

WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS COURT

PUBLIC NOTICE
COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING
WEBB COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1000 HOUSTON STREET, 2ND FLOOR
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
DECEMBER 11, 2023
9:00 a.m.

2023 DEC -8 AM 8:26
WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS
BY *ML* DEPUTY
MARGIE R IBARRA
COUNTY CLERK
FILED

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. Discussion and possible action for Approval of Bills, Payroll, and Monthly Reports (Auditor, Treasurer, Human Resources, Risk Management; and any other Department reports); and any other matters incident thereto.
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.

COURT TO DISCUSS AND ACT ON THE FOLLOWING:

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. Auditor

- a. Discussion and possible action to ratify, by Order, end of fiscal year 2023 budget amendments; necessary to process year-end invoices or services rendered on or before September 30, 2023; and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: Various departments depleted funds within departmental budget line items; nonetheless, multiple invoices were received for goods or services after the fiscal year-end which required an apply date of FY-2023.

Solution: In order to process year-end transactions and pay invoices, funding was identified as approved by Commissioners Court on September 11, 2023, to allow Auditor's Office and Budget Office to enter and post budget amendments.

Result: Funds were transferred to cover pending invoices and properly classify transactions in FY-2023.

- b. Discussion and possible action to amend, by Order, the 2024 Capital Project Fund budgets to the fiscal year-end 2023 available carryover balances, and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: The proposed Capital Project budgets were based on year-end estimates as of August 2023. Capital Project budgets require the correct available balances for 2024.

Solution: Capital Project budget amendments to have the appropriate available funding.

Result: With these budget amendments, the Capital Project funds will have the correct available balances for October 1, 2023.

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve, by Order, the following budget amendment (line item transfers) within Road & Bridge Funds:

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	2007-259700	Fund Balance	\$0	\$1,678,699	\$0	\$0
To:	2007-7150-001-443000-035	Repairs & Maint. Equipment	\$185,000	\$12,720	\$148,349.90	\$161,069.90
	2007-7150-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$370,000	\$729,687	\$370,000	\$1,099,687
	2007-7160-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$0	\$936,292	\$0	\$936,292
				\$1,678,699		

Issue: Commissioners Court approved purchase of R&B heavy equipment. PO's carried over to fiscal year 2024 pending budget.

Solution: Approve budget amendment for fiscal year 2024. Funds are available in the Road & Bridge fund balance.

Result: Vendor invoices will be paid timely.

- d. Discussion and possible action to allow the Economic Development Department to submit the following budget amendment (line item transfers) contingent upon the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). Funds are being transfer from the administration line item in the amount of Four Hundred Forty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$443,566.00) to the construction line item. The following budget amendment (line item transfers) is within Grant funds. **[Requested by Economic Development; Fund #3520 TDHCA CARES Rio Bravo Health Center]**

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	3520-1150-001-410000	Payroll Cost	\$317,433.00	\$303,738.00	\$317,433.00	\$13,695
	3520-1150-001-421000	Health Life Insurance	\$21,788.00	\$20,848.00	\$21,788.00	\$940.00
	3520-1150-001-422000	FICA County Share	\$24,284.00	\$23,236.00	\$24,284.00	\$1,048
	3520-1150-001-423000	Retirement County Share	\$41,779.00	\$39,977.00	\$41,779.00	\$1,802
	3520-1150-001-425000	Unemployment	\$1,675.00	\$1,603.00	\$1,675.00	\$72.00
	3520-1150-001-426000	Workers Compensation	\$9,522.00	\$9,111.00	\$9,522.00	\$411.00
	3520-1150-001-443070	Pre-Contract Cost	\$10,000.00	\$9,569.00	\$10,000.00	\$431.00
	3520-1150-001-454000	Advertisement	\$3,000.00	\$2,870.00	\$3,000.00	\$130.00
	3520-1150-001-461000	Materials & Supplies	\$34,085.00	\$32,614.00	\$34,085.00	\$1,471.00
				\$443,566.00		
To:	3520-7230-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$3,565,892.48	\$443,566.00	\$3,565,892.48	\$4,009,458.48

Issue: Funds are needed to cover construction costs.

Solution: In order to cover construction costs, administration funds must be moved to the construction line item.

Result: Submit a budget amendment to the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs (TDHCA)

6. Budget Officer

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve, by Order, the following budget amendment (line item transfer) within the General fund:

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	1001-1130-001-431007-010	Operational Reserve		\$11,750		
To:	1001-1010-010-432079	Employee Appreciation Events	\$40,000	\$11,750	\$26,850.17	\$38,600.17

Issue: Pending invoice for Odisa Enterprises for the 2023 Employee Christmas Party needs to be processed and monies for overage need to be replenished for next year's scheduled Employee Luncheon in April.

Solution: Approve and process budget amendment necessary to fully fund line item.

Result: Processed contractual invoice and necessary funds for future event.

7. Civil Legal Division

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize a request for an amendment to the Aetna supplemental group life insurance ("Plan 2") so that a Webb County Employee, Spouse, and Dependent with group life insurance who reach the "Age Reductions" will be effective January 1 of each year rather than on their respective date of birth. This amendment will become effective January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024; and authorize the Webb County Judge to sign all relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Requested by Risk Management; Account #6100-1090-001-432057 (Cafeteria Administration)]**

Issue: The current life insurance available to the Webb County Employees is subject to an Age Reduction when the employee reaches a specific age, making the amount of coverage and premium vary throughout the year.

Solution: Authorize the consultant to seek an amendment from the Insurance Provider to set a date of Jan 1st of every year.

Result: Both the rate band and age reduction will take place on January 1st. Anyone aged 64-69 who turns 70 during the year would not be age-reduced until Jan 1st of the following year.

