**The State of Texas §**

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**County of Edwards §**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on this 3rd day of October, 2016, at 9:00 o’clock a.m. there came on and was held in the City of Rocksprings, Edwards County, Texas, at the Edwards County Courthouse Annex Building therein, a Special Open Meeting of the Commissioners’ Court of Edwards County, Texas. The Agenda for this Special Open Meeting of the Commissioners’ Court of Edwards County, Texas was posted on September 29, 2016 at 8:52 o’clock a.m.

Present were:

Honorable William Epperson, Commissioner of Precinct One

Honorable Lee Sweeten, Commissioner of Precinct Two

Honorable Matt Fry, Commissioner of Precinct Three

Honorable Andrew Barnebey, Commissioner of Precinct Four

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 roll was called by Clerk Reyes. All Commissioners were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Court was led prayer by Commissioner Epperson.

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

a. **Discuss and action damage to county roads and hiring outside contractors and machinery to repair damage. – Judge Shanklin.** Due to the recent flooding event that took place in Edwards County, Judge Shanklin has called Carl Esser to see if anything could be done to get Edwards County some assistance with the aftermath of the flooding throughout our County. Esser emailed back stating that the County could consider seeking a Disaster Declaration (which declares a county-wide state of emergency). Then, this declaration would be forwarded to the Office of the Governor to request monetary assistance for the County.

Several of the County-owned road equipment machine were severely damaged in this flooding event. They were left on the side of CR 353 when the rains hit the area. As a consequence, Shanklin informed the Court that the County Treasurer had been inquiring as to insurance on this equipment but had not had any luck yet. It has yet to be determined if this equipment was insured. Shanklin reports that he asked the Treasurer to also inquire about a blanket coverage on all Edwards County equipment.

As for the current conditions, the County’s dozer is on CR 330. Cedar Creek road is still closed. On CR 353, 2 crossing still need repair. This road is in poor condition and will basically need to be built back up. The crossing at CR 335 has been cleared of trees by the dozer. So, some progress has been made. Work on Dry Creek (CR 381) was completed this past Saturday. White Mountain Road was almost completely wiped out. Commissioner Fry stated that the Preserve road was also really rough.

Commissioner Sweeten stated that the County is a long way from completing this work. He reports that one blade is running and we need one more. We need to lease a motorgrader. Volvo is supposed to be here tomorrow to bring us a maintainer. The idea of having them bring us a motorgrader was discussed.

Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve an emergency budget transfer from reserves into the Road Department line item for equipment (#20-600-0365) and authorize Volvo to bring one maintainer and one dozer, if needed. Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

The discussion then centered on approval for hiring a contractor to assist in the operation of these machines. Judge Shanklin suggested calling locals to see if anyone would be available to assist (which is highly unlikely given the state of local conditions). Commissioner Epperson asked who would be contacted and the manner in which that contact would be made. Shanklin answered that the local operators who everyone knows would be contacted to see if they were available and his office would call them to inquire. Epperson asked if this matter could be put out for bids. Shanklin stated that it did not have to be since the County was dealing with an emergency situation. Epperson asked if then approval of these contractors could be made at the next regular meeting of the Commissioners Court, which would be next Tuesday. Commissioner Fry asked if he really wanted to wait that long, since it was an emergency situation. Epperson then asked if he could be “kept in the loop” about who was being offered the work and who was ultimately contracted to do the work; Shanklin stated that emails would be sent out.

Commissioner Sweeten then made the motion that, if requested, the County be allowed to hire an outside contractor to assist in working these roads. Commissioner Fry asked if Sweeten would not consider setting a time limit to his motion. Sweeten then amended his motion to read as follows: If requested, the County be allowed to hire an outside contractor within the next thirty days to assist in working these roads. Commissioner Fry seconded the amended motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0. Commissioner Sweeten closed the discussion by stating that when calling these operators on the County’s behalf, we would try to get the best price that we could.

3. **Time and Date of Next Meeting.** The date for the next regular open meeting of the Commissioner’s Court will be the 2nd Tuesday of October, 2016 (October 11, 2016) at 9:00 o’clock a.m.

4. **New Business.** Judge Shanklin informed the Court that State Representative Andrew Murr would be having a “Meet and Greet” from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on October 5, 2016.

8. **Adjourn.** Commissioner Barnebey made the motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Fry. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 o’clock a.m.

APPROVED:

SOULI ASA SHANKLIN

Edwards County Judge

Attest:

OLGA LYDIA REYES

Edwards County and District Clerk