

DRAFT

Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Meeting

**Monday, February 27, 2017 at 9:00 AM
(Approved DATE)**

Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 9:00 a.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Tano E. Tijerina,	County Judge
Jesse Gonzalez,	Commissioner, Pct. 1
Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina,	Commissioner, Pct. 2
John C. Galo,	Commissioner, Pct. 3
Jaime Alberto Canales,	Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 24th day of February 2017. Present also were Mrs. Virginia M. Rodriguez, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

CALL TO ORDER BY THE HONORABLE TANO E. TIJERINA, WEBB COUNTY JUDGE

- 1. Roll Call by Honorable Margie Ramirez-Ibarra, Webb County Clerk**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation**
- 3. Approval of Bills, Payroll, and Monthly Report**

County Treasurer, Ms. Delia Perales presented the Recap of Checks, Release of Immediate Payments, Ratification of Checks, Auditor's Errors, Ratification of Payroll, and Side Bills.

Ms. Perales presented the monthly report for January 2017.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 4 Jaime Alberto Canales, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 4. Public Comment - This section provides the public the opportunity to address the Commissioners Court on any items on the Agenda. Members of the public wishing to participate must complete a Witness Card specifying which agenda item they wish to comment on. Each public member, individually or in a group, will be allowed a total of Three (3) minutes within which to make any/all public comments.**

- 1) Mr. Sergio Martinez spoke in regards to item #41.
- 2) Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra spoke in regards to item #46.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 4 Jaime Alberto Canales to bring up item #47

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

COURT TO DISCUSS AND ACT ON THE FOLLOWING:

Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge

- 47. Discussion and possible action to adopt a new policy that will apply to all grant applications to be submitted under the authority of the County of Webb to be included in the current Single Point of Contact procedures requiring the following. [Requested by Juan Vargas, Economic Development Director]**
- a) No monetary grant-funded stipends or supplement pay will be allowed;
 - b) All future grant-funded programs involving current County employees will include only Full Time Equivalency (FTE) percentages in a project's budget and will also apply to all future renewal projects;
 - c) For all grant-funded projects involving current county employees that includes overtime grant funds, will be required to use the County's Time Clock Plus system and have GPS monitors in their County vehicles, except for those involved in undercover work;
 - d) It will be mandatory for all grant-funded employee positions to use the County's Time Clock Plus system;
 - e) A complete hard copy of all future grant applications will be required to be submitted to the Single Point of Contact (Economic Development Department) two (2) weeks before the grant application is presented to the County Commissioners Court requesting authorization to submit the grant application to

the State or Federal funding agency. This policy will be effective February 27, 2017; and

f) Any and all budget amendments that may arise from grant-funded activity shall be conducted only by the budget officers.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina to adopt the new rules formulated by Mr. Juan Vargas for the grants effective immediately

Vote: 4 - 1 Motion Carried

NAY: Commissioner, Pct. 4 Jaime Alberto Canales

CONSENT AGENDA: At most meetings, the Commissioners Court establishes a Consent Agenda. It consists of those Agenda Items which are routine or non-controversial, and which neither a member of the Commissioners court has asked to be pulled for discussion. Once the Commissioners Court has established the Consent Agenda, Agenda Items included on it will be voted upon in one vote, and will not be discussed separately unless requested by the County Judge or Commissioners.

The consent agenda has been created in order to give constituents the opportunity to view any and all pertinent backup information with reference to any item in the agenda. The objective of the consent agenda is for all Webb County constituents to be familiar with everyday county business and to demonstrate the transparency and fairness of this Commissioners Court.

The following Agenda Items are of a routine nature, and the Commissioners Court has received supporting materials for consideration. All of these Agenda Items will be passed with one vote without being discussed separately, unless a member of the Commissioners Court or the public requests that a particular Agenda Item be discussed. If so, that Agenda Item will be pulled from the Consent Agenda and discussed as part of the regular Agenda at the appropriate time. One vote will approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS

5. Community Action Agency

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Webb County Community Action Agency to enter into an annual vendor agreement with Retail Energy Providers for the implementation of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP). These vendor agreements**

are a Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) requirement for the implementation of the programs.

List of Retail Energy Providers

**VERDE ENERGY
V-247 POWER**

Issue: The Webb County CAA will enter into an annual vendor agreement with Retail Energy Providers for the implementation of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP).

Solution: These vendor agreements are a Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) requirement for the implementation of the programs.

Result: The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) will provide funding to be used for payment of qualifying low income clients home energy expenses.

