

The Honorable J. Edgar Ruiz, County Judge, called this meeting to order, whereupon the following items were had to wit:

CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF BILLS - COUNTY AUDITOR

GENERAL FUND -	#121498 - #121642 - \$671,013.55
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND -	#121009 - #121227 - \$682,517.60
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND -	# 5580 - # 5582 - \$ 1,607.98
ENTERPRISE FUND -	# 2715 - # 2725 - \$ 9,569.87

(SEE EXHIBIT A)

ITEM 2. APPROVAL OF ATTORNEY FEES - \$67,493.00

(SEE EXHIBIT B)

ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF COURT REPORTER FEES:

A. MARK KVAPIL - \$104.00

(SEE EXHIBIT C)

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FEE REPORTS:

A. CONSTABLES:

1. HORACIO AGUIRRE - \$ 45.00 - MAY
2. GILBERT ALANIZ - \$ 380.00 - MAY
3. MATEO CAVAZOS - \$ 255.00 - MAY
4. RUMALDO CERDA - \$ 635.00 - MAY
5. EDUARDO BAZAN - \$ 0.00 - MAY

B. JUSTICE OF THE PEACE:

1. ROSA E. TREVINO - \$14,103.67 - MAY

(SEE EXHIBIT D)

ITEM 5. PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

A. SUBDIVISIONS:

1. RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 1 & LOT 3 THRU 35, MID VALLEY COMMERCIAL PLAZA - PCT. 1
2. TIERRA SANTA GOLF CLUB & COMMUNITY PHASE I - PCT. 1
3. VALVERDE CEMETERY UNIT #2 - PCT. 1
4. VILLA BONITA SUBDIVISION PHASE I - PCT. 3
5. AMENDED MESQUITE VIEW SUBDIVISION - PCT. 3

(SEE EXHIBIT E)

ITEM 6. PERMITS:

- A. NORTH ALAMO WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION - PCT. 1 & 4
- B. VALERO TRANSMISSION - PCT. 1 & 4

(SEE EXHIBIT F)

ITEM 7. INTERNAL LINE ITEM TRANSFERS:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| A. PCT. 4 - PAVED/UNPAVED - | \$ 620.00 |
| B. PCT. 4 ADMINISTRATION - | \$18,000.00 |
| C. JUVENILE PROBATION DEPT. - STATE FUNDS (666) - | \$ 4,250.00 |
| D. JUVENILE PROBATION DEPT. - STATE FUNDS (646) - | \$ 1,300.00 |
| E. JUVENILE PROBATION DEPT. - STATE FUNDS (676) - | \$ 1,300.00 |
| F. JUVENILE PROBATION DEPT. - GENERAL FUND - | \$ 2,195.00 |
| G. 93 RD DISTRICT COURT - | \$ 1,100.00 |
| H. ADULT PROBATION DEPT. - SUPERVISION (STATE FUNDS) - | \$ 2,000.00 |
| I. 332 ND DISTRICT COURT - | \$ 500.00 |
| J. JUSTICE OF THE PEACE - PCT. 3, PL. 1 - | \$ 150.00 |

K. PCT. 3 - ADMINISTRATION -	\$ 500.00
L. PCT. 3 - PAVED/UNPAVED -	\$ 7,500.00
M. HEALTH DEPARTMENT - ADMINISTRATION -	\$ 1,500.00
N. HEALTH DEPARTMENT - SANITATION -	\$ 4,000.00

(SEE EXHIBIT G)

Judge Ruiz opened by giving some brief comments concerning the agenda items and the workshop after the meeting. He went on to stated that there will be a meeting July 2. Commissioner Rosel and Judge Ruiz will not be attending that meeting of July 2 and he is not sure about Commissioner Arcaute, who is not present for this meeting due to the passing of his father. The week of July 8, Commissioner Rosel will not be in town either. The Commission is unsure of the meetings for July 2 and 8. He also stated that for the meeting of July 16, all members need to be present. After the comments, **a motion was made by Commissioner Garces and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.**

MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBITS A-G)

EXECUTIVE AGENDA

ITEM 1. CLOSED SESSION:

COMMISSIONER'S COURT MAY GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTIONS 551.071 AND 551.074 TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWNG MATTER:

- A. **POTENTIAL LITIGATION - OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**
- B. **PERSONNEL/HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

At this time, the Commission retired into Executive Session.