- b. Discussion and possible action to renew the "Webb County Stop Loss, Assumptions, and Caveats" Agreement with Aetna by selecting "Renewal Option" for the performance period of January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024, as recommended by Webb County's insurance consultant and authorizing the Webb County Civil Legal Division to review the Renewal Agreement; and authorizing the Webb County Judge to sign all relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Requested by Webb County Risk Department; Account #6100-1090-001-432056 (Administrative Fees)]**

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve Twenty-Five (25) Licenses for the Webb County District Attorney's Office regarding "Windows Intune Microsoft 365 Enterprise Product", a cloud based file management software, in an amount not to exceed Two Thousand Six Hundred Four Dollars (\$2,604.00) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Requested by Information Technology Department; Account #1001-2260-001-461000 (Materials & Supplies)]**

Issue: Microsoft currently provides licensing services for a multitude of software applications to Webb County; however, the District Attorney's office needs specific licenses to use be able to use a

Microsoft cloud-based file management system (Enterprise product).

Solution: Enter into an agreement for twenty-five (25) additional licenses for the District Attorney's Office to use a Cloud Based file Management System developed by Microsoft.

8. Community Action Agency

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Webb County Community Action Agency to enter into a vendor agreement with Retail Energy providers (listed below) for the implementation of the 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, authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. These agreements shall be effective from the 1st day of January 2024 for a period not to exceed two years from the effective date.

[Account #2362-5360-521-463804 (Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program)]

List of Retail Energy Providers:

4Change Customer Care
Ambit Energy
Amigo Energy
AP Gas & Electric
Champion Energy Services, LLC
Cirro Energy
Direct Energy
Discount Power
Frontier Utilities
Green Mountain Energy
HP Heritage Power
IGS Energy
Just Energy
Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc
POGO Energy
Reliant Energy
Stream SPE, LTD, DBA Stream
Tara Energy
TriEagele Energy
TXU Energy

Issue: These vendor agreements are a Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) requirement.

Solution: The Webb County CAA will enter into a two-year vendor agreement with Retail Energy Providers for the implementation of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP).

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 appoint Ms. Rebekah Alvarez as Representative and Ms. Gloria DeLeon as Alternate Representative to the Webb County Community Action Agency Advisory Board for Precinct 3 Commissioner John Galo.

- c. Discussion and possible action to appoint Mr. Manuel Sanchez to the Webb County Community Action Agency Advisory Board as Representative for Precinct 2 Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina.

9. **Economic Development**

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize the acceptance of a grant award in the amount of \$198,340 and as completed and submitted by the Webb County Sheriff's Office Grant Writer to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for a FY 2023 State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) grant for reimbursement of costs already incurred for the incarceration of undocumented criminal aliens at the Webb County jail; and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. This grant does not require any cash match; and, in fact, is a reimbursement of costs already incurred. All required documents were sent for review through the Economic Development Department and the solicitation is compliant with the Webb County Single Point of Contact (SPOC) procedures. **[Requested by Martin Cuellar, Webb County Sheriff]**

Issue: Although immigration matters, including illegal immigration, are constitutionally established as existing under the legal jurisdiction and regulation of the federal government, state prisons and local detention facilities, such as the Webb County jail, incurs significant costs incarcerating undocumented foreign aliens who commit crimes in the United States. This includes but is not limited to supervision, housing, feeding, clothing, any medical and transportation expenses, and other associated detention costs.

Solution: Grant award to obtain reimbursement of a small percentage of the incurred correctional officer salary costs associated with detaining undocumented criminal aliens who had at least one felony or two misdemeanor convictions for violations of state or local law and who were incarcerated at the Webb County jail for at least four (4) consecutive days during the reporting period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Result: Webb County will be reimbursed by the federal government a limited percentage of the amount of funding expended.

- b. Discussion and possible action to authorize the submission of a grant application to the Office of the Texas Attorney General in the amount of \$12,300 as developed and submitted by the Webb County Sheriff's Office Grant Writer for training, software, equipment/minor tools, and supplies for the Webb County Sheriff's Office Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. This grant does not require any match; and, thus shall have no impact to the general fund. All required documents were sent for review through the Economic Development Department and the solicitation is compliant with the Webb County Single Point of Contact (SPOC) procedures. **[Requested by Martin Cuellar, Webb County Sheriff]**

Issue: The psychological, emotional, and physical damage caused by child predators and inflicted on innocent victims, their families, and communities can be deeply destructive and have far-reaching consequences that can last a lifetime. Furthermore, throughout the United States, criminal cases built against child predators can be extremely complex, technologically challenging, and legally complicated.

Solution: The Webb County Sheriff's Office cybercrimes law enforcement unit has successfully worked with multiple federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, including the Office of the Attorney General, to arrest child predators in the Laredo/Webb County area. Grant application to supplement the successful endeavors of the Webb County Sheriff's Office cyber crimes against children task force to protect the children and youth of the Laredo/Webb County community against child predation.

Result: The Webb County Sheriff's Office will continue to enhance its ability to work proactively not only to catch individual child predators, but to produce an overall inhospitable environment for cyber crimes against children in Laredo/Webb County for the further prevention of child predation in our community.

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve the posting and filling of the following Slot, subject to the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, effective December 11, 2023:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
1382	Project Coordinator	\$19.40 - \$21.16 17A/H

Issue: The mentioned position was approved by the court on September 2023.

Solution: Request to fill this vacant slot will allow the department to continue to operate effectively.

Result: The filling of slot #1382 will allow the department to run on a full staff if the court grants approval.

