


WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

COMMISSIONERS COURT

PUBLIC NOTICE
COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING
WEBB COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1000 HOUSTON STREET, 2ND FLOOR
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
FEBRUARY 26, 2024
9:00 a.m.

MARGIE R. IBARRA
COUNTY CLERK
FILED
2024 FEB 23 AM 8:22
WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS
BY  DEPUTY

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, Business Office, Human Resources, Risk Management, Tax Assessor-Collector; 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, the following budget amendment (line-item transfers) within Grant funds to cover budget balances. This action will not have an impact to the County General Fund. **[Requested by Community Action Agency Social Services]**

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	2368-5170-521-460105	Minor Tools & Apparatus	\$800	\$2,412.70	\$1,612.70
	2368-5170-521-461000	Materials & Supplies	\$5,000	\$5,728.03	\$728.03
			\$5,800		
To:	2368-5170-521-464010	Dues & Membership	\$3,700	\$1,120.00	\$4,820.00
	2368-5170-521-458000	Administrative Travel	\$1,100	\$3,521.00	\$4,621.00
	2368-5170-521-456205	Training & Education	\$1,00	\$204.00	\$1,204.00
			\$5,800		

Issue: Funds available in accounts did not cover cost needed to continue the operation of services.

Solution: By Commissioner's Court ratification of the approval, accounts in the line item transfers will have sufficient funds.

Result: Ensuring sufficient funds in the above-mentioned accounts will allow for continuation of services.

- b. Discussion and possible action to approve, by Order, the following budget amendment (line item transfers) within Grant funds. **[Requested by James Flores, Economic Development Director]**

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	3521-1150-001-454000	Advertising	\$1,216	\$874.31	\$1,216.31	\$0.00

	3521-1150-001-461000	Materials & Supplies	\$500	\$0.11	\$0.11	\$0.00
				\$874.42		
To:	3521-1150-001-410000	Payroll	\$17,500	\$874.42	\$6,807.31	\$7,681.73

Issue: Texas Department of Agriculture Pueblo Nuevo Street Improvements Grant No. CDV21-0485 has remaining balances that require to zero out for grant close-out.

Solution: Court to approve line item transfer request.

Result: Line item transfer will ensure to successfully close out the grant.

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve, by Order, the following budget amendment (line item transfers) within Grant funds. **[Requested by Veteran's Service Office]**

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	2866-5410-001-421000	Health Life Insurance	\$21,788	\$16,000	\$21,788.00	\$5,788.00
To:	2866-5410-001-454000	Advertising	\$7,696	\$10,360	\$0.00	\$10,360.00
	2866-5410-001-460000	Office Supplies	\$1,611	\$1,280	\$204.92	\$1,484.92
	2866-5410-001-432001	Professional Services	\$5,280	\$4,360	\$580.00	\$4,940.00
				\$16,000		

Issue: Further funds are required in the above-mentioned accounts in order to advertise current services that are being provided, purchase of additional supplies due to the increase of outreach events and the continuance need for transportation assistance thru Professional Services. Texas Veterans Commission is requesting that we do a Line Item transfer from FICA (\$0.50) and Unemployment (\$0.20). Reallocating (\$0.48) into Administrative Travel and (\$0.22) into Minor Tools & Apparatus

Solution: Approve line item transfers in the accounts requiring funds.

Result: Line item transfers will result in having sufficient funds for advertisement, Professional Services and additional supplies. These funds will allow us to continue to operate at the high demand of transportation services already being provided as well as, advising our local veterans and their families with information of free services being offered by the Webb County Veterans Service Office. The Line Item Transfers will keep us in compliance with TVC Grant budget changes. There are no increases in salaries and line item transfer of grant funds will have no impact on the General Fund.

- d. Discussion and possible action to approve, by Order, the following budget amendment (line-item transfer) within Grant funds to cover budget balances. This action will not have an impact to the County General Fund. **[Requested by Community Action Agency Social Services]**

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	2362-5360-521-463802	Household Crisis	\$471,832.28	\$491,832.28	\$20,000.00
To:	2362-5360-521-463804	Utility Assistance	\$471,832.28	\$498,357.97	\$970,190.25

Issue: Funds available in accounts will not cover cost needed to continue the operation of services.

Solution: Approval of the line-item transfer.

Result: There will be sufficient funds in the above-mentioned accounts which will allow for continuation of services.

6. **Civil Legal Division**

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the acceptance of a reimbursement agreement for overtime expenses as per the Memorandum of Understanding between Webb County Sheriff's Office and the Southern District of Texas (79), United States Marshals Services, and authorizing the Webb County Judge to sign all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. The performance period for this agreement is October 24, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The Webb County Sheriff's Office will receive an amount not to exceed Twenty-One Thousand Nine Hundred One Dollars (\$21,901.00) in support of Joint Law Enforcement Operations Project JLEOTFS4. Applicable estimated fringe benefits in the amount of \$5,200 associated with this overtime will be covered using state forfeiture funds. Thus, this cooperative agreement will continue to have no impact on the general fund. **[Requested by Martin Cuellar, Sheriff; Fund #2599; Cash Match from Fund #2150 (State Forfeiture Fund)]**

Issue: Various criminals with felonious charges, such as but not limited to murder, robberies, sexual assault of minors, all gang-related felonies, and aggravated assaults with deadly weapons, abscond from the local jurisdiction in order to avoid justice for their crimes. Due to the limited manpower and other resources of local law enforcement agencies, these criminal can sometimes continue to successfully evade arrest with impunity.

