

R U I Z

J. EDGAR RUIZ
HIDALGO COUNTY JUDGE
NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, that an EMERGENCY MEETING of the Commissioners' Court will be held on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1994 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Administration Building, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas, discussion and possible action relating to the following business will be transacted:

1. Discussion & action on salary increase of County Court at Law Judges

Dated this 30th day of August, 1994

THE STATE OF TEXAS :
COUNTY OF HIDALGO :

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BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 31ST day of AUGUST, 1994, after due notice having been given, there was begun and holden, a EMERGENCY MEETING of the Commissioners' Court and the Drainage District, in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Administration Building in the City of Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas with the following members of said Court present and participating:

Hon. J. Edgar Ruiz
County Judge

Hon. Samuel Sanchez
County Commissioner, Precinct #1

Hon. Lalo Arcaute
County Commissioner, Precinct #2

Hon. Juan Rosel
County Commissioner, Precinct #3

Hon. Leonard Camarillo
County Commissioner, Precinct #4

WHEREUPON, the following proceedings

were had, to-wit:

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THIS MEETING IS IN VERBATIM FORMAT

The Honorable J. Edgar Ruiz, County Judge, called the Commissioners' Court meeting to order, where upon the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

JUDGE RUIZ

I hereby call this emergency meeting to order and it's now 9:30 and, ah, August 31st, ah, yesterday during Commissioners' Court meeting, ah, we noticed on the agenda that we failed to put a very important issue. We kept it off the agenda, ah, by an oversight and consequently, we had no alternative but to declare an emergency and call this meeting. This action needed to be taken prior to September 1, if it were not, then we would have to dissolve the Resolution that we passed, setting fees, to collect some funds for County Court at Law Judges and eventually we would have to give the salary increase anyway, so it would cost the County probably over \$10,000.00, ah, more than it would customarily cost us. So, that's why we did declare an emergency and we felt that it was important. We have held a public hearing, on this particular issue, the issue is to raise the salaries of the County Court at Law Judges, all four of them, Rudy Delgado, Jaime Garza, Richard Garcia and Leticia Hinojosa, from the salary present of \$63,555.17 to \$83,555.17. That is a \$20,000.00 salary increase; the \$83,555.17 is clearly a little over \$1,000.00 less than the salary set for District Judges and that's where the \$20,000.00 figure comes from. The resolution that we passed, setting fees, ah, for, for court costs, will recover probably close, if not to 100% of the funds that will be reimbursed to us, hopefully after the turn of the year. So, in essence, ah, that is the action at this point, we are hoping that Commissioners' Court will, will approve a salary increase, to the four County Court at Law Judges, ah, of \$20,000.00, from 63,000 to \$83,555.17.

COMM. ROSEL

These fees are both the District and County Clerks' Office, right? Probably the civil and, and criminal?

JUDGE RUIZ

It would be, ah, it depends what Court, what, what kind of mis..., misdemeanor and...

COMM. ROSEL

But the money's coming out of the District

Clerk..

JUDGE RUIZ

Yes, both the District Clerk and County Clerk would be collecting. It depends where that Court case is actually filed, for the County Court at Law Judges.

COMM. CAMARILLO

You're saying that the money that we'll be paid on salaries to those Judges, will be reimbursed by the State, at the first of the year?

JUDGE RUIZ

Next year, ahm, basically, we, we've started the fee effective July 1st, 1994, ah, as a \$10.00 court cost, so we expect reimbursements some time the first of the year, yes sir.

COMM. SANCHEZ

What was the amount that we had talked about, Judge, \$25,000.00, ah, per Judge, I think? How much was it?

JUDGE RUIZ

Yes, the estimation that was given to us by the Comptroller of the State of Texas was in effect about, approximately \$25,000.00 per, per ah, ah, Judge or Court, as...

COMM. SANCHEZ

Per Court, that's right.

JUDGE RUIZ

...so, we will say we will recover, hopefully, 100%, we don't want to be tied down to that, but...

COMM. SANCHEZ

Actually that, that's gonna be the bottom line, ah, is that it's going to cost us, we're going to be able to recoup the amount of money that we're having to put into it now and hopefully plus some. So, ah, in the long run it is really in the best interest of, of the County, in that we go ahead and do this.

COMM. ROSEL

Yea.

COMM. SANCHEZ

So, if, is the motion in order?

JUDGE RUIZ

Yes it is.

COMM. ROSEL

Well, ah, while the State is mandating it, because that's what is happening, the State is manda., mandating this action that we're taking. It's not by...

JUDGE RUIZ

In essence, you're right, ah, the State is saying, you've got two options; ah, first of all,

you either, ah, raise salaries for the County Court at Law Judges and you pay for it, or raise salaries and charge this fees and get reimbursing back.

COMM. ROSEL

Right.

JUDGE RUIZ

Very clear.

COMM. SANCHEZ

It it's in order, I move that we go ahead and, ah, set salaries for the four County Court at Law Judges, ah, at \$83,555.17...

JUDGE RUIZ

Annually.

COMM. SANCHEZ

...consequently, ah, effective September 1st.

JUDGE RUIZ

That's correct. Correct, motion is there a second?

COMM. CAMARILLO

Second.

JUDGE RUIZ

Motion and second, all in favor, signify by saying aye.

COMMISSIONERS

Aye.

JUDGE RUIZ

All opposed same sign. Motion carries. Commissioners, there is no other action to be taken under this emergency meeting, it is now 9:35.

COMM. ROSEL

You didn't, you didn't slip your name in there, Judge?

JUDGE RUIZ

No, I tried, (LAUGHTER), my name inadvertantly was left out of the salary increases.

COMM. SANCHEZ

Mine wasn't (MORE LAUGHTER).

JUDGE RUIZ

Do I have a motion to adjourned?

COMM. SANCHEZ

So move.

JUDGE RUIZ

Do we have a second to adjourn? I'll second, all in favor of adjournment, signify by saying aye.

COMMISSIONERS

Aye.

JUDGE RUIZ

All opposed same sign. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME
BEFORE SAID COURT, the meetings of the Commissioners' Court and
the Drainage District were hereby adjourned.

J. Edgar Ruiz _____
County Judge

Samuel Sanchez _____
County Commissioner, Precinct #1

Lalo Arcaute _____ A B S E N T _____
County Commissioner, Precinct #2

Juan Rosel _____
County Commissioner, Precinct #3

Leonard Camarillo _____
County Commissioner, Precinct #4

Dated this 31ST day of AUGUST, 1994.

ATTEST:

WILLIAM R. LEO, County Clerk
Hidalgo County, Texas

By: Jennifer Castillo, Deputy