10. Head Start

Disclaimer: All Head Start monies are 100% Federal funds

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

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Pay Periods</u>
1700, 1800, 1945, 3000, 3029	Substitute	\$11.60	20
1781	Teacher Assistant	\$15.20	20
2563	Early Head Start Teacher	\$14.98	26

11. Human Resources

- a. Discussion with possible action to approve the posting and filling of the following Slot, subject to the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, effective December 11, 2023:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
2427	Human Resources Generalist	\$20.38 - \$22.23 18/ A-H

Issue: Slot will become vacant December 15, 2023.

Solution: Approval to post and fill slot# 2427.

Result: This action will assist the Human Resources Department with its multiple work functions and projected projects and tasks.

12. **Public Health Services**

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize the reclassification of the following job title(s); subject to approval by Civil Service Commission and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, and any other matters incident thereto, effective December 11, 2023. **[Account #1001-5040-004-410000 Payroll Cost]**

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
From: 5050	Clinic Coordinator	\$18.46 - \$20.14 16/A-H
To: 5050	Public Health Services Coordinator	\$18.46 - \$20.14 16/A-H
From: 5051	Clinic Coordinator	\$18.46- \$20.14 16/A-H
To: 5051	Public Health Services Coordinator	\$18.46- \$20.14 16/A-H

Issue: Requesting to reclassify the new Clinic Coordinator positions approved during the budget process to a position with an existing certified job description graded at the same level. Additionally, the department name was changed from Indigent Health Care Services to Public Health Services so the title change would reflect that update as well.

Solution: The reclassification of these positions will allow the department to properly train staff in all divisions of the Public Health Services Department.

Result: These changes will not have a financial impact to the county budget.

- b. 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 December 11, 2023:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
1891	Outreach Investigator	\$14.42 - \$15.16 11/A-E
0596	Case Manager	\$16.73 - \$17.58 14/A-E
4049	Case Worker	\$15.15 - \$15.93 12/A-E
5050	Public Health Services Coordinator	\$18.46 - \$20.14 16/A-H
5051	Public Health Services Coordinator	\$18.46 - \$20.14 16/A-H

Issue: Slots #1891 and #0596 are currently vacant. Slots #4049, #5050, and #5051 are new department positions.

Solution: Approval from Commissioners Court to fill and post the vacant positions.

Result: The filling of the slots will allow the Public Health Services Department to function efficiently and effectively.

13. **Public Defender**

- 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 as well as any and all Wage Plan Policies, effective December 11, 2023:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
2086	Supervising Attorney	\$90,108.04 - \$100,767.12 (25/N-W)
254	Supervising Attorney	\$90,108.04 - \$100,767.12 (25/N-W)

Issue: Slot #2086 became vacant on December 1, 2023 and slot # 254 will become vacant on December 14, 2023.

Solution: Request is being made to post and fill the vacant slots.

Result: This action will allow our department to fill the vacant slots and allow our department to continue to function efficiently and effectively.

14. **Purchasing**

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to process surplus and/or salvage property in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code, Section 263.152 (Disposition) and to publish notice to the public as per Local Government Code Section 263.153 (Notice) for surplus and/or salvage property being auctioned.

Issue: Excess county property that is either by definition salvage or surplus property because of time, accident, or any other cause such as, wear and deterioration, damaged, or obsolete that has no value and/or usefulness for the intended purpose and is no longer needed by the department.

Solution: Authorize the Purchasing Agent to attempt to sell the County surplus or salvage property through public auction, dispose or destroy property that cannot be sold through public auction because it has deemed worthless or dispose through a recycling program under which property is collected, separated, or processed and returned to use in the form of raw materials of new products and/or donate as permitted by state law.

Result: Generate auction revenue from sale of county property, reduce county expenditures by transferring surplus property to other departments and make room for future assets replacing salvage or surplus items no longer needed.

- b. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of one (1) Broce Broom Model BW260, 8 ft. Poly brush sweeper provided with a 12 month or 1,000 hour usage warranty from Nueces Power Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$38,051.98 for the Webb County Road and Bridge Department and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #2007-7150-001-470000 (Road and Bridge Fund-Road Maintenance General Administration-Capital Outlay)]**

Issue: The Webb County Road and Bridge Department is in need of a brush Sweeper to assist with road maintenance and improvements to Webb County roads.

Solution: Approve purchase and proceed with order.

Result: Purchase the Poly Brush Sweeper as authorized by Commissioners Court. This equipment will help maintain county roads used by Webb County constituents. ETA on delivery is expected between 4-6 weeks.

15. **Honorable Martín Cuellar, Sheriff**

- a. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of one (1) ALERRT Level Kit Cases 6,7,& 9 and one (1) ALERRT Level 1 Kit Cases 1,2,3, & 8 for an amount not to exceed \$50,672.30 and to further approve a discretionary exemption under the Texas Local Government code 262.024 (a) (7) sole source and any other matters incident thereto. The Texas State University recognize KDL as the sole source distributor of ALERRT authorized training kits. ALERRT training is mandated by TCOLE.
[Requested by Webb County Sheriff Martín Cuellar; Account #2153-3010-001-461000 (Materials and Supplies - Federal Forfeiture)]

Issue: The State of Texas issued a state mandated training for all commissioned peace officers to successfully complete an active shooter training cycle.

Solution: WCSO has trained its personnel in active shooter instruction. This active shooter kit will allow WCSO to train as mandated by law.

Result: Compliance with the state law. This purchase will not impact general funds.

16. **Honorable Raul Reyes, Treasurer**

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve an addendum to the 2023-2024 Investment Policy to include and authorize the Webb County Treasurer to work with Cresta Advisors for the purchase of authorized investments under the Webb County Investment Policy and Investment Advisory Service; authorizing the approval of a Non-Corporate Resolution for said purpose; authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents thereof; and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: The County Treasurer is looking to strategically diversify the County Portfolio.