Solution: Through joint law enforcement overtime (OT) operations, members of the U.S. Marshal's Service Multi-Agency Task Force can continue to assist other local law enforcement agencies, such as the Laredo Police Department and the Zapata County Sheriff's Office, to conduct necessary investigations, covert surveillance and undertaken arrests of absconders who have outstanding warrants for their felonious crimes.

Result: Webb County/Laredo citizens will be safer once these criminals are captured and taken out of the local community in order to face justice for their felonious crimes.

- b. Discussion and possible action to enter into an agreement No. 5.7-70CDCR24DIG000001 with the United States Federal Government for the detention of federal inmates/detainees at the Webb County Detention Center (Owned and Operated by CoreCivic) for the performance period of 03/01/24 to 02/28/2029; pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code §272.005, these contracts known as I.G.S.A. are set to establish the reimbursement for the detention of federal prisoners on a tiered per diem basis; and authorizing the County Judge to sign any relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Requested by Webb County Sheriff Martin Cuellar]**

Issue: Representatives of the federal government (I.C.E.) have reached out to renew the IGSA's with Webb County requesting we enter into said agreement. Texas Local Government Code §272.005 permits the county to agree without violating the Purchasing Act and the current contract had been extended on a month-to-month basis for the purposes of reaching an agreement.

Solution: Enter into an agreement with the federal government that will set a reimbursement amount for the detention of federal detainees/prisoners.

Result: IGSA agreements will allow Webb County reimbursement for the oversight and disbursement of federal funds to the Webb County Detention Center for the detention of federal prisoners/detainees that are being held. The public will be served by and through this agreement by protecting the

community from individuals who have been detained for committing offenses and the federal government will bear the burden of paying for the detention of the individual rather than the Webb County Tax Payer.

- c. Discussion and possible action to ratify the approval of the assignment of the construction contract with RRR Sealcoat & Striping LLC to Soliz Paving, Inc. and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: RRR Sealcoat was unable to timely secure bonds to meet construction deadline.

Solution: Approve assignment of construction contract to Soliz Paving, Inc. to immediately secure bonds and complete construction as per contract.

Result: Bonds were secured and construction of project is on time.

- d. Discussion and possible action to authorize the issuance of a credit card to the Civil Legal Division to facilitate the payment of fees associated with the submission of requests for Open Records Opinion; the Office of the Attorney General is now requiring requestors pay \$7.50 for each submission by credit card only.

Issue: The Attorney General will only accept payments for Open Record Opinion requests by credit card. If the fee is not paid, the Attorney General will deny any request for an Open Records Opinion thus requiring disclosure of non-public records.

Solution: Authorize the issuance of a credit card to the Civil Legal Department so that payment may be made for each Open Records Opinion request.

Result: Open Records requests can be promptly processed and non-public records will remain protected.

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

- a. Discussion and possible action to allow the City of Laredo to use a portion of the parking area at the Villa Alegre Head Start, 3501 Eagle Pass, for a ninety-day period for a storage container needed to facilitate a City project and any matters incident thereto.

Issue: The City of Laredo has requested the use of a portion of the parking area at the Villa Alegre Head Start (which the County leases from the City of Laredo for Head Start) for the placement of a storage container for a Community Project for a ninety-day period.

Solution: Authorize the City to use the parking lot for a storage container.

Result: City can complete their community project with no effect on County operations.

- b. Discussion and possible action to enter into Amendment 1 To Lease Agreement for 4420 Old Santa Maria Road between the City of Laredo and Webb County amending the use of the facility by the County as a Community Center and the hours of operation and any matters incident thereto; authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. **[No effect on County Budget]**

Issue: The City of Laredo has advised the County that it would like to use the space at Ladrillera Activity Center and to facilitate a transition the City is offering the Lilia Perez Community Center at 4420 Santa Maria to be used by the County as a Community Center.

Solution: By amending a pre-existing lease with the City, the transition can be completed.

Result: The County will transfer the Community Center and continue to provide services and the City

will be able to use the vacated space for their project.

8. Commissioners Court

- a. Discussion with possible action to authorize a declaration of local state of disaster relating to the surge of migrants unlawfully crossing the Texas – Mexico border; and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: On May 31, 2021 Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of disaster for certain counties along the border, including Webb County. In order to continue receiving state funding related to Operation Lone Star, counties named in the Governor's declaration need to issue their own declaration at the local level.

Solution: Declaration of a local disaster will include the ability for Webb County to continue requesting assistance from state agencies to help mitigate the conditions affecting Webb County.

Result: Webb County will continue to be eligible to receive funding from the state for expenses related to Operation Lone Star.

9. 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 provider (listed below) for the implementation of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP). This vendor agreement is 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. This agreement 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)]**

Retail Energy Provider:

Spark Energy

Issue: This vendor agreement is a Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) requirement.

