

## **DRAINAGE DISTRICT #1**

The Honorable Renato Cuellar, County Judge, called the Drainage District #1 Board meeting to order, whereupon the following proceedings were had to wit:

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER AND PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND BILLS - COUNTY AUDITOR**

#### **ITEM 2. 1998 LINE ITEM TRANSFER** (See Exhibit A)

#### **ITEM 3. PERMIT:**

A. City of Mercedes - La Herencia Subdivision  
(See Exhibit B)

The County Judge introduced the Drainage District #1 Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

#### **ITEM 1. EXEMPTION FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND APPROVAL OF 2 CONTRACTS WITH MELDEN & HUNT, INC.**

Godfrey Garza, the Drainage District Manager, came before the Commissioners' Court requesting an exemption from the bidding procedure, under professional services and approval of two contracts with Melden and Hunt. He explained that these two contracts were for delineating right of way for some proposed ditch improvements northeast of Edinburg, north of FM 1925 and southeast of Edinburg, on Hwy. 107. A motion was made by Commissioner

Garces and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to accept the exemption on competitive bidding for professional services for Melden and Hunt, Inc.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit C)

A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the two contracts with Melden & Hunt, Inc. as presented by the Drainage District Manager.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit C)

## **ITEM 2. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS RECEIVED FROM SALE OF PROPERTY**

Mr. Garza continued with the next item which was a request for the appropriation of funds received from the sale of property. He mentioned that there was some right of way that was sold and \$1,000.00 was received for it and they would like to appropriate this into their right of way account. A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit D)

## **ITEM 3. AUDITOR'S OFFICE**

- A. Budget Amendment in D.D. #1 to cover 1997 purchase orders to be rolled over to cover 1998

Manuel Cavazos, the County Auditor, informed the Court that it was just a roll-over of 1997 pending purchase orders into 1998 so that they can pay them. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit E)

There being no further business to come before the Drainage District #1 Board, a motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Garces that said meeting be hereby adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED.

## **COMMISSIONERS' COURT**

The Honorable Renato Cuellar, County Judge called the Commissioners' Court meeting to order whereupon the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER AND PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND BILLS - COUNTY AUDITOR**

#### **ITEM 2. LINE ITEM TRANSFERS:**

- A. Tax Office
- B. Adult Probation - Restitution Center
- C. Commissioner Pct. #2 - Road Administration
- D. Commissioner Pct. #3 - Administration
- E. Constable Pct. 2
- F. Sheriff's Office - Jail

(See Exhibit F)

#### **ITEM 3. URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM**

- A. HOME - "First-Time Homebuyer Contract Agreement" and Letter of Commitment to Mortgage Company - 4 families

(See Exhibit G)

#### **ITEM 4. PLANNING DEPARTMENT:**

- A. Subdivisions:
  - 1. Caballero #2 Subdivision - Pct. 1
  - 2. South Forty Subdivision - Pct. 1
  - 3. Frontier Estates Phase I - Pct. 3 (No Action)
  - 4. Mesquite Village Phase 1 - Pct. 4
  - 5. RCI Mobile Home Subdivision - Pct. 4

(See Exhibit H)

**ITEM 5. RIGHT OF WAY DEPARTMENT:**

- A. Pct. 1 - North Alamo Water Supply
- B. Pct. 3 - Sharyland Water Supply Corp.
- C. Pct. 4 - North Alamo Water Supply

(See Exhibit I)

The County Judge introduced the Consent Agenda and he asked if there were any changes. Emilio Garcia, the Chief Planner, informed the Court that no action would be needed on Item 4/A/3, as this subdivision had been approved the week before. A motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the consent agenda, as amended.

MOTION CARRIED.