ITEM 2. OPEN SESSION:

- A. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING DISALLOWED COSTS AND OTHER NECESSARY AMENDMENTS**
- B. **PERSONNEL/HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

2A

Judge Ruiz opened by reciting the facts that led up to the disallowed costs. It was concerning a contract with a vendor entered into by the OET. This contract was awarded under the individual referral process and it was never brought before the Private Industry Council or the Commission. It did not go through the procurement process either. The Texas Workforce Commission has rendered a decision that this is a disallowed cost because of procedure not being followed. After negotiations, the amount to be paid has been reduced to \$156,442. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Garces and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize the settlement.**

MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)

Judge Ruiz stated that in order for this payment to proceed, there needs to be authorization for a budget amendment to appropriate these funds. There has been an advance of funds to OET in the amount of \$378,000. **There needs to be a budget amendment to cover the disallowed cost and authorize the recovery of the funds. Commissioner Sanchez so moved to that effect and was seconded by Commissioner Garces.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)**

Dick Dickinson stated that he estimates that the return of the remainder of the funds will be returned at the beginning of the program year.

2B

Judge Ruiz stated that they now want to approve a contract with Dr. Celestino Avila, to be Chief Physician. Judge Ruiz also stated that this position does not include and administrative duties whatsoever. The terms of the contract are that he be paid on a month to month basis an amount of \$4,500, \$500 per month auto allowance and an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for professional liability premium, which will be allocated on a month to month basis in the amount of \$833.33 per month. This is to be retroactive June 16, 1996 being that that is when he commenced his job. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve Dr. Avila as Medical Director for Hidalgo County.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)**

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEM 1. COUNTY AUDITOR:

**A. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL WITH REGARD TO TRAVEL POLICY
GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**

1A

Judge Ruiz opened by reiterating what Steve Austin is proposing to add to this policy as per the exhibit. Judge Ruiz stated that the employees can travel without an advance and submit a form for reimbursement upon return. If they do want an advance, it has to be approved by the County Judge or the Commission as a whole. Another change is that all travel payments being returned to the County, must be accompanied by accurate receipts and the Final Travel Expense Form. Lisa Sauced then addressed the Court and asked about emergency travel with regards to one to the next. Steve Austin stated that the travel advance request can still be used for emergency travels. Judge Ruiz also addressed the hotel and meal rate issue. The rate of \$40.00 per day for hotel and \$26.00 per day for meals comes from the Federal Register. That is just the rate of advancement. That does not mean that that is all that will be allowed. When the final travel form is submitted and you spent more than what was advanced, you will then get reimbursed. This rate is solely for advancement purposes. Before now, there was no distinction between elected officials and employees. Now the rate applies to all. Ms. Sauced also brought the issue of a contract that is in place with the State Department in which there is a flat rate for hotels. The State Department has a list of hotels that have this flat rate and those are the hotels where the employees stay during their travel. Judge Ruiz stated that this was a good option but they can make it mandatory to stay within this list of hotels. The Commission then brought up the issue of availability with these rooms. There may be times when there are no rooms available. Judge Ruiz stated that this list should be attached to the policy. There was also some discussion with regards to the submittal of a form whereby it is stated what the intent of the trip is and where you are going and this must be accompanied by a signature by the department head or elected official. There will be 3 signatures required for approval if you have a department head or elected official and if your just an administrator, then there will be just two signatures. Those two being the County Judge and the Auditor and if have a department head, that will be the third signature. Steve Austin stated that this policy does not take into account the agencies being that they have their own funding. The exclusions to this policy would be Headstart, Community Service Agency, Urban County, JTPA. After further comments, **Judge Ruiz recommended the Travel Policy Guidelines and Procedures be adopted as amended effective July 15, 1996. Commissioner Garces so moved and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT H)**

ITEM 2. COUNTY CLERK:

- A. **SETTLEMENT OF BACK RENTALS DUE ON LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY CLERK AND COPY STAR**
- B. **APPROVAL OF COPY MACHINE LEASE AGREEMENT**