Solution: The County Treasurer will work with Cresta Advisors to develop a strategic investment plan, to secure authorized investment with strategically planned rates and maturities.

Result: Webb County's Investment Portfolio will be diversified, obtain higher coupon rates, and have investment advisory services.

17. **Water Utilities**

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the posting and filling of the following slot, subject to the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, effective December 11, 2023.

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
1535	Operator 1	\$15.15-15.93 12/A-E

Issue: Position became vacant on December 1, 2023.

Solution: Fill vacant position.

Result: The filling of this position will alleviate work overload created by vacancy and allow for efficiency, effectiveness and production of work within the department and to better serve the needs of the County.

REGULAR AGENDA

Honorable Martin Cuellar, Sheriff

18. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of three (3) industrial gas water heaters for the Webb County Jail to include the removal, disposal and installation fees in an amount not to exceed \$70,000 and by order authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue an Emergency Purchase Order in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code; §262.024 (Discretionary Exemptions)(a.)(11) for equipment repairs and to further authorize the transfer of funds from the General Operating Reserve account 1001-1130-001-431007-010 to the Sheriff's Jail Capital Outlay Account #1001-4070-001-470000 and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-4070-001-470000 (General Fund-Sheriff Jail-Administration-Capital Outlay)]**

Issue: Exigent circumstances require the emergency replacement of three (3) industrial sized water heaters that provide hot water for needed sanitation and health reasons at the Webb County Jail. In addition, these capitalized items were not part of the original budget and approval by Commissioners Court is required to comply with the Purchasing Policy on capital outlay expenses not part of the original adopted budget for FY 2024.

Solution: Approve the emergency purchase of three (3) water heaters for the Webb County Jail by order in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code; discretionary exemptions for equipment repairs.

Result: Replacement of water heaters will provide the necessary hot water to the Webb County Jail, and prevent any health or safety issues. Securing approval of non-budgeted capital assets will comply with policy.

Honorable Isidro Alaniz, District Attorney

19. Discussion and possible action to ratify/authorize the sale of one (1) Sig Saur P320 (Asset #31742) to the surviving spouse of DA Investigator Ezequiel Mancha in the amount of \$1 pursuant to the Texas Government Code; §614.052 (Purchase Of Firearm by Surviving Spouse, Child, or Parent of Deceased Peace Officer) and any other matters incident thereto. We are asking the court to make an exception to code section 614.052 regarding the peace officer being commissioned at time of death. Investigator Ezequiel Mancha was honorably discharged with 28 years of service to law enforcement, and was only discharged due to his medical condition on September 29, 2023 and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: On December 11, 2023, Commissioners Court authorized the sale of this weapon to retired officer Mr. Ezequiel Mancha, sadly Mr. Mancha passed away on November 30, 2023. The Texas Government Code permits government entities to sell a County issued weapon that was assigned to the peace officer to the surviving spouse, child or parent.

Solution: Consideration to authorize the sale of the subject weapon to the surviving spouse in accordance with Texas Gov. Code requirements, and make an exemption to the code due to nature of circumstance.

Result: If approved, revenue from the sale will be recorded to the state forfeiture fund, and removed from Webb County's controlled assets and insurance records.

Economic Development

20. Discussion and possible action to authorize a professional service agreement between Webb County and Killis Almond and Associates for the preparation of a Preservation Master Plan for the Webb County Courthouse and to further authorize the County Judge to execute and sign all relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-1130-001-432001 (General Fund-General Operating Exp-Administration-Professional Services)]**

Issue: The Economic Development Department has been authorized to submit a grant application to the Texas Historic Commission due May 2024. A prerequisite to that grant submittal is for Webb County to submit to THC a Preservation Master Plan no later than February the 5th, 2024. Advertising an RFQ and securing a professional services agreement to the selected firm for these services will not provide sufficient time to meet the February deadline.

Solution: Approve a professional services agreement with Killis Almond and Associates, an approved qualified consultant who has worked on previous THCPP projects, to include the Webb County Courthouse.

Result: Secure a professional services agreement not to exceed prior budgetary allocations for this project. Expediting this process will help meet the grant deadline prerequisites.

Fire Suppression & EMS Services

21. Discussion and possible action to approve, by Order, the following budget amendment (line item transfer) within the General Fund:

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	1001-1130-001-431007-010	Operational Reserve	\$16,450.60	\$16,450.60	\$16,450.60	\$0.00
To:	1001-3140-001-461000	Materials & Supplies	\$26,500.00	\$16,450.60	\$10,187.00	\$26,637.60

Issue: Funds are needed for the purchase of furniture for the Quad City Fire Station.

Solution: Consideration to authorize the requested line item transfer to cover the quote received from vendor for this purchase.

Result: The purchase of furniture will complete the aesthetic for the station remodel.

22. Discussion and possible action to approve, by Order, the following budget amendment (line item transfer) within the General Fund:

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	1001-1130-001-431007-010	Operational Reserve		\$12,000		
To:	1001-3140-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$80,000	\$12,000	\$80,000	\$92,000

Issue: Funds are needed for capital improvement to the bay area floor at the Quad City Fire Station and expense needs to be capitalized as per the Purchasing Policy.

Solution: Consideration to authorize the requested line item transfer to cover the quote received for item.

Result: The proposed improvement will round-out the station remodel and add years of service to the bay area floor.