**EXECUTIVE AGENDA**

**ITEM 1. CLOSED SESSION:**

Commissioners' Court may go into Closed Session pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074 to discuss the following

- A. Litigation
  - 1. Consultation with Attorney
- B. Property:
  - 1. Deliberation regarding Real Property
- C. Personnel:
  - 1. Discussion and Action on the Health Director's Contract

**ITEM 2. OPEN SESSION:**

- A. Litigation
  - 1. Consultation with Attorney
- B. Property
  - 1. Deliberation regarding Real Property
- C. Personnel
  - 1. Discussion and Action on Health Director's Contract

**ITEM 3. CLOSED SESSION**

Commissioners' Court may reconvene into Closed Session for the discussion regarding the agenda items listed

The County Judge and County Commissioners went into Closed Session accompanied by Mr. Steve Crain and on select items by Ms. Lucy Canales and Mr. Armando Barrero.

NO ACTION.

**ITEM 4. OPEN SESSION**

Commissioners' Court may reconvene into Open Session for the discussion regarding the agenda items listed

On the issue regarding litigation, a motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garces to authorize Ms. Lucy Canales to revise a deed to include actual property description that was inadvertently left out of the original deed.

MOTION CARRIED.

On the issue regarding property, there is to be no action.

NO ACTION.

On the issue regarding the Health Director's contract, a motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Arcaute to award the contract for total compensation pay of \$67,000.00 per year for two years, plus fringe benefits.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit J)

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**ITEM 1. PLANNING DEPARTMENT:**

- A. Final Plat Approval
  - 1. Mesquite Hollow Subdivision - Pct. 3
- B. Final Approval with Letter of Credit
  - 1. Vista Bonita Subdivision #10 - Pct. 4

1/A

Emilio Garcia, the Chief Planner, was requesting final plat approval of Mesquite Hollow Subdivision. This subdivision is in Precinct Three and is

located on the northwest corner of U.S. Business 83 and east Goodwin Road. On December 2, 1997 the Court granted preliminary approval of the subdivision and since then the developer has completed all the improvements in accordance with the subdivision regulations. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Arcaute to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit K)

1/B

Mr. Garcia stated that the next item was for final approval with a Letter of Credit of Vista Bonita Subdivision #10. This subdivision is in Precinct Four located approximately 300 feet east of Cesar Chavez Road and on the north side of FM 2812. It consists of twenty lots and North Alamo Water Supply Corporation will serve this subdivision. He added that there was a letter of credit in the amount of \$60,677.00 and they are recommending approval subject to the release of this letter of credit, all street signs, traffic control devices, testing of the streets and the final letter from the water supply corporation. A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the subdivision as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit K)

ADD. 2. Regular Agenda:

1. Planning Department
  - A. Final Plat Approval
    1. La Estrella Subdivision - Pct. 3

Mr. Garcia announced that there was an addendum item and it involved La Estrella Subdivision. He mentioned that this item was brought the previous week and no action was taken as there was some concerns with regards to the swales. He stated that an inspection has been done by the Drainage District and he turned the floor over to Mr. Godfrey Garza. Mr. Garza explained that they had met with Javier Hinojosa from Hinojosa Engineering and they addressed the swale that needed to be reconstructed, which was and they were recommending approval at this time. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit K)

**ITEM 2. RIGHT OF WAY DEPARTMENT:**

A. Resolution authorizing condemnation in connection with FM 3362  
(Jackson Road) Roland K. Schroeder

Vona Walker, the Right of Way Director, explained that she had another reluctant owner on Jackson Road and she would like to request a resolution authorizing condemnation. The individual is Roland K. Schroeder, independent executor and as trustee of the Estate of Reinhold A. Schroeder. This was on some property that was just north of Nolana Loop. A motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the resolution as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit L)

**ITEM 3. TAX OFFICE**

A. Authorization for following Tax Refunds:

1. Rogelio H. Martinez
2. Hilcrest Medical Center
3. Andres Flores

3/A/1

Yolanda Villa came before the Court requesting approval of some refunds. She announced that no action would be needed on a tax refund for Rogelio H. Martinez and the Appraisal District would submit a correction on this item.