Solution: The Webb County CAA will enter into a two-year vendor agreement with the Retail Energy Provider 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 approve the posting and filling of the following slot, subject to the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, effective February 26, 2024. This position will be paid fully with grant funds. **[Accounts: #2661 - El Aguila Rural Transportation Administrative Expenditure, #2371 - Meals on Wheels MOW Operating, #2362-Comprehensive Energy Assist Prgm. Direct Services, #2368 - Community Service Block Grant Social Service, #2021 - Self Help Grant Match]**

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate/Salary</u>
NEW SLOT	Receptionist	\$12 p/hr (\$24,960 Annually)

Issue: Webb County Community Action Agency has seen an increase in the number of clients seeking services. The department is in need of a receptionist to assist with answering phones and guiding client traffic.

Solution: Requesting authorization by the court for the creation and posting of these positions, allowing the Webb County Community Action Agency to add a receptionist position for the department.

Result: This action will allow our department to continue to function efficiently and effectively.

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve the posting and filling of the following (grant-funded) Slot, subject to the availability of payroll funds and any applicable Civil Service guidelines, effective February 26, 2024:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
3030	Food Transporter (Part Time)	\$10.50

Issue: The employee in this position was promoted on February 12, 2024, to a full-time slot.

Solution: Advertise and hire a replacement who can assist with the delivery of healthy hot meals to the elderly.

Result: We will be able to continue servicing the elderly with hot healthy meals under the Meals on Wheels and Elderly Nutrition Program.

- d. Discussion and possible action to authorize Webb County Community Action Agency to maintain its membership in the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, Inc. (TACAA) 2024 Corporate Membership in the amount of \$8,050.00. TACAA's membership is from January 01, 2024 through December 31, 2024. The membership supports the Organization in Texas representing the network of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) entities. Grant funds will be used to pay for membership. **[Fund #2368-5170-521-464010 & 2362-5360-521-457900]**

Issue: Approve TACAA 2024 Corporate Membership in the amount of \$8,050.00.

Solution: TACAA advocates for the best interest of Community Action Agencies (CAA's) at the State, Regional and National levels.

Result: TACAA works diligently on a number of issues and tasks benefiting all CAA's- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) entities as well as the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) grants and Weatherization Programs (WAP) grants.

10. Economic Development

- a. Discussion and possible action to accept Amendment No.1 for ARPANGO-0004 (Habitat for Humanity). Habitat for Humanity is requesting a change to the Performance Statement in their contract to reflect results to include a total of three (3) homes and change additional funds (CDBG Self Help Center) from \$136,000 to \$200,000. This action will not have an impact on the General Fund. Documentation has been reviewed by Webb County Economic Development Department and is compliant with SPOC policies and procedures.

Issue: Habitat for Humanity needs to amend the Performance Statement.

Solution: To approve the amendment request.

Result: Habitat for Humanity will be able to complete three (3) homes.

- b. Discussion and possible action to accept Amendment No.2 for ARPANGO-0010 (Laredo Regional Food Bank) Laredo Regional Food Bank has requested additional activities to fully expend their award amount of \$200,000.00. This action will not have an impact to the General Fund. Documentation has been reviewed by Webb County Economic Development Department and is compliant with SPOC policies and procedures. **[Account #2703-5205-001-463701-125]**

Issue: Texas Laredo Regional Food Bank has completed original project activities and have a cost savings of \$8,497.02 and are requesting an amendment to add project activities that would assist in furthering their mission.

Solution: Amendment is accepted.

Result: Laredo Regional Food Bank will be able to fully expend the \$200,000.00 awarded to them via the ARPA NGO Process.

- c. Discussion with possible action to authorize the submission of FY 2024 Grants to Expand Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Adult and Family Drug Courts as developed, written, and submitted by and for the Webb County Veterans Treatment Court Program to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) in the amount of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. This grant does not require any match; therefore there is no impact on 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). **[Requested by Margarita H. Garza, Executive Director]**

Issue: SAMHSA has released a solicitation for FY 2024 for the expansion of SAMHSA Treatment Courts. The program's purpose is to expand substance-use disorder treatment and recovery support services in existing Specialty Courts, specifically the Veterans Treatment Program.

Solution: Authorize the submission of the multi-year grant application for the purpose of expanding treatment services for the next 5 years if awarded.

Result: If awarded, the Webb County Veterans Treatment Program will continue to provide substance-use disorder and mental health treatment and recovery support services to all eligible veterans in Webb County and surrounding areas.

- d. Discussion with possible action to authorize the submission of a one-time 12-month No-Cost Extension application to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) as developed, written, and submitted by the Webb County Veterans Treatment Program in the amount not to exceed Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. This no-cost extension does not require any match, therefore there is no impact on 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). **[Requested by Margarita H. Garza, Executive Director]**

Issue: The Current VTP SAMHSA Grant No. TI081929 is in its last budget year, ending May 30, 2024, and the new solicitations for the FY 2024 grant period begins September 30, 2024.

Solution: Authorize the submission of a No Cost Extension Application to SAMHSA for up to 12 months to ensure completion of the originally approved project.

Result: If awarded, the unused funds from TI081929 will be used to continue to carry out the program's goals and ensure completion of those goals.

- e. Discussion with possible action to authorize the submission of FY 2024 Grants to Expand Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Adult and Family Treatment Drug Courts as developed, written, and submitted by and for the Webb County Adult Specialty Courts in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents; and any other matters incident thereto. This grant does not require any match; therefore, there is no impact on 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). **[Requested by Margarita H. Garza, Executive Director]**

Issue: SAMHSA released solicitations for the FY 2024 Grants to Expand Treatment Capacity in Adult and Family Treatment Courts. This solicitation will augment the current Family Services to the Adult Specialty Court to include additional eligibility to qualifying candidates of Webb County and surrounding areas.