- b. **Discussion and possible action to accept a donation from Crown Chiropractic in the amount of \$500.00 to be utilized in the acquisition of Bulk Food for the Meals On Wheels Program; and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. [Account #952-4216-6213 (Bulk Food)]**

Issue: Donation check issued by Crown Chiropractic to support the mission of the Webb County Meals On Wheels Program.

Solution: Deposit \$500.00 check into the Bulk Food line item; Account #952-4216-6213.

Result: Continue working relationship with Crown Chiropractic and purchase bulk food for the Meals On Wheels Program.

6. Honorable Mike Villarreal, Constable Pct. 2

- a. **Discussion and possible action to accept a donation from the District Attorney Isidro "Chilo" Alaniz and create a budget amendment to Canine Expenditures (Account #173-2503-6706) in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00); and any other matters incident thereto.**

Issue: Constable Pct. 2 Canine Hanna is in need of medical Check up and vaccination. These funds will also be utilized for

future Veterinary services and other expenditures.

Solution: Acceptance of the donation and creating the budget amendment will allow the department to have and use the said funds for the necessary medical and other expenditures related to the canine.

Results: Approval of this agenda item will allow the department to have the necessary funds for canine expenses.

7. Honorable Harold Devally, Constable Pct. 4

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve a budget amendment by increasing revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$63,630 for new revenues received from the Department of Justice from seized funds in accordance with Texas Local Government Code, Section 111.07075 (Special Budget for Revenue Received after Start of Fiscal Year), and to distribute the monies as per attachment. [Fund #171]**

Issue: New revenue receipts received as a result of previous seizures conducted between the Constable Pct. 4 and Federal Law Enforcement agency(s). These amounts have now been forfeited and awarded to the collaborating agencies for official use.

Solution: Appropriate new revenues and expenditures not currently budgeted for FY 2017.

Result: Utilize new revenues for law enforcement purposes and in accordance with Equitable sharing guidelines. All forfeiture budgets should be used only as a supplement source and not to supplant current budgets approved through the General fund or other non-forfeiture sources.

8. Honorable Margie Ibarra, County Clerk

- a. Approval of Minutes for January 30, 2017 and February 13, 2017**
- b. Discussion and possible action to renew and approve a Three (3) month Acclaim Software Maintenance and Support Services Agreement between Webb County and Harris Recording Solutions, commencing February 1, 2017 through April 30, 2017, at a monthly rate of \$2,712.60 for a total of \$8,137.81, and authorizing the County Judge to execute any and all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. [Requested**

by Margie Ramirez-Ibarra, Webb County Clerk, Funding Source #009-1120-6022 (County Clerk - Professional Services)]

9. Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge
- a. Discussion and possible action by resolution of the Webb County Commissioners Court to call for the recall of the County's member on the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors and to cast all of Webb County's 956 votes to recall Frank Sciaraffa, the County's member on the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors as per Section 6.033 of the Texas Property Tax Code.

10. Honorable Isidro Alaniz, District Attorney

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the addition of a 2007 Cadillac Escalade VIN#3GYFK62807G168571 as part of the District Attorney's Office vehicle inventory, and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. [Account #001-1100-6403]

Issue: The 2007 Cadillac Escalade is part of a court order awarding the vehicle to the District Attorney's Office. The District Attorney's Office is requesting to add the vehicle as part of its vehicle inventory to be used for law enforcement operations.

Solution: Approve the addition of the vehicle as part of the District Attorney's vehicle inventory.

Result: Utilize all available resources to deter and to dismantle organized crime in our community and along the Texas border within Webb County.

11. Economic Development

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of fence material not to exceed the amount of \$1,508.00 from Account #645-8001-8801 Capital Outlay for Colorado Acres Water Facilities from the TCDP #7215510 Colorado Acres - HWY 59 Water Improvement Project. This action will have no impact on the County's General Fund. [Account #645-8001-8801 (Texas Department of Agriculture)]

Issue: The western side of the property line is not fenced and being used by others.

Solution: The construction of the fence along the western side of the Webb County property will secure the area and also provide an additional fence barrier to the current Sanitary Easement required by TCEQ.

Result: This fence will assist to improve the US HWY 59 Water facilities Sanitary Easement area.