2A

Eloy Pulido addressed the Court and stated that this agreement was with Copy Star/Aloha Leasing. He stated that back in 1995 when he took office, he discovered a contract for \$924 per month for a copier. At that time, there had been two months paid on this lease and has not been paid on since. The settlement agreement is for \$10,591 which is the \$924 monthly x 12 months. This settlement will relieve the County Clerk from paying this high price on the copier. After further brief comment, **a motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to settle with Copy Star/Aloha Leasing for back rental due on a lease agreement which was entered between the County of Hidalgo through the County Clerk and Copy Star/Aloha Leasing. This is a mutual agreement of paying \$924 per month, totaling \$10,591.72 and giving authority to the County Auditor to pay said bill.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT I)**

2B

Mr. Pulido stated that this agreement was with Xerox which has the State bid. Judge Ruiz stated that **what needs to be done now, is the approving of the lease agreement retroactive to the day of the contract and authorize payment of that lease agreement. Commissioner Rosel so moved to that effect and was seconded by Commissioner Garces.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)**

ITEM 3. RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE COSTS OF CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Judge Ruiz stated that this resolution will encompass 100% of the capital improvements on the 5th floor construction with Merit Construction. This will include the architectural fees by V.A. Architecture and the future purchase of a phone system. This resolution will call for approximately \$650,000. **A motion was made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the resolution expressing official intent to reimburse costs of certain capital improvements for \$650,000 for construction of the 5th floor.** This amount will be reimbursed to the General Fund if, when and after Commissioner's Court approves any type of issue for bonds for this particular project.

**MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)**

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN BICKERSTAFF, HEATH, SMILEY, POLLAN KEVER & McDANIEL, L.L.P. AND HIDALGO COUNTY AND AUTHORIZATION TO PAY PAST DUE ACCOUNT

Judge Ruiz stated that this was for a service that was provided two years ago in the last legislative session to establish a Countywide Emergency Service District and a Solid Waste Disposal Authority. They were approved by the Commission but there was never a contract and

Steve Austin is now requesting one before payment is rendered. The amount due is \$27,560. This firm has been used in previous sessions and have always been paid. There were never any contracts with this firm for all the other work done. During the brief discussion, it was stated that there has never been contracts for this type of professional services. After further comments, **a motion was made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the contract and authorize payment of \$27,560.**

***MOTION CARRIED (COMM. ROSEL OPPOSED)
(SEE EXHIBIT J)***

ITEM 5. SOLID WASTE ENFORCEMENT:

A. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON SOLID WASTE ENFORCEMENT GRANT

5A

Judge Ruiz stated that authority to enter into this grant had been given the previous week. Paul Vazaldua addressed the Court and gave some options on this grant. He stated that in option one, the County is eligible for \$41,666.66 and this would allow for the Commissioners who are most in need of such a program to identify \$64,809.56 from their own budget for this program. Option two would be the Prisoners at Work Program. (PAW) He stated that under this program, the clean up would be done by the prisoners and citations would be handled by the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office does not think that this program would work at this time. Option three is not to submit the application being that there is a 50% match on behalf of the County. The last option is that each Commissioner contribute \$12,691 from their own budget to implement a countywide program. Judge Ruiz wanted to know why the PAW program is not feasible at this time. Mr. Quintanilha stated that there is this type of program in place currently, but they do not have the prisoners to do so. The low risk inmates are usually bonded out of the jail as quickly as possible. After further brief comments, the Commission was in favor of not submitting this application. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to not apply for any solid waste enforcement grant for the County of Hidalgo.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT K)***

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH LARRY DITTBURNER AND THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO FOR RENTAL OF BUILDING IN WESLACO FOR DPS

Mrs. Loura Etnire stated that this was the same contract and it goes from one year to the other. Nothing changes in the contract. The contract will begin May 1, 1996 and expire April 30, 1997. **A motion was made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Garces of the contract to be May 1, '96 thru April 30 1997.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT L)***

ITEM 7. WIC:

A. APPROVAL TO REMOVE EQUIPMENT FROM INVENTORY

7A

Norma Longoria stated that these items had been stolen from the Progreso Community Center. The items are as per the list attached in the exhibit. A motion was then made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize the removal of equipment from the inventory due to theft in the Progreso Community Center.