Solution: Authorize the submission of the multi-year grant application for the purpose of expanding family treatment services to the Adult Specialty Courts, drug court participants.

Result: If awarded, the substance-use disorder and mental health treatment and recovery support services will expand to qualifying participants of the Specialty Courts Program, Adult Drug Court Family Treatment component.

- f. Discussion and possible action to approve the submission of a grant application from the Texas Comptrollers in the amount of \$275,000.00. The purpose of this grant is to provide supplemental salaries with the purpose of retaining current prosecutors and successfully hiring new employees. The grant would be designating the District Attorney as the authorized official in all matters related to this grant, and any other matters incident thereto. All required documents will be sent for review through the Economic Development Department and the solicitation will be compliant with the Webb County Single Point of Contact (SPOC) procedure. There is no cash match required. **[Requested by Isidro "Chilo" Alaniz, District Attorney]**

Issue: District Attorney's Offices all over Texas are having a hard time retaining and hiring prosecutors due to the competitive salaries in the private sector and other government agencies.

Solution: Use the amount if awarded to pay higher salaries and be able to retain employees.

Result: The District Attorney's Office will be able to retain and higher employees.

- g. Discussion and possible action to authorize the submission of a grant application for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG) as prepared and submitted by the Webb County Sheriff's Office Grant Writer to the Office of the Governor Homeland Security Grants Division in the amount estimated at \$2,655,170 for overtime, associated fringe benefits, equipment, supplies, fuel, helicopter maintenance/fuel, vehicle/tire maintenance, data services, Management & Administration (M&A), and repairs/maintenance of OPSG-acquired assets for Webb County local law enforcement agencies, including the Sheriff's Office, the Offices of the Constable, Pct. 1-4, and the Webb County Attorney's Office Investigators; and any other matters incident thereto. There is no cash match; and, thus, no cost to Webb County. 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: Complex and dynamic law enforcement challenges exist in the Southwest border area of the United States, including Laredo/Webb County. For example, transnational criminals seek to exploit existing law enforcement jurisdictional boundaries by conducting their illegal enterprises across traditional jurisdictional divisions. The 2014 Texas Gang Threat Assessment expounds, "Gang

activity remains widespread throughout all regions of Texas...Gang activity is also prevalent in the Texas counties adjacent to Mexico and along the key smuggling corridors, since Texas-based gangs are used for cross-border smuggling and trafficking in the state. Many transnational gangs operating in Texas....engage in criminal activity in Mexico as well as in Texas and elsewhere" (Texas Department of Public Safety April 2014).

Solution: Grant application: (1) to ensure first responders are equipped with enhanced tools/equipment/resources needed to confront well-funded criminal organizations and (2) for the coordination of law enforcement efforts between various local and federal law enforcement agencies.

Result: Enhanced capabilities of local law enforcement responders; further coordination of response across local and federal jurisdictions.

11. **Fire Suppression & EMS Services**

- 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 February 26, 2024:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
2813	Operations Administrator/ Grant Coordinator	\$21.41 - \$23.36 19 A/H

Issue: Slot #2813 became vacant on February 2, 2024.

Solution: Request is being made to post and fill slot #2813.

Result: This action will allow the Fire/EMS Department to continue to function efficiently and effectively.

12. **Head Start**

Disclaimer: All Head Start monies are 100% Federal funds

- a. Discussion and possible action to correct agenda item #12a approved by Commissioners Court on February 12, 2024 wherein Slot #1161 was erroneously posted instead of Slot #1661; and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: The slot numbers are 1661, 1696, 1698 and due to a clerical error, slot number 1161 was used instead of 1661.

Solution: Correct the slot number to 1661, allowing for the posting and filing of available substitute position.

Result: The posting and filing of slot 1661, substitute, will allow for compliance of staffing guidelines in Head Start classrooms.

13. **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 of or destroy property that cannot be sold through public auction because it has been deemed worthless or dispose of 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 one (1) MX908-C Handheld Mass Spectrometer Chemical Detection System, with a one (1) year warranty, 24/7 technical support, on-site training class, chemical training kit and sampling swabs for a total not to exceed \$70,384.56 from Farwest (HGAC Contract #EP11-20) to be utilized by the Webb County Sheriff's Office pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code; Sections 271.101, 271.102, Sub-Chapter F. Cooperative Purchasing Programs and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #2748-3010-001-470000 (Capital Outlay – Operation Lone Star)]**

Issue: Our nation is in the middle of a fentanyl epidemic where even a traffic stop can result in fentanyl poisoning for an officer. Banned substances need to be identified quickly, safely, and accurately to save lives and protect deputies.

Solution: Funding from the Operation Lone Star Grant for FY 2024 was awarded to Webb County for the purchase of a Handheld Mass Spectrometer Chemical Detection System for Gas/Vapor for the safety of Webb County law enforcement Officers.

Result: Proceed with the order of the approved purchase under the Operation Lone Star Grant. No impact to the General Fund.

- c. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to advertise a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a three (3) year service agreement for Employee Drug and Alcohol Laboratory Testing Services in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code; Section 262.030 Alternative Competitive Proposal Procedure for Certain Goods and Services and any other matters incident thereto.

Issue: Due to the high volume of required drug and alcohol testing needed, it is recommended that a three-year agreement be solicited for these requested services based on published weighted criteria to include related fees for services being requested for current and prospective employees of Webb County.