NO ACTION.  
(See Exhibit M)

3/A/2

A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and seconded by Commissioner Arcaute to approve a tax refund to Hilcrest Medical Center in the amount of \$739.51 for the 1997 tax year.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit M)

3/A/3

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve a tax refund to Andres Flores in the amount of \$760.73 for the year 1997.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit M)

**ITEM 4. J.P. Pct. 4 Pl. 1**

- A. Authorization for a \$25.00 change fund

A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize a \$25.00 change fund for the Justice of the Peace for Precinct Four Place One, Mr. Charlie Espinoza.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit N)

**ITEM 5. COUNTY JUDGE'S OFFICE:**

- A. Authorization and approval to transfer the position of Court Appointments Clerk from the Jail Court budget into the Public Defense Budget
- B. Approval to adjust salary
- C. Approval of Line Item Transfer

5/A

Valde Guerra, from the County Judge's Office, announced that there would be no action on any part of Item 5.

NO ACTION.

(See Exhibit O)

**ITEM 6. PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT:**

- A. Approval of auto allowance for Personnel Director
- B. Approval to transfer funds from Acct. #020-413-110 into #010-415-550

Valde Guerra reported that there would also be no action on this item.

NO ACTION.

(See Exhibit P)

**ITEM 7. LIBRARY SYSTEM**

- A. Appointment of Board Members for the Hidalgo County Library System from San Juan

William McGee came before the Court requesting the appointment of board members for the Hidalgo County Library System from the San Juan area. The nominees are Juan D. Aleman, Maxie Stapelton and Lydia Perkins. A motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Handy to appoint Lydia Perkins as the representative and Ms. Maxie Stapelton as the alternate.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit Q)

**ITEM 8. COUNTY AUDITOR:**

- A. Budget Amendment in General Fund to cover 1997 purchase orders to be rolled over to 1998
- B. Budget Amendment in the Special Revenue Funds to cover 1997 purchase orders to be rolled over to 1998

8/A

Manuel Cavazos, the County Auditor, explained that this was for the roll-over of purchase orders that was needed in order to pay bills on the various funds within the General Fund. The amount of the budget amendment was \$126,971.36. A motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Handy approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit R)

8/B

Commissioner Garces recommended that maybe this Commissioners' Court should set some type of policy, that during the last quarter of the year, to start tightening up and maybe challenge the department heads to be more in tune with their invoices. He felt that actions such as these were not allowing them to have a true picture of the budget. Mr. Cavazos advised that they inform the department heads that no more purchase orders will be accepted after December 15, unless goods and services will be delivered by the end of the year. Mr. Cavazos then pointed out that this next item was the same as the previous, except that this one was with regards to the Special Revenue Fund. The amount of the budget amendment is \$96,212.20. A motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit R)

**ITEM 9. COMMISSIONER PCT. 1:**

- A. Consideration of exemption and approval to award professional contract to Quintanilla Headley & Associates for Road and Bridge Street improvement engineering services
- B. Discussion and possible action on security for Hidalgo County Parks Pct. 1 and Pct. 3
- C. Discussion and possible action on proposed changes to mobile phone policies

9/A

Commissioner Handy informed the Commission that this item was for consideration of exemption and approval of a contract to Quintanilla Headley & Associates for Road and Bridge street improvement engineering services. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit S)

9/B

Commissioner Handy stated that this next item was on security services for Precincts One and Three and she introduced Raul Lozano who would explain this issue. Mr. Lozano reported that they have been having problems in 1997 with security contracts that were awarded and after going out for bids, several times, it was found that there was only one company that could provide security services and meet all the requirements of the County. This would include workmen's compensation, insurance, etc. and the company that provides all of these services is very costly. He then went on to explain a handout and offered that if the Precincts, through the Constables' Offices, were to hire a deputy and possibly acquire a vehicle through the District Attorney's Office there would be a cost savings of approximately \$100.00 per day. Commissioner Handy explained that what they were proposing was not going with the security company, but instead hiring people under the Constable's Office that would be certified as peace officers, able to carry a gun, able to have a marked car, wear a uniform, and have the authority to arrest, because there are a lot of gangs out there where these County parks are located. She added that they are having a lot of problems with vandalism and thefts. The Commissioner indicated that they have discussed this with the District Attorney's Office and they do have vehicles available and the only thing that they would have to provide would be the fuel for the vehicles. Mr. Lozano stated that they presently have monies available for security under the Parks Fund and they were looking into possibly transferring that to the Constables and working hand-in-hand with the Precincts as far as the scheduling was concerned. Commissioner Handy did add a stipulation that if they place these individuals under the Constables office then they would have to make sure that they would be used strictly for the