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT M)***

ITEM 8. PCT. 3:

- A. **APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER FOR LINDA VISTA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**
- B. **APPROVAL TO DECLARE EQUIPMENT SURPLUS**

8A

Commissioner Rosel stated that this was a contract that was awarded to Sascon Construction Co. for work at Linda Vista in the amount of \$76,336. There is additional work that needs to be done to comply with the specifications. The engineer approved this change order. It will be in the amount of \$3,942. The additional work was manholes. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve a change order for Linda Vista Drainage Improvements to increase the contract of Sascon Construction by \$3,942.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT N)***

8B

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to authorize the declaration of equipment surplus and authorize our Purchasing Agent to dispose of said equipment.

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT N)***

ITEM 9. URBAN COUNTY:

- A. **HIDALGO COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION - RESOLUTION**
- B. **CITY OF LA JOYA - PFI - WATER/SEWER IMP. CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH D & V CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.**
- C. **COLONIA CONSTRUCTION FUND NO. 714105 COLONIA MUNIZ - SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION**
- D. **PCT. 4 - CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD 1995, YR. 8 - PFI - PARKS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**
- E. **CITY OF ALAMO - PFI - PARKS IMPROVEMENTS**

9A

Anthony Covacevich opened by stating that this resolution will provide for \$2,970.06 as a local match for the Hidalgo County Transit Feasibility Study. This will be the metro area which will include the area in the Metropolitan Planning Organization. This will exclude the Delta Area but will include areas such as Mercedes, Weslaco and all along Business 83 to Hidalgo, Palmview and up to Edinburg. There will be many areas looked at in this study concerning mass transit and other areas of concern. **A motion was made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve a resolution where the County of Hidalgo agrees to contribute \$2,970.06 towards its share of the Hidalgo County Transit Feasibility Study.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT O)***

9B

Mr. Covacevich stated that this change order was with D & V Construction for additions. The amount of the change order is \$8,621.06. The contract amount is \$43,492.90. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner**

Garces to approve a change order with D & V Construction Co. increasing their contract by \$8,621.06. This is for Water and Sewer Improvements in La Joya.

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT O)***

9C

Mr. Covacevich stated that this was for the septic tank installation. This is the second time that this was bid out. The low bid at this time is from Rio Grande Valley Environmental Service in the amount of \$56,000. At this time, he is recommending the approval of this bid. Judge Ruiz had some concerns with regards to this bid due to the second bid being \$11,000 less than the bid that was being recommended. Mr. Covacevich stated that the reason that the lower bid was rejected was that the specifications were not met. The individual with the lower bid did not submit a bid bond which was part of the specifications. After further brief comments, **a motion was then made by Commissioner Garces and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to award the bid submitted by Rio Grande Environmental Service as recommended by Anthony Covacevich in the amount of \$56,000.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT O)***

9D

Mr. Covacevich stated that this contract was to pave the parking lot at the Edinburg Municipal Park Project. The low bidder is Mission Paving Co. at \$44,712. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Covacevich, **a motion was made by Commissioner Garces and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to award bid to Mission Paving Inc. as the low bidder for Parks and Recreation Facilities Improvements in the City of Edinburg, the amount \$44,712.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT O)***

9E

Mr. Covacevich stated that this was a request by the City of Alamo to enter into a contract with City Fence and Supply. The amount will be for \$1,942 and it will be to fence Nebraska Park Pavilion. This is the low quotation. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve a contract agreement between City Fence and Supply, County of Hidalgo, City of Alamo. The amount of \$1,942 to fencing parks.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT O)***

ITEM 10. DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION REHABILITATION:

A. APPROVAL TO APPROPRIATE CARRY OVER FUNDS:

1. ACCT. #6-105-441-910.67 - \$3,000.00

10A1

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to authorize a \$3,000 appropriation fund through drug abuse prevention rehabilitation as aid to other governments.

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT P)***

ITEM 11. PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

- A. **FINAL PLAT APPROVAL:**
 - 1. **VISTA DEL SOL PHASE III - PCT. 4**
- B. **UPDATE DISCUSSION:**
 - 1. **AYALA-BAZAN ESTATES - PCT. 1**

11A1

Emilio Garcia addressed the Court and stated that on August 1, 1995, the Court had given prelim approval. Since then all improvements have been made and he recommended approval of this subdivision. **A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and was seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to give final plat approval to Vista Del Sol Phase III in Pct. 4 as presented.**

MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT Q)

11B1

Mr. Garcia stated that there was a checklist as per the exhibit. All the items that have a check beside them are still pending items. Nothing has been submitted since the previous week. Mr. Ayala did obtain this checklist after the meeting the previous week. Judge Ruiz wanted the County Clerk's Office notified that there was to be no recordation of this subdivision until further notice. After further comments, Judge Ruiz moved on with the agenda.