Auditor

23. Discussion and possible action to approve, by Order, the following budget amendment (line item transfers) within the General Fund for prior year major open purchase orders:

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	1001-1130-001-431007-025	Contingency Reserve	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0.00
	1001-1130-001-431007-010	Operational Reserve		\$482,785.86		
				\$1,482,785.86		
To:	1001-1100-001-443000-255	Repairs & Maint. Justice Center	\$90,000.00	\$10,618.44	\$41,287.10	\$51,905.54
	1001-1130-001-432001	Professional Services	\$1,700,000.00	\$552,769.56	\$366,202.20	\$918,971.76
	1001-1130-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$4,149,141.00	\$248,777.19	\$3,901,416.00	\$4,150,193.19
	1001-1320-001-461000	Materials & Supplies	\$80,000.00	\$20,123.65	\$64,803.03	\$84,926.68
	1001-2140-001-461000	Materials & Supplies	\$15,000.00	\$10,742.55	\$11,291.49	\$22,034.04
	1001-2450-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$95,000.00	\$115,016.00	\$95,000.00	\$210,016.00
	1001-3010-001-456305	Uniforms	\$200,000.00	\$7,703.85	\$193,033.93	\$200,737.78
	1001-3010-001-460140	Fire Arms & Ammunition	\$190,000.00	\$42,852.00	\$187,320.00	\$230,172.00
	1001-3010-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$32,000.00	\$355,202.33	\$17,005.00	\$372,207.33
	1001-3050-001-456305	Uniforms	\$22,000.00	\$1,904.05	\$20,525.00	\$22,429.05
	1001-3100-001-432001	Professional Services	\$90,000.00	\$17,500.00	\$75,875.00	\$93,375.00
	1001-3140-001-460105	Minor Tools & Apparatus	\$50,000.00	\$32,850.00	\$47,777.85	\$80,627.85
	1001-3140-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$80,000.00	\$30,611.00	\$80,000.00	\$110,611.00
	1001-3150-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$0.00	\$20,017.05	\$0.00	\$20,017.05
	1001-3190-001-456305	Uniforms	\$6,000.00	\$127.89	\$6,000.00	\$6,127.89
	1001-4070-001-456305	Uniforms	\$50,000.00	\$15,970.30	\$50,000.00	\$65,970.30
				\$1,482,785.86		

Issue: Line item transfer is needed to cover prior year major open purchase orders that have been carried over to new FY-2024.

Solution: Funding is available in contingency reserve for encumbrances to cover prior year purchase orders for goods or services that have not been received and a transfer of payroll savings funds accumulated as of December 8, 2023.

Result: With court approval of budget line item transfer, vendors will be paid in timely manner.

Building Maintenance

24. Discussion and possible action to approve the transfer of funds in the amount of \$38,132 from Account #1001-1130-001-431007-010 (Operational Reserve). Funds are needed to purchase EcoStruxure 2023 for the Building Automation System Server Upgrade in the amount of \$32,786 from Schneider Electric and Power Edge R450 Server from Dell Technologies in the amount of \$5,346; and authorizing the County Judge to execute any relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-1130-001-431007-010 (Operational Reserve)]**

Issue: The current operating system is no longer supported by Microsoft, server and software upgrades are required.

Solution: Schneider Electric will provide software licenses, computer setup and engineering labor to upgrade from 1.9 to EBO 2023.

Result: Approve transfer of funds for server and software upgrade.

Civil Legal Division

25. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Tax Abatement Agreement, pursuant to The County's Guidelines And Criteria under the Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act, Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code, as requested by El Molino Solar, LLC, for approximately \$314,000,000 in improvements related to generation and storage of electricity using solar panels and batteries for a ten year period and being a 100% tax abatement of ad valorem taxes (maintenance and operation only), with Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT payments) to be made annually to Webb County And Any Matters Incident Thereto, And Authorizing The County Judge To Sign All Relevant Documents. The property subject to the abatement agreement is located approximately 50 miles from Laredo in eastern Webb County north of Bruni within the Webb County El Molino Solar Reinvestment Zone.
26. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Tax Abatement Agreement, pursuant to the County's Guidelines And Criteria under the Property Redevelopment And Tax Abatement Act, Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code, as requested by Hecate Energy Outpost Storage, LLC, for approximately \$474,000,000 in improvements related to the storage of electricity using batteries for a ten year period and being a 100% tax abatement of ad valorem taxes (maintenance and operation only), with Payments In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT payments) to be made annually to Webb County and any matters incident thereto: and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.
27. Discussion and possible action to enter into Amendment 1 with Touchstone Golf, LLC renewing and extending the Golf Course Facility Management Agreement for a five year term beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2028 and it may be extended for two additional five year terms; excluding Capital Improvement Costs from the calculation of Incentive Management Fee and any matters incident thereto; authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.
28. Discussion and possible action regarding the request of EOG SPG Holdings, Inc. to for an easement across Webb County School Lands (Survey 1384 A-504 north of State Highway 44 and Survey 1383 A-503, south of State Highway 44) and any matters incident thereto. **[Closed Meeting/Executive Session may be requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property. [Requested by EOG SPG HOLDINGS, INC.]**
29. Discussion and possible action to enter into a professional services agreement with Collier Consulting, Inc. for the Casa Blanca Golf Course Irrigation Wells in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand One Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$133,130.00) consisting of three phases (Phase I: Hydrologic Investigation - \$30,900.00, Phase II: Design Engineering and Bidding - \$63,380.00, Phase III: Drilling Oversight and Testing \$38,400.00) and any matters incident thereto; authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. **[Funding Source - Account #1001-1130-001-432001 (General Fund-General Operating Exp-Administration-Professional Services)]**
30. Discussion and possible action to approve Supplemental Work Authorization #1 to Work Authorization #3 with GDJ Engineering. ("Consultant") wherein Consultant will be providing development and design services, survey, schematic, environmental, traffic studies, geotechnical and PS&E for the Mangana Hein Road Widening Project, Hwy 59 and Hwy 359 connection Project, Vallecillos Extension and International Extension Roadway Connection Projects to modify the contract schedule to include a fee schedule at a cost of ZERO Dollars (annual cost) and any other matters