12. Head Start

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the posting and filling of the following Slot:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate/Salary</u>	<u>Pay Periods</u>
1933	Family Service Worker	\$16.21	26

- b. Discussion and possible action to approve the transfer of employees within the following Slots with salary changes and approve the filling of the vacant Slot, subject upon the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines:

	<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
From:	2524	Child Care Family Service Worker	\$15.71
To:	1798	Head Start Family Service Worker	\$16.21
To Fill:	2524	Child Care Family Service Worker	\$15.71

13. Information Technology

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize AT&T Switched Ethernet Service - speed upgrade for the following locations in the amount not to exceed (\$5,100) in accordance with Contract #20140509 - 2903, and authorizing the County Judge to sign and execute all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. [Account #001-0109-6004-5]

CIR SPEED UPGRADE

8400 San Dario Ave. Laredo, TX
901 S. Milmo Ave, Laredo, TX
4101 Juarez, Laredo, TX
1620 Santa Ursula, Laredo, TX
7210 E. Saunders St. Laredo, TX

Issue: The locations need to upgrade their speed in order to have a faster means of communication

Solution: A faster Ethernet speed upgrade

Result: Better and faster internet connections and communications

14. Juvenile Probation Department

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the posting and filling of the following Slots, subject to the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, effective February 27, 2017:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
351	Juvenile Supervision Officer	\$15.73 12/D
2442	Juvenile Supervision Officer	\$15.73 12/D

Issue: Due to resignations and terminations, we are not meeting the staffing ratios for the continuous (24 hours a day/7 days a week) operations of the Juvenile Detention Center. Employee currently occupying Slot #2442 has submitted letter of resignation. Last day will be on February 23, 2017.

Solution: Approve the posting and filling of the vacated positions.

Result: Compliance with required supervision ratios.

15. Honorable Patricia A. Barrera, Tax-Assessor- Collector

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve a refund in the amount of \$9,989.08 to International Bank of Commerce - c/o Industry Consulting Group Inc., Accounts #22301115010 through #94743002090 (see backup), as per Supplement 6 Certified 2016, Adjust values per Judicial District Court 341st Judgment Causes #2016CV8002325-D3 and #2016CV8002327-D3 for tax year 2016.

Issue: Various accounts had values adjusted per Causes #2016CV8002325-D3 and #2016CV802327-D3 for tax year 2016. These adjustments generated refunds since the accounts had been paid prior to receiving said adjustments from the Webb County Appraisal District.

Solution: Refund said amount to International Bank of Commerce - c/o Industry Consulting Group Inc. for their over-payments.

Result: The monies will be reimbursed to the appropriate taxpayer.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura “Wawi” Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez to approve all Consent Agenda items

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

REGULAR AGENDA

Honorable Isidro Alaniz, District Attorney

- 16. Discussion and possible action to approve the submission of a grant application to the Office of the Governor Homeland Security Grants Division for the Border Prosecution Grant estimated at \$435,000 over the term of the contract. This formal request shall authorize the County Judge to act as the County's Executive Officer and Authorized Representative in all matters pertaining to the County's participation in this grant. Contract Term: September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018.**

Issue: There is a need for resources to prosecute felony cases, provide technical assistance and training to law enforcement agencies and prosecute border crime cases along the Texas-Mexico Border. The Office of the Governor of Texas has provided available resources through a grant opportunity to enhance prosecution in the area of organized crime/criminal enterprise cases.

Solution: Authorize the submission of the grant application as set forth above to ensure that the Border Prosecution Unit at the District Attorney's Office can continue to successfully prosecute border crime cases along the Texas-Mexico Border.

Result: The District Attorney's Office will have the opportunity to receive additional resources to continue prosecution specifically in the area of organized crime / criminal enterprise cases.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura “Wawi” Tijerina to approve item #16 as long as it goes through the policy

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 17. Discussion and possible action to authorize the acceptance of a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Grant (HIDTA Program) from the Executive Office of the President Office of National Drug Control Policy in the amount of \$273,347 for the continued salary and fringe benefits of seven Task Force Investigators; and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant**

documents; and any other matters incident thereto. [Grant Fund Source 308]

Issue: There is evidence that trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs exists in Laredo, Texas and that such illegal activity has a substantial and detrimental effect on the health and welfare of the people of Texas.

Solution: Gather and report intelligence data relating to trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs. Conduct undercover operations and engage in other traditional methods of investigations.

Result: Disrupt the illicit drug traffic in Laredo by immobilizing targeted violators and trafficking organizations.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina to approve item #17 as long as it goes through the policy

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Economic Development

- 18. Discussion and possible action to transfer Slot #1383 Grant Writer from the Economic Development Department, including the budgeted amount of \$48,626 annual salary and \$16,076 in fringe benefits to the Business Office, with additional action to change title from Grant Writer to Grant Compliance Officer, approve the modification, posting and filling of said Slot, subject to the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, effective February 27, 2017; and any other matters incident thereto.**

Issue: Due to recent events with one of the county courts at law, an item regarding the revision of grants was presented and approved on February 13, 2017. Commissioners Court approved Item #62 that ordered all changes regarding Grant funds be submitted to the Business office for final approval by the Commissioners Court.