NO ACTION
(SEE EXHIBIT Q)

ITEM 12. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT:

- A. **AWARD BIDS:**
 - 1. **HAULING SERVICES - PCT. 1**
- B. **REQUEST TO PURCHASE LAPTOP COMPUTERS THROUGH GENERAL SERVICE COMMISSION - FINANCIAL DISRUPTION TASK FORCE**
- C. **AUTHORIZATION TO READVERTISE:**
 - 1. **PIT-RUN CALICHE GRAVEL - COUNTY WIDE**

12A1

Martha Salazar opened by stating that there were 5 bids. She is now recommending Martin Rendon out of Weslaco being the low bidder at \$2.35 per ton. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to award bid to Martin Rendon for Hauling for a period of one year in Pct. 1 for \$2.35 per ton. Effective immediately.**

MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT R)

12B

Mrs. Salazar stated that this item had been previously out for bids and there were no bids received. They have since received a quote from GSC and they will wind up saving about \$2,000 on the purchase of the laptops. The reason it is on the agenda is because it is expensive. It will run about \$17,000+. This will be for 4 computers and they will be \$4,456. After further comments and upon recommendation of Martha Salazar, **a motion was made by Commissioner Garces and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to prepare a resolution authorizing the purchase of laptop computers through the General Service Commission State Bid.**

MOTION CARRIED

(SEE EXHIBIT R)

12C1

Commissioner Garces stated that this was the third time they have advertised for this item. He suggested that they maybe go through Pct. 4 instead of County wide being that they use it a lot. After further brief comments, **a motion was made by Commissioner Garces and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize for the advertisement for the purchase of Pit Run Caliche Gravel in Pct. 4. Bid opening July 17 and bid award July 23.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT R)**

ITEM 13. COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY:

- A. APROVAL ON CONTINUATION GRANTS:**
- 1. EHP PERFORMANCE AWARD/CONTRACT EXTENSION**
 - 2. MTP AMENDMENT #8**

13A1

Maribel Navarro Saenz addressed the Court and stated that they have received a performance award of \$4,800. This will be used for temporary shelter. **A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to approve the contract extension for \$4,800.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT S)**

13A2

Mrs. Saenz stated that this was amendment #8 to the Medical Transportation contract. This will augment the current contract by \$137,000. They are needed to continue to provide services through August. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve an MTP amendment in the amount of \$137,000 as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT S)**

ITEM 14. BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

- A. OTHER INDIGENT COURT COSTS - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (CRT. REPRORTERS)**
- B. COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1 - \$1,500 (COMPUTER EQUIPMENT)**
- C. JAIL - \$125,800.00 (FOOD & ROOM & BOARD FOR PRISONERS)**
- D. VISITING COURT SYSTEM - JAIL CASES**

14A

Mrs. Etnire stated that this was on the Court Reporters and Indigent Court Costs. The budget to start of the year was \$50,000 and they have now paid \$48,917.85. There are currently \$10,821 in pending bills at the Auditor's Office. This leaves a deficit of \$9,738.85. There was some discussion among the Commission as to whether to allocate an additional \$20,000 to try and make it the rest of the year or go on a month to month basis. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve a budget amendment of \$20,000 for other indigent court costs, professional services.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)**

14C

Glen Eastin addressed the Court and stated that they are request a budget amendment of \$100,000 in line item 25. There is currently a balance of zero. Judge Ruiz reiterated briefly what this was about. He stated that they have farmed out many prisoners to relieve the overcrowding situation. He stated that the County is now spending \$4,000 per day for these prisoners. He feels that there will not be enough money to pay through December 31. Judge Ruiz was disappointed that noone was doing anything to attempt to relieve the overcrowding situation. Chief Eastin stated that he has some help especially from the County Courts to help alleviate this situation. Judge Ruiz then requested from Chief Eastin some material concerning the tent system for the County Jail. Commissioner Rosel also requested a breakdown of all the prisoners that are ready for transport to the Texas Department of Corrections and Child support cases so that they may try to see where the problems lies. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve a budget amendment of \$125,800.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT T)***

