THE STATE OF TEXAS \* COMMISSIONERS COURT

COUNTY OF KENEDY \* OF KENEDY COUNTY, TEXAS

On the 15th day of April, 2024, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., a special meeting of the Commissioners Court of Kenedy County, Texas, was held in the Kenedy County Courthouse.

**Commissioner present:**

Charles E. Burns, County Judge

Joe Recio, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1

Israel Vela, Jr., Commissioner, Precinct No. 2

**Also present:**

Veronica Vela, County & District Clerk

Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant

Irma Longoria, County Tax Assessor/Collector

Stephanie Garza, Elections Administrator

Jose E. Mendietta, Fire Chief

JP Patricia Fain

JP Jana Norrell

JP Cecilia Schulz

Tom Denney, Chief Appraiser

Andy Garza, Kenedy County GCD

Seferino Gutierrez, Maintenance Supervisor

Anita Garza, Appraisal District

Jake Henderson, Highroad Clean Energy

Amalia Hanley, Attorney with Kevin O’Hanlon

**Absent**:

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon

Commissioner Jose Salazar

Allison Strauss, County Attorney

Cynthia Salinas, County Treasurer

Ramon Salinas, III, County Sheriff

Grace Salinas, Administrative Secretary

1. **Judge Burns Calls the Meeting to Order**

Judge Charles E. Burns called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**.

Judge Charles E. Burns led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **Receive Public Comments.**

No public comments were made.

1. **Conduct Public Hearing Pursuant to Section Pursuant to Tex. Tax Code § 312.201(d) Concerning the Possible Creation of Kenedy County Reinvestment Zone Number Five**.

Judge Charles E. Burns, at 1:32 p.m., opened the Public Hearing pursuant to Texas Tax Code, Section 312.30(d) concerning the possible creation of a Kenedy County Reinvestment Zone Number 5.

Judge Charles E. Burns asked the public for comments; no comments were made.

Jake Henderson with Highroad Clean Energy mention to the Court that with the approval of this reinvestment zone number five the revenue for the County would be $430K per year and it would possibly have 2 full-time positions to be filled he asked the Court to approve the tax abatement and reinvestment zone number five.

Amalia Hanley with Kevin O’Hanlon’s Law Firm summarized the creation of the Kenedy County Reinvestment Zone Number Five.

Judge Charles E. Burns closed the Public Hearing at 1:36 p.m.

1. **Discussion and Possible Action, Pursuant to Section 312.401 of the Texas Tax Code, on the Possible Creation of Kenedy County Reinvestment Zone Number Five**.

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court of the need to adopt the Resolution for the Possible Creation of the Kenedy County Reinvestment Zone Number Five Pursuant to Section 312.041 of the Texas Tax Code and proceeded to read the Resolution to the Commissioners Court. Commissioner Joe Recio inquired regarding the number of acres which would be in the reinvestment zone. Amelia Hanley replied that there were 10,768.90 acres on the Ocelot Solar, LLC property.

Commissioner Joe Recio moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion to approve the Resolution and Exhibits and to authorize Judge Charles E. Burns to sign the Resolution creating the Kenedy County Reinvestment Zone Number Five.

1. **Conduct Public Hearing on Possible Adoption of Tax Abatement Agreement with Ocelot Solar LLC Pursuant to Chapter 312 Texas Tax Code**.

Judge Charles E. Burns, at 1:48 p.m., opened the Public Hearing regarding the Possible Adoption of Tax Abatement Agreement with Ocelot Solar LLC Pursuant to Chapter 312 Texas Tax Code.

Judge Charles E. Burns asked the public for comments; no comments were made.

Amalia Hanley informed the Court that the Tax Abatement Agreement with Ocelot Solar, LLC would be for 10 years and taxed at $2,000.00 per megawatt generation and will be paid to the County Maintenance & Operations only.

Judge Charles E. Burns, at 1:51 p.m., closed the Public Hearing.

1. **Consider and Approve the Tax Abatement Agreement Between Kenedy County, Texas and Ocelot Solar LLC Pursuant to Chapter 312 Texas Tax Code**.

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court of the need to consider approving the Tax Abatement Agreement between Kenedy County, Texas and Ocelot Solar LLC pursuant to Chapter 312 Texas Tax Code.

Commissioner Joe Recio asked when this project would start. Jake Henderson informed Commissioner Joe Recio that this project would start at the end of October 2026.

Commissioner Joe Recio moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Tax Abatement Agreement between Kenedy County, Texas and Ocelot Solar, LLC, be approved as presented.

1. **Discuss & Act on Payment of Bills**.

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioner Court of the need to pay the bills.

Commissioner Joe Recio moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion to approve the payment of bills and add on bills as presented.

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, § 551.071, § 551.072, § 551.073,**

**§ 551.074**

No Executive Session needed.

**10.** **Open Session: Discuss & Act on Items Addressed in Executive Session**.

No Executive Session held.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business at this time to come before the Commissioners Court, Commissioner Joe Recio moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the Kenedy County Commissioners Court be adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

/s/ Charles E. Burns

Charles E. Burns, County Judge

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ Veronica Vela

Veronica Vela, Clerk of Commissioners Court