Solution: Authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit formal requests for proposals in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code; §262.030.

Result: Proceed with a formal advertisement to secure proposals for the requested services from the Human Resources department.

- d. 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:	1001-1100-001-443000-285	Repairs & Maint. Purchasing	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
To:	1001-1310-001-470000	Capital Outlay	\$0	\$1,500	\$10,000	\$11,500

Issue: Additional funding is needed for the fabrication of a two (2) vehicle covered carport located at the Webb County vehicle yard off of Hwy. 59 East.

Solution: Transfer funds from the Building Maintenance - Purchasing sub account to the Purchasing Departments Capital Outlay account as recommended by the Auditors Office to record capital expense accordingly.

Result: If approved, the order will be initiated. The use of this carport will provide proper shading for the fixed asset coordinator during the hot summer months and/or during inclement weather while prepping County units for public auction after court approval year round.

- e. Discussion and possible action to accept the rankings and award Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2024-008 "Real Estate Legal Services for Webb County" to the highest ranking respondent, Nossaman LLP, for the provision of legal services on an "as needed basis" for a three (3) year service term pursuant to the Texas Government Code; Professional Services Procurement Act and to further authorize General Counsel to negotiate the terms, conditions, and related fees of the professional service agreement and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-1130-001-432001 (General Fund-General Operating Exp-Administration-Professional Services)]**

Supplier	Rank	Score	Real Estate Legal Services for Governments	Personnel Qualifications	References and Projects
		100	45.00	30.00	25.00
Nossaman LLP	1	76.50	40.50	21.00	15.00
J Cruz & Associates, LLC	2	64.50	31.50	18.00	15.00
Law Office of Montemayor & Sae	3	64.50	31.50	18.00	15.00
The Weaver Law Firm	4	64.50	31.50	18.00	15.00
Caso Law Firm	5	60.00	27.00	18.00	15.00

Issue: The Webb County Commissioners Court is seeking consultation and representation on the following areas but not limited to real estate review and closings, right-of-way easements / acquisitions, title and boundary disputes, eminent domain, ad valorem taxation and other related legal services dealing with real property that may impact Webb County within its jurisdiction as a political subdivision of the State of Texas. Five (5) law firms submitted statement of qualifications by deadline.

Solution: Consideration to award to the highest ranking firm, Nossaman, LLP., and accept the rankings.

Result: If approved, General Counsel will proceed with the preparation of a professional services agreement for commissioners' court approval prior to execution.

- f. Discussion and possible action to award Invitation to Bid (ITB) 2024-003 "Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Training" to lowest and responsible bidder Grace CDL Truck Driving School for Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training through the Community Services Block Grant for the Webb County Community Action Agency pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code; Subchapter C. Competitive Bidding in General, §262.021 (The County Purchasing Act) and to further authorize the County Judge to sign all relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #2368-5170-521-457008-010 (Community Service Block Grant - Social Service - CAA-Contractual-Skills Training)]**

Issue: The purpose of these awarded services is to provide Commercial Driver's License (CDL)

Training for qualified Webb County residents. Successful bidder will train applicants needing entry level driver training (ELDT) to comply with the new Federal Entry Level Driver Training rules.

Solution: Consideration to approve the lowest and responsible bidder Grace CDL Truck Driving School, in accordance with the County Purchasing Act.

Result: If approved, authorize General Counsel to prepare and execute the service agreement for the awarded services.

- g. Discussion and possible action to award Invitation to Bid (ITB) 2024-004 "ARPA Project No. 6 – "Septic Systems Site Evaluation, Design and Installation Project - Phase I" to the sole bidder RGM Land Management, LLC., for an amount not exceed \$133,000.00, for four (4) Webb County Colonia Residents who have qualified to receive a new septic system in compliance with rules of the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and Standard on Site Sewage Facilities (OSSF)-ARPA Grant Guidelines as approved by the Webb County Commissioners Court, pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code; Subchapter C. Competitive Bidding in General, §262.021 (The County Purchasing Act) and with the Code of Federal Regulations §200.318 - §200.327 (General Procurement Standards) and to further authorize the County Judge to sign all relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #2703-5205-001-474501 (Construction in Progress)]**

Issue: A formal bid solicitation was advertised for the installation of four (4) new septic systems for Webb County Colonia residents in compliance with TCEQ and OSSF – ARPA grant guidelines as approved by the Webb County Commissioners Court.

Solution: Consideration to approve sole bidder RGM Land Management, bidder has required TCEQ licenses to proceed with the requested scope of work.

Result: If approved, authorize General Counsel to prepare and execute the construction contract to include any federal contract provisions, if required.

14. **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 February 26, 2024:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
2877	Wastewater Operator 1	\$15.15-15.93 12/A-E

Issue: Position became vacant February 12, 2024.

Solution: Approve the filling of a vacant slot to meet the labor demands currently being faced at the Wastewater Department.

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 our customers-the residents of Rio Bravo and El Cenizo.

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

	Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Adopted	Request	Current	End Bal.
From:	7200-7065-001-456105	Licenses and Permits	\$1,500	\$500	\$1500	\$1,000
To:	7200-7050-001-456105	Licenses and Permits	\$12,699	\$500	\$143.61	\$643.61

Issue: The funds currently available in these accounts will not cover costs needed for the end of the budget year.