14B

There was some discussion among the Commission with regards to what this request entailed and whether is was the same request as the previous week. It was stated by Martha Salazar that she thought they want to separate the Civil and the Criminal Dockets instead of having them on one computer. After further brief comments, **a motion was made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve a budget amendment of \$1,500 for the purchase of computer equipment.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT T)***

14D

Judge Ruiz stated that back in 1993, all Judges met along with the bondsmen, the District Attorney and the Sheriff. There was a plan implemented that relieved the jail population by 180 or so. It has been under the cap up until now. They are now meeting again to try to alleviate this situation as they did back then. The problem is now more serious being that then it was because of the County Court at Law Judges. It is now the District Judges. In these meetings, they have tentatively come up with a visiting judge court system that will target jail cases only or felonies. This Court will be headed by Judge Evins. This has been approved by the Board of Judges. It will call for two visiting judges, one coordinator, two clerks, a briefing attorney, and two court reporters. Judge Ruiz stated that there was no other alternative to this situation and he feels that with this Court, they can have the jail back to normal capacity by October 1. Again, Judge Ruiz stated that the reason that the system is not working is because noone is doing anything about this. He feels that noone cares. Martha Salazar stated that she met with the Judges again Monday prior and Judge Evins assured everyone that he will address all courts evenly as far as what courts he will take cases from and forward to the visiting jail court. The policy will be who has been in the jail the longest and work from there. Judge Ruiz feels that this is going to lead to a legislative measure whereby it will be lobbied for another District Court from the Legislature. At this time, Judge Ruiz is proposing an authority to renovate the Courthouse to provide for another Courtroom. Right now, they are targeting the area where the Veterans Service Officers Office. This will be right next to the impact Court. In the Interim, the County Court at Law Judges will offer their facilities for this purpose. The Commissioner's Court Courtroom will also be a Visiting Judge Courtroom scheduled around Commissioner's Court. Impact Court will also be available. Judge Ruiz feels that this is an emergency and he also feels that this new renovation can be done by County Crews with 30 to 60 days. **A motion was then made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the budget for 6 months to establish a Visiting Judge Court System to address strictly Jail Case Felonies.**

**MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)**

Steve Crain addressed the Court with regards to the emergency declaration. He has a problem with this under the legal definition of emergency. He also stated that if the work will be done with County Crews, then he only has a couple of concerns regarding the bidding of the materials and supplies needed and also possibly the need for an electrician. After further comments, Judge Ruiz moved to item 16.

ITEM 16. PROPOSED RENOVATION OF COURTHOUSE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to get authority to begin the renovation of the site, which we will identify as the Veterans Service Offices for renovation.

**MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)**

ITEM 15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL

Judge Ruiz stated he had recently had an unpleasant meeting with the PIC. More so with Mayor Othal Brand and his interjections who has been given the authority to appoint 8 members to this board. He stated that there were people from the Governor's Office, Texas Workforce Commission Director, Department of Commerce Director and their support staff. He also stated that the focus of the complaints were the eight members from McAllen and the Mayor. Judge Ruiz went on to state that at this time, he would like to give some direction to relieve some of the tension between the PIC and the Commission. The transition of the Private Industry Council over to a Workforce Development Board is not going anywhere. He made light of the fact that they have gone through this once before and it had been approved in Court before and it was also sent to the Governor's Office before. At the last minute, the Governor decided against signing off on this issue and noone from County Government pursued this anymore to ask why it wasn't signed off on. He felt that the Commission should send a message and a letter to the PIC **that they should begin the transition from PIC to Workforce Development Board.** This will allow the Workforce Development Board more independence, authority and discretion that is not seen in the PIC. **He felt that they should get the PIC training from the State of Texas as to how to establish a Workforce Development Board and what the roles would be under this Board.** Commissioner Sanchez reverted back to when they appointed the 25 members of this PIC. He stated that they had done so with the idea in mind that there would be a transition to a Workforce Development Board but the Governor did not approve so at that point, they reverted back to the PIC. Judge Ruiz stated that they were appointed resembling more so a Workforce Development Board. **He also stated that the training should be worded to the point that if they need a consultant on how to go about this, they should be allowed to get one.** This cost is allowable under administration. **He also feels that the PIC Chairperson should report monthly to the Commission on the activity of the PIC. Also, there should be a Local Operating Policy Manual established to define the relationship or authority of the Court, Administration and the PIC. There should be regular meetings established for all committees.** Also, the Commission should endorse this along with Willacy County and have the Workforce Development Board established by December 31, 1996. These are Judge Ruiz' recommendations. Dick Dickinson then addressed the Court and stated that the State has asked he as the Steward, be the one to define the roles of all involved and make sure that everyone stays within those roles. **After further comments, Judge Ruiz requested a motion that immediate training be afforded to the PIC as a whole on Workforce Development by the State of Texas. If they need a private consultant to establish the Workforce for lack of trust of staff and/or Commissioner's Court; to request the PIC Chairperson to report on PIC**

