

**The State of Texas** §

**County of Edwards** §

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. there came on and was held in the City of Rocksprings, Edwards County, Texas, at the Edwards County Courthouse therein, a Regular Open Meeting of the Commissioners' Court of Edwards County, Texas. The Amended Agenda for this Regular Open Meeting of the Commissioners Court of Edwards County, Texas was posted on March 8, 2024 at 10:47 a.m.

Present were:

Honorable Marty Graham, Commissioner of Precinct One

Honorable Steve Smith, Commissioner of Precinct Two

Honorable Matt Fry, Commissioner of Precinct Three, was absent

Honorable Mike Grooms, Commissioner of Precinct Four, was absent

Honorable Souli Asa Shanklin, County Judge

Honorable Olga Lydia Reyes, County and District Clerk

**1. Determination of quorum; Call to Order.** The Open Meeting was called to order at 9:02 o'clock a.m. by Judge Shanklin. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and to the Texas State Flag were recited. The Court was led in prayer by Judge Shanklin. The roll was then called by Clerk Reyes. All Commissioners, with the exception of Commissioners Fry and Grooms, were present.

**2. Open Forum.** Mr. Glasscock, Emergency Management Coordinator, addressed the Court with regards to the upcoming April 2024 eclipse. Rocksprings is on the western edge of the center line of the eclipse. He doesn't believe that we will have a huge influx of people to our community. However, he has prepared an Instant Plan package and had a sample to share with the Court. This Plan will also be shared with first responders.

**3. Staff Reports.** There were no questions on the staff reports.

**4. DELIBERATE, CONSIDER and/or TAKE ACTION ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

a. **Prior Minutes.** Commissioner Smith made the motion to approve the prior minutes. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any objection, the motion carried 3/0.

b. **Burn Ban.** Commissioner Smith made the motion to allow Judge Shanklin the authority to change the status of the burn ban as needed. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any objection, the motion carried 3/0.

c. **Discuss and Act upon Resolution of Support for hiring JC Stoddard Construction Company to contract Subcontractors on the MEP and Construction/Renovation for the Edwards County Park Building. – Judge Shanklin.** Judge Shanklin explained to the Court that the County has been unsuccessful in obtaining bids for this project. He called TAC to see what could be done. This Resolution was an alternative. The County can hire JC Stoddard Construction Company (the firm that handled our Courthouse Restoration) and let them take bids from subcontractors. He contacted Stoddard about this situation and they said they would do it. They have in-house architects and project managers and most of the time they get a 10% override but they will do it for us for a 5% override. He told the Court that the Resolution being presented authorizes the actions of which he just informed the Court. Commissioner Graham made the motion to approve the Resolution of Support for hiring JC Stoddard Construction Company to contract Subcontractors on the MEP and Construction/Renovation for the Edwards County Park Building. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0.

d. **Discussion, Possible Action Resolution of Support for 2024 Colonia Fund Construction Pre-Application – Judge Shanklin.** Judge Shanklin stated that this Court does this every time it is Edwards County's time to apply for this grant. Commissioner Smith made the motion to approve the Resolution of Support for 2024 Colonia Fund Construction Pre-Application. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0.

e. **Discuss and Act upon declaring March 2024 as American Red Cross Month. – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Smith made the motion to declare March 2024 as American Red Cross Month. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0.

**f. Discussion – Possible Action upon Resolution of Support for Edwards County Airport Project Grant 2407RSPRG- TxDot acting as Agent – Judge Shanklin.** Judge Shanklin stated that Jason Arp takes care of the Airport now. They have made a deal with TxDOT aviation to get the permit to allow blasting out there. Commissioner Graham made the motion to approve the Resolution of Support for Edwards County Airport Project Grant 2407RSPRG; Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0.

**g. Discuss and Act upon Authorization to Apply for the Lonestar Grant Application for ECSO and District Clerk's Office – Judge Shanklin.** Judge Shanklin informed the Court that this grant would be for the Sheriff's Office and the Clerk's Office to assist with Operation Lonestar expenditures because of the situation at the border. Commissioner Smith made the motion to authorize the application for the Lonestar Grant for the ECSO and District Clerk's Office. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0.

**h. Discuss and Act upon designation of school auditorium as annex for the court. – J.W. Guthrie.** Sheriff Guthrie appeared and informed the Court that on April 9, 2024, there will be a murder trial. 400 individuals will be summoned for jury duty. The local auditorium is the only place that will hold over 200 people. Our District Courtroom at the Annex will hold about 175-180 individuals. The Court asked the Clerk about how many people are expected to show up on the date summoned. The Clerk replied that we have about a 50-60% appearance rate. The Sheriff reported that he has spoken to the Superintendent and the Principal about their concerns, including that the auditorium would be used for jury selection only and that deputies would be present. Commissioner Smith made the motion to designate the school auditorium as an annex for the court; Commissioner Graham seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0.

**5. New Business.** It was brought to the Judge's attention about a month ago that there was some contested pipeline money that was from our fiscal year 2022-2023. This sum of money was not paid out unbeknownst to him at the time. This money has been in suspension in the bank here in Rocksprings until it can be settled with a lawsuit. It represents the valuation of a pipeline. They don't know when that will happen. It's a rather large sum of money that involves money for the Road and Bridge department and the School. The Appraisal District does not want to pay that money out and then have to get it back after there is a

settlement. He does not know when this matter will be settled. If it is settled in the next year or so, hopefully it will cover a lot of our output on our upcoming projects.

6. **Set time and date for next meeting.** The next meeting of the Edwards County Commissioners Court is scheduled for the second Tuesday of April, 2024 (April 9, 2024) at 9:00 a.m.

7. **Pay bills.** Commissioner Graham made the motion to approve the bills; Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0.

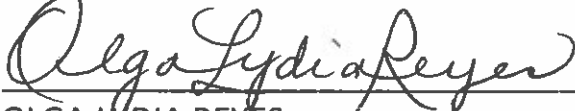
8. **Adjourn.** Commissioner Smith made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0. This meeting of the Edwards County Commissioners Court was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

APPROVED:



SOULI ASA SHANKLIN  
Edwards County Judge

Attest:



OLGA LYDIA REYES  
Edwards County and District Clerk