Solution: Transfer the requested vacant slot to provide the necessary position for the revisions of grants and all financial administration.

Result: Acquire the position necessary to ensure that the court approved action can be completed.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by
Commissioner, Pct. 4 Jaime Alberto Canales

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Fire Suppression & EMS Services

19. **Status report by Webb County Volunteer Fire/EMS Department and Angel Care Ambulance Service (Webb County 911 Service Provider) regarding end of year report for 2016 and outlook for 2017; and any other matters incident thereto.**

Issue: End of calendar year and review of EMS services.

Solution: Presentation by Angel Care Ambulance Service, review of service statistics for 2016, and outlook for 2017.

Result: An informed Webb County Commissioner's Court , of services provided, any issues encountered, and upcoming projects by 911 service provider.

20. **Discussion and possible action to accept a "M923-A2, 2006, 5-ton 6x6 military cargo truck, Serial Number 2303044, from Commissioner John C. Galo, with the purpose of converting this vehicle to a wildland fire emergency response vehicle. This unit will be improved with a pump platform skid to include a 1000 gallon poly tank, and a Kubota 24 HP diesel engine with a Hale 200 HP fuel pump.**

Issue: Donation of military vehicle by Commissioner John C. Galo to fire department.

Solution: Accept military vehicle donation from Commissioner John C.Galo.

Result: An additional unit to be utilized in wildland fire response, the department's primary response type.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez

Vote: 4 - 0 Motion Carried

Other: Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo (ABSTAIN)

Community Action Agency

21. Discussion and possible action to adjust pay rates and modify the following job descriptions. If the change in title and Job Descriptions is approved by the court, said change to title and description will be taken before the Civil Service Commission for certification. There will be no impact to the General Fund. [Accounts #509-6500-5001 (Payroll), Account #920-4202-5001 (Payroll) and Account #911-4200-5001 (Payroll)]

Slot #	Job Title From:	Job Title to:	Previous Wage	Prop. Wage
1461	Tool Librarian	Program Outreach and Intake Coordinator	\$11.36	\$12.02
1850	Receptionist/Clerk	N/A	\$11.53	\$12.50

Issue: The duties performed under these positions do not appropriately describe the job functions of these positions.

Solution: Give correct job title to Slot #1461 that accurately and justly compensates the actual job functions performed on a daily basis and Slot #1850 justly compensates the actual job functions performed on a daily basis.

Result: Slot #1461 and Slot #1850 will be correctly and justly title and compensated.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura “Wawi” Tijerina to send it to Civil Service

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Elections

22. Discussion and possible action to amend the County legislative agenda to include a Resolution in support of online voter registration; and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: Presently, voter registration applicants can/may complete an application to register to vote online but they still have to print the form and submit it to their local voter registrar either in person or by mail making the process inefficient and time consuming.

Solution: Make the 85th Legislature aware that the Webb County Commissioners Court supports the passage of an “Online Voter Registration” bill that allows applicants the option of completing and submitting the application online through a secure system.

Result: Gives applicants several options to register to vote in the state.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Engineer

- 23. Discussion and possible action to approve Change Order #6 for the Webb County Youth Village Project to Leyendecker Construction Inc., in the amount of \$6,898.27; with additional action to approve line item transfer for additional funds needed, as per attachment. These funds are needed to cover additional work needed but not covered by contract approved allowances or credits. Additional valves as required by the City of Laredo Utilities Department for the Fire Loop and Fire Hydrant installation; and authorize the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Account #684-1306-8601 (Construction in Progress) and #660-8108-8801 (Capital Outlay)]**

Issue: Additional pipe valves requested by the City of Laredo upon inspection.

Solution: Approve funds for Change Order.

Result: Approval from City of Laredo for fire loop inspection completion.

Chief Deputy Auditor, Mr. Rafael Perez stated that the funding was to come from Series 2008A Interest Income Fund #684 and the difference from Series 2003 Fund #660.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez to approve item #23 from Series 2008A Interest Income Fund #684 and the difference from Series 2003 Fund #660

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 24. Discussion and possible action to request proposals for appraisal services required for the Loop 20 Widening Project. [Account #001-0109-6022 (Professional Services)]**

Issue: Impacted property due to expansion of road for the Loop 20 Extension Project.

Solution: Hiring of appraiser to survey land.

