

(25) AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A RENEWAL MOBILE VENDOR-S PERMIT NO. 17 TO FRANCISCO TORRES, DOING BUSINESS AS, EL REY DEL ELOTE NO. 2

Upon motion by Commissioner Peña, seconded by Commissioner Benavides and carried unanimously, the Renewal Mobile Vendor-s Permits No. 18 and No. 17 were issued to Francisco Torres, doing business as, El Rey Del Elote No. 3 and No. 2.

(26) AUTHORIZATION OF THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT EQUIPMENT FOR CONSTABLE PRECINCT NO. 7

At this time, Mr. Remi Garza, Executive Assistant to the County Judge, noted a correction regarding the Fiscal Data on the Agenda Item Request Form and stated that the actual cost of the purchase and installation would be the amount of \$359.90.

Commissioner Benavides moved that the purchase and installation of Law Enforcement equipment be approved for Constable Precinct No. 7, said funding to be allocated from Lapsed Salaries.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peña.

Commissioner Cascos expressed concern as to how said matter related to the Constables Standard Equipment List and added that the issue had not been reviewed by the Auditor-s Office or the Budget Office.

Mr. Garza noted that there were no funds available in the Constable-s Budget and explained that the equipment and installation was replacing equipment which was stolen from the vehicle.

Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Peña and carried unanimously, the purchase and installation of Law Enforcement Equipment for Constable Precinct No. 7 was approved, said funding to be allocated from the Lapsed Salaries Fund.

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:

At this time, there was some discussion regarding the Commissioners= Court attending the 1997 Texas Association of Counties Post Legislative Conference and the suggestion was made to amend Item No. 27 to include the Court to attend the Conference.

Commissioner Matz noted that Item No. 27 Aa® should be Precinct No. 1 as opposed to Precinct No. 3.

Commissioner Cascos expressed concern regarding Item No. 27 Aa® as to the purpose of obtaining a lowboy and suggested that the lowboy be purchased from the four (4) Precincts= Budgets, in order to share the usage.

Commissioner Benavides explained that the Precinct No. 1 employees would also be attending a training class on operating the equipment.

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

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

- a) Commissioner Precinct No. 1 and three (3) employees to purchase one (1) Lowboy and one (1) truck in San Antonio, Texas, on August 14-16, 1997;

- b) Constable Precinct No. 2 to meet with TNRCC Commissioners Ralph Marques, regarding Solid Waste Enforcement Grant in Austin, Texas, on August 8-12, 1997;
- c) Program Development and Management Director to attend the ABorder Low Income Housing Conference@ in Laredo, Texas, on August 20-21, 1997;
- d) Four (4) Juvenile Probation Officers to attend the ATexas Probation Association 1997 Legislative Conference@ in San Antonio, Texas, on August 24-27, 1997;
- e) County Drug Enforcement Task Force Director and two (2) Agents to attend the ATCLEOSE Supervisor-s Course@ in Raymondville, Texas, on August 12-13, 1997;
- f) District Clerk to attend the A1997 Texas Association of Counties Post Legislative Conference@ in Austin, Texas, on August 26-29, 1997;
- g) Unified Narcotics Intelligence Task-Force Director to attend a ASouth Texas HIDTA Meeting@ in Laredo, Texas, on August 24-26, 1997;
- h) Unified Narcotics Intelligence Task Force Agent to interview a witness in Austin, Texas, on August 12-14, 1997;
- I) Community Development Project Coordinator to attend the ALower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Professional Advisory Review Panel Monthly Meeting@ in Weslaco, Texas, on August 13, 1997;
- j) Health Department employee to attend the ATexas Department of Health Title V Workshop@ in Austin, Texas, on August 13-16, 1997;
- k) Health Department Administrator to attend the AMortality Analysis Workshop@ in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico, on August 13-15, 1997; and
- l) Two (2) Health Department employees to attend a AFind Me the Money Seminar@ in Edinburg, Texas, on August 19, 1997.



(28) APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE WITHOUT THE PURCHASE ORDER FOR THE CITY OF PORT ISABEL, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$470.00

(29) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE ANNUAL BID NO. 2460 FOR RECYCLED STOCK PAPER, COMPUTER PAPER AND ENVELOPES

NATIONWIDE PAPERS - San Antonio, Texas

Description	Cost
Recycled Bond Paper	
8 2 x 11 Sub 20	\$23.75
8 2 x 14 Sub 20	\$30.20

CORPORATE EXPRESS - Brownsville, Texas

Description	Cost
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Recycle Bond Paper	
11 x 17 Sub 20	\$25.88
8 2 x 11 Sub 24 25% Cotton	\$96.60
8 2 x 14 Sub 24 25% Cotton	\$131.60

GULF COAST PAPER - San Antonio, Texas

Description	Cost
Recycled Envelopes	
#10 Sub 24 litho-wove-side seam	\$34.25
#10 Sub 24 window-litho-wove-side seam	\$39.95
Manila Envelopes 6 2 x 9 2	\$44.76

O. E. I. BUSINESS - Houston, Texas

Description	Cost
Recycled Computer Paper	
14 7/8 x 8 2 - one part	\$5.16
14 7/8 x 11 - one part	\$6.21
14 7/8 x 11 - one part blank	\$6.52
9 2 x 11 - one part	\$5.23
14 7/8 x 8 2 - two part	\$13.86
14 7/8 x 8 2 three part	\$22.79

CORPORATE EXPRESS - Brownsville, Texas

Description	Cost
Non-Recycled Computer Paper	
9 2 x 11 - two part	\$19.67
9 2 x 3 2/3 - four part continuous	\$13.73
9 2 x 5 2 - 2 part NCR blank	\$9.72

CORPORATE EXPRESS - Brownsville, Texas

Description	Cost
Non-Recycled Index Cards	
8 x 10 Sub 110 White Index	\$16.56
8 x 12 Sub 110 White Index	\$23.00
8 2 x 14 Sub White Index	\$26.36

NATIONWIDE PAPERS - San Antonio, Texas

Description	Cost
NCR Non-Recycled Paper Superior	
8 2 x 11 Precollated - two part	\$13.76
8 2 x 14 Precollated - two part	\$17.51
8 2 x 11 Precollated - three part	\$15.48
8 2 x 14 Precollated - three part	\$19.67
8 2 x 11 Precollated - four part	\$16.54
8 2 x 14 Precollated - four part	\$21.05
8 2 x 11 Precollated - four part	\$17.52

(30) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD BID NO. 980 TYPEWRITERS

DAVIS OFFICE - Harlingen, Texas

Description	Cost
Canon AP9417 or IBM WW 1500	470.00
Canon AP5415 or IBM WW 100	\$412.75

(31) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE BID FOR CLOSED CIRCUIT TV SYSTEM - GATEWAY AND LOS INDIOS BRIDGES

ARGUS SECURITY - McAllen, Texas

Description	Cost
CCTV - Gateway	\$30,436.00
CCTV - Los Indios	\$23,520.00

(32) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD ANNUAL BID NO. 0510 FOR MATTRESSES

ROBINSON TEXTILES - Fuquay, North Carolina

Description	Cost
Mattresses	\$37.85

(33) AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD ANNUAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 1890-97-01 FOR TRANSPORTATION OF INMATES

TRANS COR - Nashville, Tennessee

Description	Cost
Ground Travel - Male	0.65/mile
Ground Travel - Female	0.75/mile
Air Travel - Male	1.25 + airfare
Air Travel - Female	1.25 + airfare

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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**.

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APPROVED this **2nd** day of **September, 1997**.

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GILBERTO HINOJOSA
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

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