THE STATE OF TEXAS \* COMMISSIONERS COURT

COUNTY OF KENEDY \* OF KENEDY COUNTY, TEXAS

On the 8th day of September, 2022, at 2:00 o'clock p.m., a special meeting of the Commissioners Court of Kenedy County, Texas, was held in the Kenedy County Courthouse.

**Commissioners Present:**

Judge Charles Burns

Commissioner Joe Recio, Precinct 1

Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr., Precinct 2

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon, Precinct 3

Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales, Precinct 4

**Also Present**:

Allison Strauss, County Attorney

Cynthia Salinas, County Treasurer

Veronica Vela, District/County Clerk

Irma Longoria, Tax Assessor/Collector

JP Jana Norrell

JP Cecelia Schulz

Sheriff Ramon Salinas

Tom Denney, Chief Appraiser

Denise Rodriguez with John Womack & Co., P.C.

Capt. Eddie Cruz

**Absent**:

Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant

**1. Judge Burns Called The Meeting To Order.**

Judge Charles E. Burns called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. Pledge Of Allegiance.**

Judge Charles E. Burns led the Commissioners Court and those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Receive Public Comments.**

No public comments were made.

**4. Conduct A Public Hearing On The Proposed 2023 Budget.**

Judge Charles E. Burns, at 2:05 p.m., informed the Commissioners Court that the Public Hearing on the proposed 2023 Budget was now in session; that the Public Notice regarding the proposed Budget had been published in the Kingsville Record on September 1, 2021. No member of the public came forward to address the proposed 2023 Budget.

Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Public Hearing on the Proposed 2023 Budget be closed at 2:10 p.m.

**5. Discuss & Act On Adopting The 2023 Budget.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court of the need to adopt the 2023 Budget.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the 2023 Budget be adopted as $5,106,596.00 which included the insurance supplement for dependents.

**6. Conduct A Public Hearing On The Proposed 2022 Tax Rate.**

Judge Charles E. Burns, at 2:13 p.m., informed the Commissioners Court that the Public Hearing on the proposed 2022 Tax Rate was now in session and that the Public Notice regarding the proposed tax rate was published September 1, 2021 in the Kingsville Record. No member of the public came forward to address the proposed 2022 Tax Rate

Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Public Hearing on the Proposed 2022 Tax Rate be closed at 2:15 p.m.

**7. Discuss & Act On Adopting The 2022 Tax Rate.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court of the need to adopt the 2022 Tax Rate of $0.005563760 per $100 valuation.

Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the 2022 Rate be $0.005563760 per $100 valuation be adopted as presented.

**8.Discuss & Act On 3-2-1 Tax Discount.**

Irma Longoria, Tax Assessor/Collector informed the Commissioners Court of the need to consider whether the 3-2-1% tax discounts for October, November and December with no split payments should be approved.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Gumecinda "Cindy" Gonzales seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the 3-2-1% tax discounts for October, November and December with no split payments be approved as presented.

**9. Discuss & Act On Notice Of The November 8, 2022 Election.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court of the need to approve the Notice of the November 8, 2022 Election.

Commissioner Gumecinda "Cindy" Gonzales moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Notice of the November 8, 2022 Election is approved and be posted as presented.

**10. Discuss & Act on the Governor’s Proclamation Renewing the Disaster Declaration Stating the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Poses an Imminent Threat of Disaster for All Counties in Texas**.

Judge Charles E. Burns presented and read to the Commissioners Court the Governor’s Proclamation Renewing the Disaster Declaration Stating the Novel Coronvirus (COVID-19) Poses an Imminent Threat of Disaster for all Counties in Texas, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Governor’s Proclamation Renewing the Disaster Declaration Stating the Novel Coronvirus (COVID-19) Poses an Imminent Threat of Disaster for all Counties in Texas be approved as presented and read.

**11. Consent Agenda:**

1. **Approve Travel & Training Expenses for Cynthia Salinas to Attend the CTAT Conference in Waco, Tx on September 12-15, 2022. ($1,366.75 within budget)**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court of the need for Cynthia Salinas to attend the CTAT Conference in Waco, Texas on September 12-15, 2022 and for the County to advance $1,366.75 within budget.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that Cynthia Salinas attend the CTAT Conference in Waco, Texas on September 12-15, 2022 and for the County to advance $1,366.75 within budget.

**12. Discuss & Act On Authorization To Issue A Request For Proposals (RFP) For Application, Plan Writing and Administrative Services for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant**.

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court of the need to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for application, plan writing and administrative service for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that a request for proposals (RFP) be issued for the application, plan writing and administrative service of the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant.

**13. Discuss On Foremost Telecommunication’s Request To Bring Broadband To Kenedy County.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court that Foremost Telecommunications had requested to bring broadband to Kenedy County.

This being a report only, no vote was needed and none was taken.

**14. Discuss On Information From Hometown Fiber To Bring Broadband To Kenedy County.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court that Hometown Fiber had requested to bring broadband to Kenedy County.

This being a report only, no vote was needed and none was taken.

**15. Discuss & Act On Payment Of Bills.**

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners’ Court of the need to pay the bills presented.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the bills be paid as presented.

**16. Executive Session: Texas Government Code, § 551.071, § 551.072, § 551.073, § 551.074**

There being no need for an Executive Session; therefore, it was not held.

**17. Open Session: Discuss & Act On Items Addressed In Executive Session.**

No action was taken.

**18. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners’ Court, Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Kenedy County Commissioners Court be adjourned at 2:33 o'clock p.m.

/s/ Charles E. Burns

Charles E. Burns, County Judge

Attested by:

/s/ Veronica Vela

Veronica Vela, County Clerk