security of the parks. Commissioner Rosel made a few comments regarding this issue and added that there may be times when they would need more than one officer out there and Mr. Lozano said that they had discussed this prior to this meeting and the Constables were willing to do place more officers on holidays such as Easter Sunday. Commissioner Rosel was also looking into possibly utilizing the reserve constables and Commissioner Garces disclosed that there were many certified officers who would be willing to work just to maintain their certifications and they could possibly hire them as reserve officers. Mr. Lozano indicated that he was hoping to get this approved today and start the process and maybe have something implemented by April 1, 1998. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve an agreement with the Constables to provide up to two deputy constables to work security for the parks under the Constables Office for each of the Precincts and to request that the Constables come to Court and request the deputy constables for each of the Precincts. Commissioner Rosel made a recommendation that maybe have the two deputy constables and a part-time deputy constable whose sole duty would be to open and close the parks. Martha Salazar, the Purchasing Agent, informed him that a part-time deputy constable would not be covered under TAC for the workmen's compensation. Commissioner Handy then amended her motion to indicate "up to three deputy constables".

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit S)

9/C

Commissioner Handy stated that the reason that she had placed this item on the agenda was because she had not been on the Commission the year that the mobile phone policies were adopted. She added that she has heard variations of the policies and she was wanting to confirm this. Commissioner Rosel informed her that the only policy was that if anybody wanted to acquire a mobile phone, that individual would have to request it from Commissioners' Court, with the exception of law enforcement and elected officials. Commissioner Handy pointed out that within each Precinct they had five departments and she was wanting to acquire mobile phones for her department heads. Commissioner Rosel gave her a brief history of discussions held with regards to this issue. Martha Salazar, the Purchasing Agent, informed the Court that there was one mobile service that would not authorize the removal of the phone from their premises unless they had a purchase order and she felt that this would be a good document trail. She then commented on a situation that they had had where someone had gone to get a phone without a purchase order and that company was hard pressed to get it back and get the mess unraveled. There being no further discussion no action was needed on this item.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit S)

**ITEM 10. HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

- A. Authorization to establish two levels of responsibility and compensation for licensed nurses (LVN I and LVN II)
- B. Request authorization for line item transfers to cover salaries and fringe benefits
- C. Approval to set salaries for LVN I and LVN II

10/A

Mike Keenan, the Health Director, requested that no action be taken on any of the items under Item 10.

NO ACTION.  
(See Exhibit T)

**ITEM 11. URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM:**

- A. City of Alton - Budget Amendment - Year 9, 1996 & Year 10, 1997
- B. Alton - Parks Recreational Facility - UCP Year 9, 1996 - Construction Contract
- C. Edcouch - PFI Water Improvements - Change order #1 request for an increase in funds
- D. City of Palmview - PFI - Street Improvements FY 1997 - Approval of a Professional service Contract with Salinas and Associates
- E. Approval of Professional Service Engineering Contract - City of Alamo Youth Centers, Year 8, 1995
- F. Approval of Subrecipient Agreement with Monte Alto Fire Department - Pct. #1 Station - Equipment Year 10, 1997
- G. Request to amend Subrecipient Agreement for extension of time to utilize funds (Precinct Three Youth Services)
- H. Request to amend Subrecipient Agreement for extension of time to utilize funds (City of Palmview - Youth Services)
- I. Approval of Amendment to TWDB Contract #94-483-051 Rancho Sanchez Project for time extension to April 10, 1998