Activities monthly to Commissioner's Court and that there be an administrative local operating policy manual established immediately to address PIC, Commissioner's Court and Administration both as a PIC and as a Workforce Development Board and that there be fixed regular meetings of all committees scheduled on a monthly basis for their review. Commissioner Sanchez so moved to that effect and was seconded by Commissioner Garces.

***MOTION CARRIED
(NO EXHIBIT)***

ITEM 17. DISCUSSION ON NEW ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NO ACTION

ITEM 18. REPORT ON COMMUNITY ORIENTED PRIMARY CARE TASK FORCE

Paul Vazaldua addressed the Court and stated that Judge Ruiz had recently met with the COPC Task Force and he proceeded to give a status report. One of the items covered was the expansion of the taskforce. There were three members added to it. Dr. Mario Anzaldua, Paul Ballard and Dr. Leonel Acheaga are the new members. They taskforce has been asked to develop a plan for the delivery of Primary Care for uninsured residents in the County. Currently, there are approximately 147,000 residents who are uninsured. They are working on all aspects of this project, including the tract of land for the clinic which was available at one point in McAllen. Other alternatives are also being researched. They are also working with other entities to come up with this plan. During the discussion, it was stated that the Medical Community had some concerns with regards to their patients, but they have been assured that COPC will handle uninsured patients. In essence, what is being said is that COPC cannot refuse anyone but they are there primarily for the uninsured. After further comments, Judge Ruiz stated that this was just a briefing as to where they are with this project at this time.

NO ACTION

Steve Crain addressed the Court in reference to item 9B. He confirmed the fact that this change order was more than 25% of the whole project and he was not sure if this could be done. Mr. Covacevich stated that they had done a change order in the past that was more than 25% and a legal opinion was rendered in which **they can do this type of change order if it is approved by Commissioner's Court.** The amount was calculated by Steve Austin and the change order was not over the 25%. **Mr. Crain withdrew his objection.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to adjourn Commissioner's Court Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

There being no further business to come before this Commissioner's Court, this meeting is adjourned.

DRAINAGE DISTRICT

The Honorable J. Edgar Ruiz, County Judge, called this Drainage District Meeting to order, whereupon the following items were had to wit:

ITEM 1. PERMITS:

A. CITY OF WESLACO

B. CITY OF PHARR

1A

A motion was made by Commissioner Sanchez and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the permit request by the City of Weslaco as presented.

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT U)***

1B

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the permit request by the City of Pharr as presented.

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT U)***

ITEM 2. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE:

A. BOOM FOR LIEBHERR EXCAVATOR

2A

Ms. Vona Walker opened this topic by stating that they have been given some information on where they might find some good used booms. She would like to advertise for a used excavator boom. A new boom will about \$75,000. If the used ones are not satisfactory, they can reject and then go out for a new one. **A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize the advertisement for bids for the purchase of a used boom for Liebherr Excavator for the County of Hidalgo. Bid opening July 17 and bid award July 23.**

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT V)***

ITEM 3. INTERNAL LINE ITEM TRANSFER:

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve an Internal Line Item Transfer of \$1700 as presented.

***MOTION CARRIED
(SEE EXHIBIT W)***

ITEM 4. AWARD BID:

A. 1015 PROJECT REVIEW APPRAISER

NO ACTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and was seconded by Commissioner Garces to adjourn Drainage District No. 1.

MOTION CARRIED

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THIS DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOARD, THIS MEETING STANDS ADJOURNED.