Result: Having the value on file will help the county identify an appropriate replacement property in the near future.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Public Defender

- 25. Discussion and possible action to approve the filling of the following slot, and if necessary, fill the resultant vacant slot subject to the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, as well as any and all Wage Plan Policies:**

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
2085	Assistant Public Defender I	\$64,549.38 (22 K-S)

Issue: Slot #2085 will become vacant on March 3, 2017. The filling of this slot may create a vacant Assistant Public Defender slot if the position is filled from within.

Solution: Request is being made to fill the vacant attorney slot, and any remaining vacant slot that may be created by the vacancy.

Result: The filling of Slot #2085, and any remaining vacant slot will allow our department to continue to function efficiently and effectively.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina, seconded by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Purchasing

- 26. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Sixty (60) month (March 1, 2017 through April 30, 2022) Fair Market Value Lease Agreement between Pitney Bowes and the Webb County Tax Assessor Office for a Relay 7000 Inserting System at a cost of \$1,072.85 per month (Buy-Board #496-15), subject to annual budget appropriations and authorizing the County Judge to sign relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. [Requested by Ms. Patricia Barrera, Tax Assessor; Account #001-0700-6402]**

Issue: Current lease expires 2/28/17; County Tax Assessor wishes to continue using Pitney Bowes to provide mail services to all departments and for internal use.

Solution: Approve new lease with Pitney Bowes to minimize interruption of operation. Buy-board # 496-15 expires 10/31/17. Pricing attached.

Result: Continue to provide internal mailing services for County departments and for Tax Office.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Risk Management

- 27. Discussion and possible action for all ancillary insurance products offered to Webb County employees to become effective Ninety days (90) after date of hire; and any other matters incident thereto, and authorizing the County Judge to sign any relevant documents thereto.**

Issue: Presently when a new employee is hired there is a 90 day eligibility waiting period for health benefits but the employee's ancillary products become effective on the first of the month following the expiration of thirty calendar days. This has created much confusion in premium remittance.

Solution: Establish a uniform effective eligibility date for all insurance products offered to Webb County employees.

Result: All insurance products will have the same starting effective date for eligibility and remittance of premiums thereby eliminating confusion and possible errors.

Motion by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Water Utilities

- 28. Discussion and possible action to award a contract to Square E Engineering in the amount of \$19,755.00 for the Soft Starters needed and Electrical connections to the Supervisory Control Data Acquisition (SCADA) System at the Rio Bravo Water Treatment Plant High Service Pump upgrades. [Account #758-8006-8601 (2016 Bond Series)]**

Issue: High Service Pumps that were required to upgrade to increase our Water Capacity as requested by the state Texas Commission On Environmental Quality (T.C.E.Q.) are being installed but they needed Electrical upgrades as needed to put them online.

Solution: Soft Starters and Local Control Panels for each High Service Pumps they will permit Pumps and Motors to last longer because of their Soft start and slow shut down to prevent from future damages to either one of them.

Result: This work will allow us to have more pumping capacity as it is required from the state Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (T.C.E.Q.)

- 29. Discussion and possible action to award project to Laredo Machine Shop in the amount of \$47,438.00 as part of Annual Contract Bid #2017-39 for Welding and Fabrication Services needed at the Rio Bravo Water Treatment Plant, the Warehouse storage area, the River Intake, and at the reinforced metal security fence. [Account #758-8006-8601 (Bond Series)]**

Issue: We are currently upgrading our Water Plant Facility with Safety issues that have been brought up to our attention by the state Texas Commission on environmental Quality (T.C.E.Q.) and our employees.

Solution: Authorize issuance of purchase order based on the current Annual Contract Bid #2017-39.

Result: Complete all welding and fabrication services around the mentioned areas to include river Intake fabricated stairs, Splitter Box Ladder with all railing on the top, Warehouse security cages and shelves, and the completion of the metal reinforced fencing what is left to finish.

- 30. Discussion and possible action to award project to Environmental Improvements (EI2) in the amount of \$30,815.70 to purchase a 6,150 Gallon Capacity Vertical (Alum) Storage Tank, a 2550 Gallon Capacity Vertical (Caustic) Storage Tank, a 295 Gallon Capacity Vertical Day Tank (Caustic) Storage Tank, Digital Chemical Scale and a 2550 Gallon Caustic Tank Heater System for the (Caustic) Storage Tank. [Account #758-8006-8601 (Bond Series)]**

Issue: We currently have (2) Aluminum Sulfate Storage Tanks that hold a total of 4,200 Gallons of chemical but they only have a life time of 10 years according to the manufacturer and they need to get replaced. They also have leaks that are beyond repair.

Solution: Authorize issuance of purchase order to Environmental Improvements, lowest & responsible bidder.