11/A

Anthony Covacevich, the Urban County Director, announced that they had a budget amendment for the City of Alton. He stated that the City of Alton was amending Years 9 and 10 as presented in the exhibit. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the request as presented

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

## 11/B

Mr. Covacevich reported that the City of Alton was requesting approval of a construction contract for a Parks & Recreational Facility and it was for work at a soccer field. The construction contract was with A & E Paving Construction at \$12,552.00, who was the low bidder amongst four. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the construction contract as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

## 11/C

Mr. Covacevich stated that the City of Edcouch was requesting approval of change order #1 under their PFI Water Improvements line item. The change order is for an increase in the contract with U.S. Filters and the amount of the change order is for an increase of \$274.88 and it is necessary because they hit a gas line. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

## 11/D

The City of Palmview was requesting approval of a professional service contract with Salinas and Associates. This was for a Street Improvements Project FY 1997. The amount of the contract is for \$50,000.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

## 11/E

Mr. Covacevich stated that the next item was for approval of a professional services contract. It was for an engineering contract for the City of Alamo Youth Centers. The contract was with CEC Consulting Engineers and the amount is for \$1,500.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

## 11/F

The following item was for approval of a subrecipient agreement with Monte Alto Fire Department and it was with monies out of Precinct One.

The funds would be used for equipment purchase for the fire department and the contract amount was for \$10,000.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Arcaute to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

11/G

Mr. Covacevich reported that Precinct Three was requesting an extension for the Boys & Girls Club of Palmview due to the fact that the bulk of their activities occurs in the Spring. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

11/H

This was another request of an extension on another subrecipient agreement and it is another agreement with the Boys & Girls Club of Palmview and this contract was with the City of Palmview. The extension was being requested for the same reason as the previous item. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

11/I

Mr. Covacevich announced that they were requested approval of an amendment to the Texas Water Development Board contract #94-483-051, which was the Rancho Sanchez Project. They were requesting an extension of time through April 10, 1998 and they will be calling for a change in their project as well as looking for other resources to complete this project. A motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the extension.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit U)

**ITEM 12. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT:**

A. Hidalgo County:

1. Requesting authority to advertise an RFP for "Administrator of Cafeteria Plan"

- B. Hidalgo County Precinct No. 1:
  - 1. Requesting approval of service contract for Pothole X-press
- C. Hidalgo County Precinct No. 1 & 4:
  - 1. Recommending Bid Award for "Landfill Access" Precinct 1 & 4 for a bid price of \$24.00 a ton plus \$1.25 a ton for Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission Flow charge to BFI Waste Systems of North America, Inc.
  - 2. Approval of contract for "Landfill Access" Precinct 1 & 4 to BFI Waste Systems of North America, Inc.
- D. Hidalgo County Wide Shop
  - 1. Recommending award of bid for "One (1) 1997 or newer Extended Cab ½ ton pick-up truck"
- E. Hidalgo County Library System
  - 1. Requesting authority to advertise for "The purchase of library books, videos, and other materials"
- F. Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department:
  - 1. Requesting exemption from competitive bidding requirements for Professional Services/Consulting Services regarding operational management of the Sheriff's Department
  - 2. Requesting approval of a professional services contract with Dr. Philip A. Ethridge, PH.D
- G. Hidalgo County HIDTA Task Force:
  - 1. Requesting authority to purchase "One (1) 1999 Tahoe Utility Vehicle" and "One (1) 1998 Full size Passenger Vehicle" through the Interlocal Agreement with the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC). The total price of the Tahoe is \$31,451.84 which includes the H-GAC administration fee and delivery charge. The total price on the full size passenger vehicle is \$23,978.61 which includes the H-GAC administration fee and no delivery charge.
- H. Hidalgo County Treasurer's Office:
  - 1. Requesting various office equipment be declared surplus