Solution: Approve the line item transfer.

Result: These accounts will have sufficient funds which will allow continuation of the service interruption.

REGULAR AGENDA

Economic Development

15. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution and Order of the Commissioners Court to authorize the county to enter into an Advance Funding Agreement with the State of Texas, through TXDOT, for sidewalk improvements in the City of Rio Bravo of approximately four thousand four hundred eighty-five (4,485) linear feet from Salvador Garcia Middle School (Peña Drive) to the Rio Bravo Community Center (including Orquidia and Limon Street) with a total estimated cost for such improvements in the amount of One Million One Hundred Eighty Thousand Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$1,80,059.00) with Webb County receiving Transportation Development Credits of Two Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Twelve Dollars (\$236,012.00), authorizing the Commissioners Court to execute said resolution and order, and any other matters incident thereto.

Engineer

16. Discussion and possible action to approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$22,815.00 to Soliz Paving, Inc., to extend the VIP Parking Lot to an additional 18 to 20 parking spaces. The scope will include labor, materials, equipment, overtime, and any other incident thereto. This work will be a continuation of the work-in-progress being performed for the Webb County Fairgrounds Parking Lot Improvement Project; with additional approval to transfer funds from Bond Series 2020 to cover the additional costs; and to authorize the County Judge to sign any relevant documents and any other matters incident thereto. **[Fund: Bond Series 2020]**

Planning

17. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of a PowerEdge R760 Server in the amount of \$20,750.88 to meet the current digital storage demands for the Planning Department, in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code; Sub-Chapter F. Cooperative Purchasing Program, Sections 271.101, 271.102 (Cooperative Purchasing Participation TX DIR-TSO-3763) and any other matters incident thereto. **[Transfer from Account #1001-1130-001-431007-010 Operational Reserve to Account #2007-1070-001-461000 Materials & Supplies]**

Issue: The Planning Department's server storage for digital mapping and inspection files is becoming critically low. With increased development, there is a higher volume of digital data required for day-to-day operations. Higher-resolution aerial imagery, increasing parcel divisions, and projects with large digital data sets require a large amount of storage capacity.

Solution: The Planning Department with the assistance of the IT Department researched the best solution for increasing digital storage while maintaining secure, immediate access to digital files. Updating the Department's server storage will allow for an increased capacity of readily accessible data sets and allow for uninterrupted services to the County and the public.

Result: Increasing the server storage capacity will allow the Department to safely store and retrieve the necessary digital data for day-to-day operations and allow for uninterrupted services to the County and the public.

18. Discussion and possible action to reclassify existing vacant slot 2055 – Senior Planner 20 A/H, into Office Manager 16 A/H and to use the payroll savings for the creation of a \$2,000 stipend for slot 2819 – Senior Planner effective upon court approval for State Certification for vector control and a \$5,000 stipend for 1 Gis Tech II field personnel effective upon receiving the State Certification as a Designated Representative for private On-Site Sewage Facility inspections. Stipends are to be spread out throughout the budgeted year.

Issue: The Planning Department needs a mid-management position with the skills and authority to manage inter-departmental issues on a daily basis. Slot 2055 – Senior Planner has been vacant since November 2022 and since then, the Department has reorganized its existing Planner positions to more efficiently handle all aspects of regulatory review. Additionally, the Senior Planner in slot 2819 has been State Certified for vector control since 2019 and has been performing those duties without compensation. Furthermore, there is an increased need for field personnel to become trained and certified to perform private On-Site Sewage Facilities.

Solution: The reclassification of an existing vacant slot into an Office Manager would allow the Planning Director to delegate inter-office responsibilities to operate the office more efficiently. Using the resulting payroll savings for stipends for State certified vector control and private on-site sewage facility inspections would provide incentives for current field staff to seek licensing to take on additional responsibilities outside their regular scope of duties.

Result: If approved, the Planning Department will be able to perform its duties more efficiently.

19. 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 February 26, 2024:

<u>Slot #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
2055	Office Manager	\$38,402.54 - \$41,891.42 16 A/H

Issue: Request to post and fill slot 2055 which is currently vacant.

Solution: Approval to post and fill slot 2055

Result: Filling of slot will allow the Planning Department to provide public services efficiently and effectively.

Purchasing

20. Discussion and possible action to award Invitation to Bid (ITB)2024-002 "Webb County Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Lease" to sole bidder, Proven Energy LLC., for the purpose of entering into a two (2) year Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Lease for County owned property described as an approximate 3.5-acre tract of land, more or less situated in Mrs. Mary Doss, Survey 1593, Abstract 533, Webb County, Texas, in accordance with Chapter 71 of the Texas Natural Resources Code and to further authorize the Civil Legal Department to negotiate the terms & conditions of the lease agreement and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-1250-362100 Royalties]**

Issue: Webb County authorized the solicitation of formal bids for the purpose of entering into a Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Lease for a certain designated County-owned property described as an approximate 3.5-acre tract of land, more or less situated in Mrs. Mary Doss, Survey 1593, Abstract 533, Webb County, Texas.

Solution: Consideration to award to sole bidder Proven Energy, LLC., for a two (2) year term, a royalty of 25% and a bonus of \$2,500.00 per acre or total of \$8,750.00.

Result: If approved, authorize General Counsel to proceed with the preparation of a Non Surface Use Oil and Gas lease between Webb County and Proven Energy, LLC.