incident thereto; authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

31. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Tax Abatement and Incentive Agreement for Property in a Neighborhood Empowerment Zone with Aymar Holdings LLC for a ten year one hundred percent abatement of the value of new commercial construction and any matter incident thereto; authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.
32. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Tax Abatement and Incentive Agreement for Property in a Neighborhood Empowerment Zone with Selinda Vidaurri Garcia and Hugo P. Garcia for a five year one hundred percent abatement of the value of new residential construction and any matter incident thereto; authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.
33. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Professional Real Estate Appraisal Services Agreement by and between Webb County and Scroggin Appraisal Services in the amount of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) pursuant to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2024-002 entitled "ARPA Project No. 8-Market Value Appraisal Services for the Webb County Community Action Agency Meals on Wheels & Nutrition Program Facilities" awarded and approved by the Commissioners Court on November 27, 2023 to appraise two (2) properties located at 1401 Guatemozin Street and 603 N. Loring Avenue in Laredo, Webb County, Texas, and authorizing the County Judge to execute any and all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. **[Requested by CAA Meals on Wheels & Nutrition Program, Account #2703-5205-001-432001-214 ARPA (Professional Services-Meals on Wheels)]**

Issue: An appraisal is required of the two properties, which are adjacent to each other, in order for Webb County to determine the properties' Fair Market Value in order to make a bona fide offer on said properties if the Meals on Wheels Program is to be relocated to said properties.

Solution: Approval of this professional services agreement for real estate appraisal services will provide current and updated fair market value for these two (2) properties.

Result: The current and updated fair market values for these properties as determined by the appraiser will enable the County to properly evaluate in order to make a bona fide offer if the County is interested in purchasing said properties.

Community Action Agency

34. Discussion and possible action to approve the continued use of Webb County General Funds in the amount of TWO HUNDRED AND ELEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$211,000.00) to cover the wages and benefits payable to the grant-funded CDL-certified operators that are not covered by the grant for the current fiscal year (beginning September 1, 2023 thru August 31, 2024) and designating the Webb County Judge as the authorized official to sign all relevant documents in all matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-1160-001-463905-005]**

Issue: The following positions reflect the past commissioners court agenda dated 1/23/2023 and 03/13/2023 in which a wage study determined that CDL-certified operators were not accurately compensated, causing the inability to fill and or retain qualified candidates and causing the programs to be affected. CDL requirement listed in the job description plays a huge factor. The current cannot sustain the current drivers' salary of \$19 per hour.

Solution: Approve the proposed changes discussed regarding CDL requirements and proper endorsements.

Result: Ability for program to hire certified CDL Bus operators necessary for the program to function adequately.

Engineer

35. Discussion and possible action to approve Supplemental Work Authorization #2 to Work Authorization #3 with GDJ Engineering. ("Consultant") wherein Consultant will be providing development and design services, survey, schematic, environmental, traffic studies, geotechnical and PS&E for the Mangana Hein Road Widening Project Segment 2 from US83 to SH 20 in an amount not to exceed ONE MILLION TWELVE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTEEN DOLLARS (\$1,012,816.00) and any other matters incident thereto; authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. **[Account #1001-1130-001-432001 (Professional Services)]**

36. Discussion and possible action to approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$4,027.00 to Waukesha-Pearce Industries Inc., (P.O. 2023-00003102) for the Quad City Fire Station and Justice of the Peace Pct. 3 Expansion Project for changes to the electrical requirements for the generators; and have the County Judge sign any relevant documents; with additional action to transfer funds from account #1130 (Operational Reserve); and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-1130-001-431007-010 (Operational Reserve) and #1001-1130-001-470000 (Capital Outlay)]**

Issue: Changes to the generators' added capacity.

Solution: Swift approval will help expedite the project's completion.

Result: Approval of change order will continue and finish with project modifications.

37. Discussion and possible action to allow the exception and approve payment to Summit Building and Design for construction of the Webb County Sheriff Administrative Building. The construction contract includes two (2) change orders required to complete the building construction and exceeds the twenty-five percent (25%) change order limitation according to Texas Local Government Code 271.060 and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #3867-7230-001-474501 (Construction in Progress) and #3905-7230-001-474501-002 (Finish Out Remodeling)]**

Issue: The construction project's contract change order exceeds the 25% threshold.

Solution: Approve payment of the change orders to the construction company for services rendered.

Result: Allow exception to Texas Local Government Code 271.060 and pay construction company promptly to ensure building completion.

Purchasing

38. Discussion and possible action to accept the rankings and award RFQ 2024-001 "ARPA Project No. 8 Architectural Services for the Community Action Agency Meals on Wheels & Nutrition Program Facility" to the highest ranking firm, X Architecture Collective, LLC, pursuant to the Texas Government Code; Professional Services Procurement Act and in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations §200.318 - §200.327 (General Procurement Standards) and to further authorize General Counsel to negotiate the terms and conditions of the professional service agreement and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #2703-5205-001-432001-214 (ARPA Funds)]**

Supplier	Rank	Score	Experience Designing Public Facilities of Similar Scope/Size	Personnel Qualifications	References & Projects
		100	45.00	30.00	25.00
X Architecture Collective, LLC	1	81.67	36.00	24.00	21.67
SLAY Architecture	2	73.33	33.00	22.00	18.33

Issue: Currently, the building used for the Meals on Wheels Program does not allow for expansion of services, and we cannot meet the rise in demand for this service. This new facility would allow for the program expansion and provide efficient services to better serve the elderly residents in Webb County. Commissioners Court on 09/25/2023, authorized the advertisement for architectural services.