Result: Complete installation and operation of the Chemical Storage Tanks, Day Tank, and Scale. We will have more Chemical Storage Capacity. Tanks that will be purchased will have a 20 year life time warranty according to the manufacturer.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina to approve items #28, #29, and #30

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 31. Discussion and possible action to award a Professional Service Contract in the amount of \$59,525.00 to LNV Engineering for engineering support and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (T.C.E.Q.) coordination for the approval of the Sodium Hydroxide Injection improvement for the Rio Bravo Water Treatment Plant; Texas Local Government Code under 262.024 Discretionary Exemptions section (a) (4) a personal or professional service. [Account #758-8006-6022 (Professional Services)]**

Issue: Due to lead rules and events occurring to drinking water around the nation, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has initiated the review of corrosive and non-corrosive conditions within water source systems. This has required to submit for the possible injection of Sodium Hydroxide as a precautionary basis only (not violation) to our treated water.

Solution: Award of a contract to qualified engineer to provide the required study, plans and specification, and communication with

TCEQ to initiate possible injection.

Result: Prepare for new and more stringent regulation in the future regarding Lead leaching in water due to water corrosiveness.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez to approve the contract in the amount of \$59,525

Vote: 3 - 0 Motion Carried

Other: County Judge Tano E. Tijerina (ABSTAIN)
Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina (ABSTAIN)

- 32. Discussion and possible action to award a Professional Service Contract in the amount of \$28,000.00 to LNV Engineering for an engineering study to evaluate alternatives for solids de-watering at the Rio Bravo Water Treatment Facility and providing for recommendation regarding capital, operational, and lifetime cost associated with all alternatives; Texas Local Government Code under 262.024 Discretionary Exemptions Section (a) (4) a personal or professional service. [Account #2016 758-8006-6022 (Bond Series)]**

Issue: The initial and most critical part of water treatment relates to removal of solids (dirt, particles, inorganic) from the water. These solids must be extracted from the water and disposed of in very specific manners as per state requirements. Currently, a very costly and time and infrastructure method is being implemented, but our increase in water production necessitate we evaluate and consider moving forward with a capital project to have solids processing improved.

Solution: First we must determine the best alternative for drying solids to ready for disposal. This project consist of this part. Then we will need to consider the development of plans and specifications for the final bid letting for construction.

Result: Improve equipment and time efficiency in this drying process. Meet the demands of the future.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 4 Jaime Alberto Canales

Vote: 3 - 0 Motion Carried

Other: County Judge Tano E. Tijerina (ABSTAIN)

Honorable Marco Montemayor, County Attorney

- 33. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Contract Agreement for Services with Chestnut Health Systems to provide software services for the Webb County Court at Law #2 D.W.I. Court Program for the term of One (1) year that shall commence on February 11, 2017 and expire on February 10, 2018 at a total cost of One Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$1,260.00) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. [Account #362-1011-6022]**

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina to send it to the committee

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 34. Discussion and possible action to approve and authorize a proposed settlement agreement and compliance supplemental environmental project in lieu of penalty in the amount of \$36,150 for the pending enforcement action/litigation between the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ") and Webb County regarding the Webb County Wastewater Treatment Plant in Docket No. 2016-0612-MLM-E, by and between "TCEQ" and Webb County, and authorizing the County Judge to execute any and all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. [Executive Session may be requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Sections 551.071(1) (a) & (b) (Consultation with Attorney regarding pending litigation and about a settlement offer)] [Requested by Adrian Montemayor, Webb County Utilities Department]**

Issue: These are violations incurred in 2014 and 2015 primarily due to sanitary sewer overflows occurring due to ineffective notification equipment and/or faulty lift station operation.

Solution: This agreement includes a compliance supplemental environmental project that upon agreement through this document will allow us to re-invest the assessed fines towards improvements greatly needed within our system. Compliance with this agreement and reduce sanitary sewer overflows.

Result: Reduce threat of sewer overflow onto streets creating hazardous conditions.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 35. Discussion and possible action to approve and authorize a proposed settlement agreement and payment of penalty in the amount of \$1,890.00 for the pending enforcement action/litigation between the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (“TCEQ”) and Webb County regarding the Webb County Wastewater Treatment Plant in Docket No. 2016-1638-PWS-E, by and between “TCEQ” and Webb County, and authorizing the County Judge to execute any and all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. [Executive Session may be requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Sections 551.071(1) (a) & (b) (Consultation with Attorney regarding pending litigation and about a settlement offer)] [Requested by Adrian Montemayor, Webb County Utilities Department; Account - License and Permit Fees, 801 Operational Funds]**

Issue: These are violations that incurred during the 2015 and 2016 period when the plant was not in operation and therefore, reporting was not submitted.