21. Discussion and possible action to accept the rankings and award Request for Proposal (RFP) 2024-004 "Marketing and Advertising Services for Webb County Fairgrounds" to the highest ranking firm, Hachar Media, in accordance with the Local Government Code §262.030 (Alternative Proposal Procedure for Certain Goods and Services) and to further authorize the Civil Legal Department to negotiate the terms, conditions and related fees of the service agreement and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-1130-001-432001 (General Fund-General Operating Exp-Administration-Professional Services)]**

Supplier	Rank	Score	Marketing & Advertising Experience	Personnel Qualifications	References & Projects
		100	45.00	30.00	25.00
Hachar Media	1	86.67	39.00	26.00	21.67
Wicked Stinger Media	2	66.33	30.00	18.00	18.33
Advent Trinity LLC	3	58.33	27.00	18.00	13.33
XCLAYMATION	4	56.33	27.00	16.00	13.33

Issue: The Webb County Fairgrounds Department requested services for marketing and advertising of events held at the Fairgrounds on an annual basis. Commissioners Court authorized the advertisement for formal proposals.

Solution: Consideration to award to the highest ranking firm as recommended by the Purchasing Agent based on final tabulation of scores.

Result: If approved, General Counsel will prepare a service agreement for commissioners' court consideration and approval once the terms, conditions and related fees have been negotiated and agreed to.

22. Discussion and possible action to accept the rankings and award Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 2024-009 "Webb County - El Pico Road Extension Project" to the highest-ranking respondent, GDJ Engineering LLC, for civil engineering services to include but not limited to all necessary design/drawings, specifications, construction cost estimates, preparation of construction documents and construction administration through the duration of the project up to close out requiring right of way identification, right of way widening, rehabilitation of a creek crossing and reconstruction of an approximate 1/2 mile section of the roadway pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code; Professional Services Procurement Act and 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 agreement and any other matters incident thereto. **[Account #1001-1130-001-432001 (General Fund-General Operating Exp-Administration-Professional Services)]**

Supplier	Rank	Score	Civil Engineering Experience	Personnel Qualifications	References and Project
		100	45.00	30.00	25.00
GDJ Engineering LLC	1	80.00	36.00	24.00	20.00
KCI Technologies, Inc.	2	76.67	36.00	24.00	16.67
Crane Engineering Corp	3	68.33	30.00	20.00	18.33
Slay Engineering Co., Inc.	4	67.00	30.00	22.00	15.00
Top Site Civil Group, LLC	5	66.67	30.00	20.00	16.67
META ENGINEERING, LLC	6	55.33	24.00	18.00	13.33
Ramos Engineering, PLLC	7	49.67	24.00	14.00	11.67

SAMES, INC.	8	48.67	21.00	16.00	11.67
-------------	---	-------	-------	-------	-------

Issue: On January 22, 2024, Commissioners Court authorized the Purchasing Agent to advertise for Request for Qualifications for Civil Engineering Services for El Pico Road Extension Project. A total of eight (8) statements of qualifications were submitted in response to this public solicitation for professional services.

Solution: Consideration of accepting the rankings and award to the highest ranking respondent as recommended by the Purchasing Agent based on scores submitted by scoring committee.

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

Water Utilities

23. Discussion and possible action to adopt a Water Conservation Plan for the Webb County Utilities Department to promote the protection and proper utilization of Webb County's water resources to insure an uninterrupted supply of water sufficient to satisfy essential needs and any matters incident thereto.

Issue: Existing Water Conservation Plan was last adopted on February 9, 2007, and is required to be updated yearly.

Solution: To save water, minimize water waste and the harmful effects of a drought.

Result: Webb County Water Utilities will enforce the adopted Water Conservation Plan to reduce the volume of water withdrawn from the Rio Grande Water Supply source to improve the efficiency of water use.

24. Discussion and possible action to enter into a professional service agreement with Ardurra Group, Inc., to prepare and submit registering documentation for (5) Potable Water Hauler Tankers with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a cost not to exceed Twenty One Thousand Dollars (\$21,000.00) and any matters incident thereto; authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. **[Account #1001-1130-001-431007-010 (Operational Reserve)]**

Issue: Currently all Water Haulers Tankers are under PWS # 2400037, and it is required that every Water Tanker has its own TCEQ letter of approval

Solution: To approve a Professional Service Agreement between Webb County and Ardurra Group, Inc.

Result: All required documentation will be filed and submitted for review and approval to T.C.E.Q. for each Water Hauler

Budget Officer

25. Discussion and possible action to transfer county payroll savings funds accumulated as of February 2, 2024, in the amount of \$985,816 to the Operational Reserve account; and any other matters incident thereto.

Acct. Number	Acct. Name	Request
1001-1130-001-431007-010	Operational Reserve	\$985,816

Issue: Budget Officer has directed a quarterly payroll sweep.

Solution: Complete second quarterly payroll sweep.

Result: Savings for Operational Reserve and funds for various county projects.

Commissioners Court

26. Discussion with possible action to dedicate and rename the Webb County Justice Center to the Dean Senator Judith Zaffirini Justice Center in Webb County in honor of State Senator Judith Zaffirini, dean of the Texas Senate and member of the State Senate since 1987, representing the 21st Senatorial District and honoring and recognizing Senator Zaffirini for her endless hours promoting and being an advocate for the judiciary in Texas and Webb County while sitting on numerous judicial committees; and any other matters incident thereto.