Solution: Accept the rankings presented by the Purchasing Agent and award it to the highest ranking firm in accordance with published criteria for scoring solely based on qualifications. Scores were not finalized by the agenda item submittal deadline. Results will be entered into the record during regular meeting scheduled for 12/11/2023.

Result: If approved, authorize General Counsel to negotiate the terms and conditions of the professional services agreement to include any federal contract provisions required.

39. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of one (1) 2023 F150 Super-Crew Cab 4X4 Long Bed Truck from low bidder Whitmoyer Ford, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$46,645.00 for the Webb County Fairgrounds Department and to further authorize the transfer of funds from the Operational Reserve Account #1001-1130-001-431007-010 to the Fairgrounds Capital Outlay Account #2031-1010-001-470000 and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #2031-1010-001-470000 (Webb County Fairgrounds-Commissioners Court-Administration-Capital Outlay)]**

Issue: On November 13, 2023, Commissioners Court authorized the Purchasing Agent to secure competitive pricing for one (1) White Ford F150 Crew Cab 4x4 long bed Truck, under item #16d.

Solution: Authorize the purchase from low bidder which meets all the requirements of the Department.

Result: If approved, proceed with the order after the funds transfer is posted. ETA on delivery is expected between 20–30 days.

40. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of one (1) 2024 EZ-GO Liberty Elite Golf Cart includes a two (2) year factory limited warranty and five (8) year battery warranty from Corpus Christi Golf Cars (OMNIA Contract #R210201) in an amount not to exceed \$18,231.00 pursuant to Sections 271.101 and 271.102 of the Texas Local Government Code, Cooperative Purchasing Program and to further authorize the transfer of funds from the Operations Reserve Account #1001-1130-001-431007-010 to the Fairgrounds Capital Outlay Account #2031-1010-001-470000 and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #2030-1010-001-470000 (Webb County Fairgrounds - Commissioners Court Administration-Capital Outlay)]**

Issue: On November 13, 2023, Commissioners Court authorized the Purchasing Agent to secure competitive pricing for one (1) utility golf cart, item #16d.

Solution: Authorize the best value bid which meets all the requirements of the Department & utilizing cooperative pricing through OMNIA Contract #R210201.

Result: If approved, proceed with order. ETA on delivery is expected between 14–21 days.

41. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of two (2) 2024 Cushman Shuttle - 8 seat gas powered golf carts includes a two (2) year factory limited vehicle warranty from Corpus Christi Golf Carts (Omnia Contract EV2671-01) in an amount not to exceed \$30,163.00 pursuant to Sections 271.101 and 271.102 of the Texas Local Government Code, Cooperative Purchasing Program and further authorize the transfer of funds from the Operational Reserve Account #1001-1130-001-431007-010 to the Fairgrounds Capital Outlay Account #2031-1010-001-470000 and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #2031-1010-001-470000 (Webb County Fairgrounds-Commissioners Court-Administration-Capital Outlay)]**

Issue: On November 13, 2023, Commissioners Court authorized the Purchasing Agent to secure competitive pricing for two (2) shuttle / limo golf carts, item #16d.

Solution: Authorize the purchase from the best value bid which meets all the requirements of the Department.

Result: If approved, proceed with order. ETA on delivery is expected between 12–16 weeks.

Honorable Jesse Gonzalez, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 1

42. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Economic Development Department to assist the Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center in the research, development and writing of grants and/or planning for needed infrastructure projects. All required documents were sent for review through the Economic Development Department and the solicitation is compliant with the Webb County Single Point of Contact (SPOC) procedures and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. No impact to the general fund.

Issue: Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center needs assistance in the research, development and writing of grants and/or planning for needed infrastructure projects.

Solution: Allow for the Economic Development Department to assist the Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center in the research, development and writing of grants and/or planning for needed infrastructure projects.

Results: Ruthe B. Cowl Rehabilitation Center will successfully assist Webb County residents.

Honorable John C. Galo, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 3

43. Discussion and possible action authorizing the purchasing agent to solicit requests for proposals from qualified vendors for the purchase of Two (2) portable restroom trailers for the Webb County Fairgrounds; and any other matters incident thereto.

Honorable Ricardo A. Jaime, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 4

44. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of courtroom chairs for the Webb County Justice of the Peace Precinct 1, Place 2 Office to include six (6) jury chairs, four (4) chairs for conference table, and Judge's chair from Trinity Furniture (GSA Contract No. GS-27F-028DA) in an amount not to exceed \$13,500.00 pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code; Chapter 271.103 (Federal Supply Scheduled Sources) and to further authorize the transfer of funds from the General Fund - Operating Capital Outlay account (1001-1130-001-470000) to the JP, Pct. 1, PI2 materials and supplies account (1001-2150-001-461000) and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-2150-001-461000 (General Fund-JP Pct1 PI2 -Administration-Materials & Supplies)]**

Issue: Commissioners Court authorized the Engineering Department to draw up the requirements for the alterations to the Judges' courtroom and office area. The recommendation from County staff is to purchase the jury chairs, conference table chairs for attorney's, and judge's chair separate from the bid package being prepared.

Solution: Secure approval from Commissioners Court on purchase using a federal cooperative contract/pricing for Courtroom chairs. The vendor has provided the same brand/color of jury chairs to 111th District Judge's Office & JP Office Pct. 1, Place 1.

Result: If approved, proceed with the transfer of funds and order as authorized by the Commissioners Court.