Solution: These reporting violations have been resolved by re-assignment of duties to assure sampling and reporting continues even if the plant is not in operation.

Result: Provide requesting past reports to TCEQ and eliminate violations.

Motion by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo

Vote: 4 - 0 Motion Carried

Other: Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura “Wawi” Tijerina (OUT OF THE COURTROOM)

- 36. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Mirando City Water Supply Corporation “MCWSC” and Webb County. Webb County is currently funding the cost through a Community Development Block grant for the construction of a water storage standpipe tank for the residents of Mirando City. Webb County has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$500,000.00 from the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), for community development**

purposes, which it wishes to replace an existing water storage standpipe tank. Webb County will undertake the design and construction of water storage standpipe tank project, and shall be responsible for paying the costs of the construction of water storage standpipe tank, in an area southwest of the intersection of Dr. JW Edgar Street and FM 649, in an amount not to exceed the amount of the grant received by TDA, which will be spent in compliance with TDA's rules and regulations. The term of the MOU shall be for One and a Half years (1 1/2) years commencing from March 13, 2017 through September 12, 2018, and authorizing the County Judge to sign and execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Jesse Gonzalez, Commissioner Precinct 1]

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez

Vote: 4 - 0 Motion Carried

Other: Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina (OUT OF THE COURTROOM)

Motion by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo to bring up items #37 and #46 at the same time

Vote: 4 - 0 Motion Carried

Other: Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina (OUT OF THE COURTROOM)

Honorable Margie Ibarra, County Clerk

- 37. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of computer equipment needed to efficiently operate the new judicial court system software by Tyler Technologies (Odyssey) in an amount not to exceed \$7,000; and any other matters incident thereto. [Account #016-1120-6224]**

Issue: The Deputy County Clerks within the Courts Division of the Webb County Clerk's Office require the equipment necessary to achieve maximum productivity with minimum wasted effort or expense.

Solution: Authorization of computer equipment purchase.

Result: The clerks of the court will be able to carry out their duties in a more organized manner.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez to approve item #37 not to exceed \$7,000

Vote: 4 - 0 Motion Carried

Other: Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina (OUT OF THE COURTROOM)

Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge

- 46. Discussion and possible action to formally transfer the duties and responsibilities associated with the collection of all assessed court costs, fines and fees from County Courts at Law I and II to the Webb County Clerk's office as authorized by statute in an effort to address deficiencies within the County's court collections improvement program and regain compliance with the Office of Court Administration (OCA); and any other matters incident thereto.**

Issue: The county's current court collection improvement plan is not in compliance with the OCA program requirements. A noted deficiency in the plan is that judicial collection officers assigned to the Tax Assessor's office are blocked from accessing information from the case management system for the county court at law caseloads. This case information is initially received by county clerk staff which are already assigned to both County Courts at Law.

Solution: Transfer these primary collection responsibilities for court costs, fines and fees for County Courts at Law back to the Webb County Clerk who is legally obligated to perform these tasks. The Tx. Govt. Code §102.061 authorizes that the County Clerk shall collect fees and costs assessed in statutory county courts. The Tx. Code of Crim. Procedure Art. 103.003 authorizes the County Clerk as the collection agent for these fees.

Result: Ensure that all court costs, fines and fees assessed by the County Courts a Law will be properly identified and collected as per the county's collection improvement program and new judicial software system in an effort to regain compliance with the OCA.

Motion by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Honorable Adrian Cortez, Constable Pct. 3

38. Discussion and possible action for authorization to develop and submit grant application for 2018 to Local Border Security Program (FY 2018 LBSP) of the Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD). Grant will be submitted in the amount of \$30,000.00 to be used for overtime and applicable fringe benefits to provide enhanced border security in Webb County (Pct. 3), and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents, and any other matters incident thereto. This grant will not require a match from Webb County.

Issue: The State of Texas recognizes that border communities face urgent security challenges caused by increased activity from transnational organized criminal syndicates and their allies that are intensified by the fluidity of border crossings, heavy commercial activity and interdependence of the international border communities economies. These socio-economic pressures place increased demands on law enforcement services and intensify the need for augmented public safety resources.

Solution: To provide enhanced border security in Webb County Pct 3 in order to fulfill State of Texas local border security program objectives, including overtime resources to suppress, deter and reduce border-related criminal activity in Texas.