Honorable Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 2

27. Discussion and possible action to Proclaim March 10th - 16th, 2024 as Girl Scout Week in Webb County. In which Girl Scout Troops celebrate Girl Scout's Birthday and partake in activities geared towards the Girl Scout mission: to build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place and any other matters incident thereto.

Presentations

28. Recognition and presentation of awards to Dr. Leo G. Cigarroa High School Cheerleaders for being 2024 NCA National Champions in the Intermediate Non-Tumbling Crowd Leading Large Co-ed Division. **[Requested by Jesse Gonzalez, Commissioner Pct. 1]**
29. Recognition and presentation of awards to Johnson High School Cheerleaders - 2024 NCA High School National Champions of the Intermediate Large Non-Tumbling Division. **[Requested by Jesse Gonzalez, Commissioner Pct. 1]**
30. **Communications**
31. **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 23rd DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024

By: Melinda Mata
Melinda Mata
Court Administrator

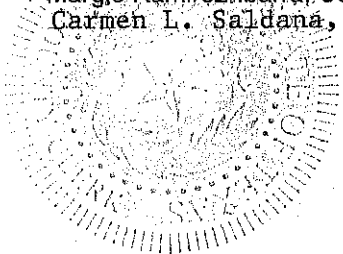
CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE AND POSTING

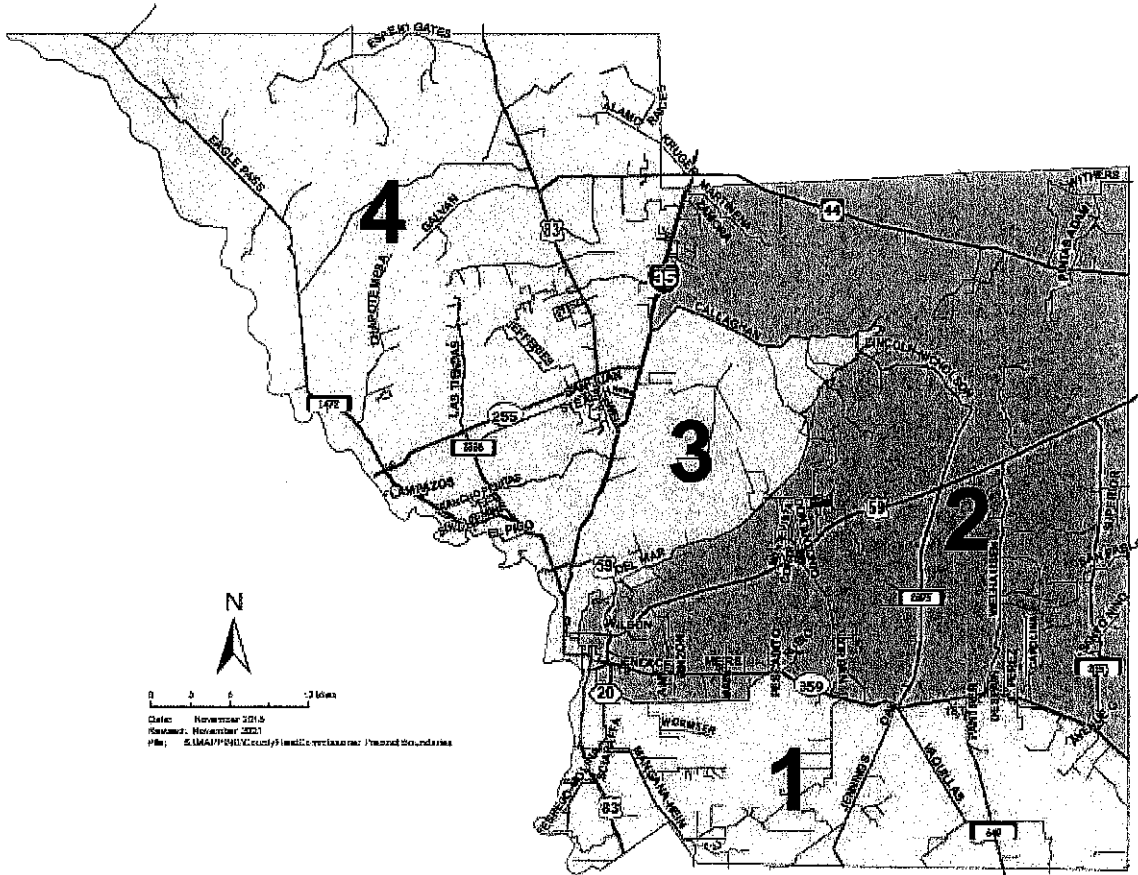
I, the undersigned, County Clerk, do hereby certify that the above notice of meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court, is a true and correct copy of said notice, and that I posted a true and correct copy of said notice on the bulletin board at the Courthouse door of Webb County, Texas, at a place readily accessible to the general public at all times on the 23rd day of February, 2024 and said notice remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

DATED THIS 23rd DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024

MARGIE RAMIREZ IBARRA, COUNTY CLERK, WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS





BY: [Signature]
For: Margie Ramirez Ibarra, County Clerk
By: Carmen L. Saldana, Deputy Clerk





Date: November 2015
 Revised: November 2021
 File: S:\M&P\2015\County\land\Commissioner Precinct Boundaries

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**