Closed Session/Executive Session

45. Discussion and possible action regarding a wage complaint filed by a Webb County Employee with the U. S. Department of Labor-Wage and any matters incident thereto. [**Executive Session is requested pursuant to Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters) of the Texas Government Code**]
46. Discussion and possible action regarding a Memorandum of Understanding with SouthWebb Bridge Company LLC and any matters incident thereto. [**Executive Session/Closed Session is requested pursuant to Government Code Section 551.0725 Deliberation Regarding Contract Being Negotiated**]

Presentations

47. Recognition and presentation of plaque & certificates to Laredo Job Corps Culinary Arts vocational program for their outstanding dedication, hard work and contribution to our community. [**Requested by Jesse Gonzalez, Commissioner Pct. 1**]
48. **Communications**
49. **Adjourn**

The Webb County Commissioners Court hereby reserves the right to go into closed session at any time during this public meeting, if such is requested by the County Attorney or other legal counsel for the County, pursuant to his or her duty under Section 551.071(2) of the Government Code, to consult privately with his or her client on an item on the agenda, or on a matter arising out of such item.



DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT



Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid of service such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, or need large print are requested to contact the court administrator at (956) 523-4622.

DATED THIS 8th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023

By: Melinda Mata
Melinda Mata
Court Administrator

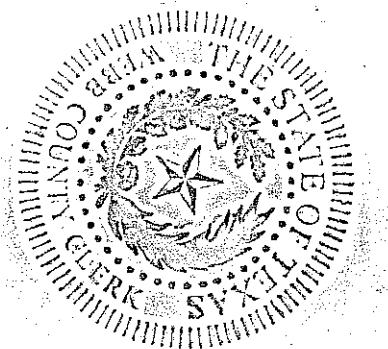
CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE AND POSTING

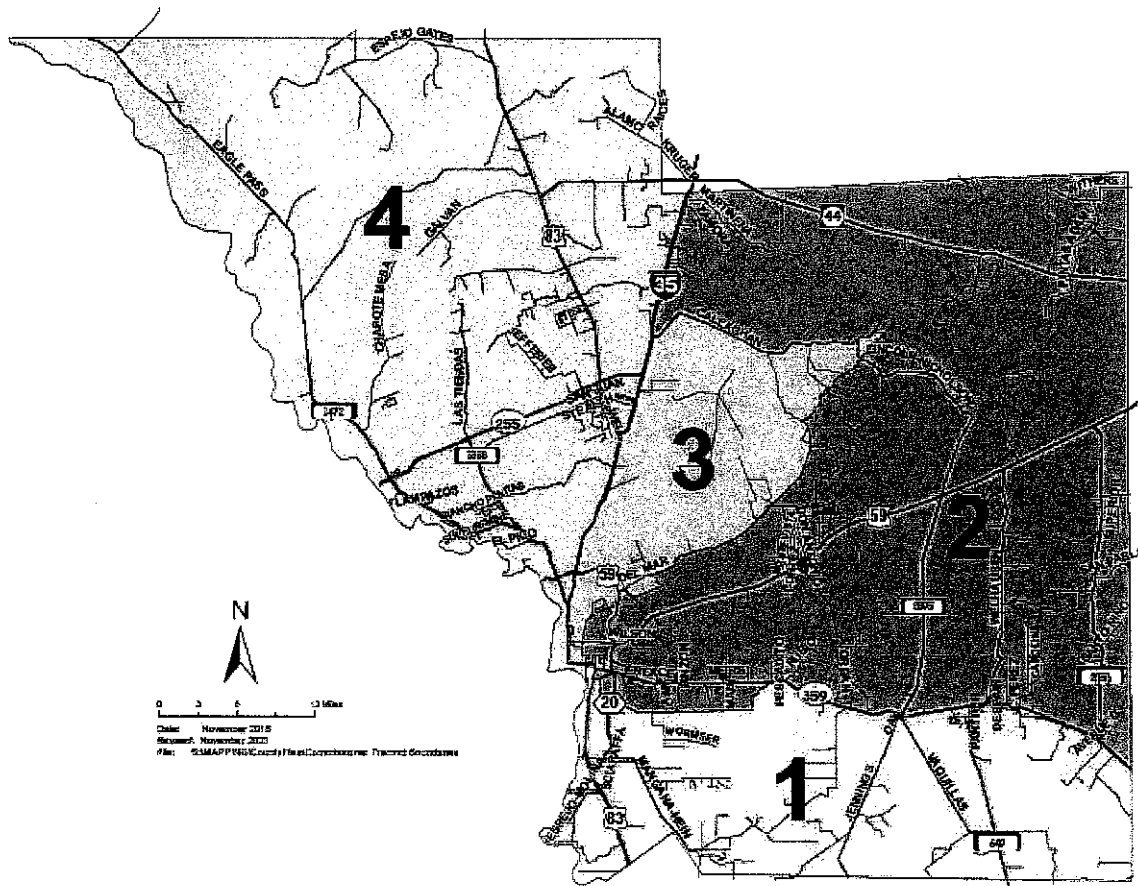
I, the undersigned, County Clerk, do hereby certify that the above notice of meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court, is a true and correct copy of said notice, and that I posted a true and correct copy of said notice on the bulletin board at the Courthouse door of Webb County, Texas, at a place readily accessible to the general public at all times on the 8th day of December, 2023 and said notice remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

DATED THIS 8th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023





MARGIE RAMIREZ IBARRA, COUNTY CLERK, WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

By: Amber Lecea
For: Margie Ramirez-Ibarra, County Clerk
By: Amber Lecea, Recording Secretary





COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

	Honorable Tano E. Tijerina	County Judge
	Commissioner Jesse Gonzalez	Precinct 1
	Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina	Precinct 2
	Commissioner John C. Galo	Precinct 3
	Commissioner Ricardo A. Jaime	Precinct 4

**Webb County, Texas
Commissioner Precinct Boundaries**