Result: Enhanced/increased patrol for certified peace officers working at the Webb County Constable Precinct 3 Department.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez to approve item #38 subject to the following of grant policies

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Budget Officers

39. Discussion and possible action to order the transfer of the following Slots, including budgeted salaries and fringe benefits, within Departments #0600 (Purchasing) and #0300 (Treasury) to Department #0703 (Business Office); and any other matters incident thereto:

	<u>Dept</u>	<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
From:	0600	2130	Sr. PO Payables Coordinator	\$19.40 - 16/E
	0600	2864	PO Payables Coordinator	\$16.73 - 14/A

To: 0703 Business Office
From: 0300 2167 Accounts Payable Clerk \$17.16 - 12/K
0300 0081 Accounts Payable Clerk \$15.15 - 12/A
To: 0703 Business Office

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina to approve item #39 at the budget officer's discretion no later than March 20

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 40. Discussion and possible action to amend the 2017 capital projects funds budget to the 2016 available balances. The proposed capital projects budget were based on expenditures and encumbrances estimates as of August 2016. [Requested by County Auditor's Office]**

Issue: Capital projects budgets require to have the correct available balances for expenditures and encumbrances for 2017 appropriations.

Solution: Capital project budget will have the appropriate funding to perform their intended purpose.

Result: The amendments to the capital projects budget will allow to have the correct available balance for 2017 fiscal year.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Commissioners Court Administrator

- 41. Status report on the filling of the County Court at Law #2 Judge position; including next step for those candidates that have completed and submitted applications; and any other matters incident thereto. [Requested by Merit Selection Committee]**

No action taken.

- 42. Discussion and possible action to initiate the process of relocating the county's business office to the County's Administration building in an effort to provide adequate space to staff; and any other matters incident thereto.**

No action taken.

Honorable Rosaura “Wawi” Tijerina, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 2

43. Discussion and possible action to authorize Webb County to use funds from Account #753-8003-8801-14 (Capital Outlay Construction) from Whitetail Wind Energy Tax Abatement Funds in the amount of \$340,911.79 for Professional Engineering Services as needed for the Bruni Texas Arsenic Removal Project in Bruni, Texas. Webb County will assist Bruni Rural Supply Corp. by allowing this funding for engineering costs pertaining to this project and will provide oversight necessary to ensure that these tax abatement funds are used for this specific purpose within this \$1.6 million project. This action will not have an impact on the County's general fund.

Issue: In order to proceed with the Arsenic Removal project, NorrisLeal, Project Engineer, needs to proceed with the Piloting Phase as requested by the funding agency, Rural Development, USDA.

Solution: In order for USDA to release funds (Grant/Loan) to BRWSC, the remaining Whitetail Wind Energy Tax Abatement funds in the amount of \$340,911.79 for the Bruni Arsenic Removal Project need to be committed by Webb County first before Rural Development can release USDA funds.

Result: Project Engineer will proceed and complete project and the Bruni Rural Water Supply Corporation will be in compliance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and TCEQ. The residents of Bruni, Texas will have a State approved drinking water system.

Motion by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge

44. Discussion and possible action by resolution of the Webb County Commissioners Court to nominate a candidate for the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors as result of the recall of the County's member and to cast all of Webb County's 956 votes for _____ as Webb County's new member to the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the remainder of the 2016-2017 term as per Section 6.033 of the

Texas Property Tax Code.

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 4 Jaime Alberto Canales to nominate Cmr. Jesse Gonzalez

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 45. Discussion and possible action to approve the appointment of a County representative to the Laredo Development Foundation Board of Directors for a One (1) year term. [Requested by Laredo Development Foundation]**

Motion by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 3 John C. Galo to nominate Mr. Lalo Uribe

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

- 48. Discussion and possible action to authorize the County Judge to appoint a Grant Application Review Committee to conduct Pre-submission review of all grant applications with recommendations to the County Commissioner's Court and to conduct grant contract reviews of all funded grant projects with recommendations to the County Commissioner's Court to insure adherence to all County policies. [Requested by Juan Vargas, Economic Development Director]**

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 4 Jaime Alberto Canales, seconded by Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jesse Gonzalez

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously

Presentations

- 49. Discussion and possible action to proclaim the week of February 27, 2017 through March 3, 2017 as Read Across America Week. [Requested by Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge]**

- 50. Presentation of check to United Independent School District for the 14th Annual Anti-Gang Poster Contest (Gang Prevention). [Requested by John Galo, Commissioner Pct. 3]**

- 51. Communications**

Communications were led by Commissioner Jaime Alberto Canales, Commissioner John C. Galo, Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina, Commissioner Jesse Gonzalez, and Judge Tano E. Tijerina.

- 52. Adjourn**

Motion by Commissioner, Pct. 2 Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina, seconded by County Judge Tano E. Tijerina to adjourn

Vote: 5 - 0 Motion Carried - Unanimously