12/A

Martha Salazar, the Purchasing Director, came before the Court requesting authority to advertise for RFP for Administrator for the Cafeteria Plan. Mrs. Salazar explained that they had had benefit providers come forward with additional benefits under the Cafeteria Plan and it was discovered that the last administrator that the County had was Ted Parker and his term ended and a Mr. Peterson took over, but there was no contract in place. She went onto explain that this Court at one time had mentioned that some qualifications be drawn up for this position. Commissioner Rosel wanted to know if this administrator would be getting paid under the County and Mrs. Salazar replied that she did not know as she could not locate a contract for Mr. Parker, all she know was that in the minutes it reflected that the contract was awarded to him. Steve Crain, the County Legal Counsel, informed the Commissioners that the administrator was

not involved in the selling of the insurance products under the plan. The job of the administrator was to make sure that the plan, as administered, the paperwork of the plan and what happens in the plan complies with all applicable laws, especially the internal revenue code. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garces to authorize the advertisement for RFP for Administrator for the Cafeteria Plan for Hidalgo County.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/B

Mrs. Salazar explained that she was requesting approval for the service contract for Potholes X-press. This was a bid that was awarded the previous week for Precinct One. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the contract with Potholes X-press.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/C/1

The next item was a recommendation of a bid award for landfill access and services. The bid opening was February 1<sup>st</sup> and they had only one bidder and this was reviewed by the Precincts. The sole bidder was BFI Waste Systems of North America, Inc. out of La Feria. The bid was for \$24.00 per ton plus a \$1.25 per ton for Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission Flow Charge. A discussion ensued with regards to the amount of the bid versus bids that the County and received on past occasions, Mrs. Salazar did indicated that it was at least \$1.00 higher than previously. In the discussion, Commissioner Rosel recommended that the next time that they go out for bids on this item that it should be on a county-wide basis. A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and seconded by Commissioner Handy to award the contract for Precincts One and Four to BFI Waste Systems of North America, Inc. as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/C/2

A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the contract for landfill access for Precincts One and Four, to BFI Waste Systems of North America, Inc.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/D

Mrs. Salazar was recommending a bid award of one 1997 or newer extended cab ½ ton pick-up truck for County-wide Shop. The bid opening was held on February 18<sup>th</sup> and she was recommending the low bidder of Bert Ogden Motors at a price of \$18,530.00 for a 1998 vehicle. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/E

Mrs. Salazar informed the Court that the Hidalgo County Library System was requesting authorization to advertise for the purchase of library books, videos and other materials. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Arcaute to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/F/1

Mrs. Salazar reported that the Sheriff's Department was requesting an exemption from the competitive bidding requirements for professional services/consulting services regarding operational management of the Sheriff's Department. She stated that the contract would be with Dr. Philip A. Ethridge, Ph.D. and there was a list of services that would be requested of Dr. Ethridge. Mrs. Salazar explained that it was below the \$15,000.00 cap and he would be paid at \$50.00 per hour not to exceed 299 hours. The term of the contract is for one year or the 299 hours, whichever comes first. Commissioner Rosel was interested in what type of services this individual would provide and Roy Quintanilla explained why this position was needed and the services that would be provided. Dr. Ethridge came before the Court and explained why he had approached the Sheriff's Department and what he hoped to accomplish. His services dealt more with finding the reason for the overpopulation at the jail and how to better utilize the patrols and the staff. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the exemption from the competitive bidding requirement for the operation management of the Sheriff's Department, under professional services.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/F/2

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the consulting services agreement with Dr. Philip Ethridge, Ph.D. as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/G

Mrs. Salazar explained that the Hidalgo County HIDTA Task Force was requesting authority to purchase one 1999 Tahoe utility vehicle and one 1998 full-size passenger vehicle through the interlocal agreement with the Houston-Galveston Area Council. She indicated that the total price for the Tahoe would be \$31,451.84 and the total price on the full-size passenger vehicle would be \$23,987.61. Both of these prices include the H-GAC administration fee and no delivery charges were included. A motion was made by Commissioner Garces and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

12/H

Mrs. Salazar informed the Commissioners' Court that the Hidalgo County Treasurer's Office was requesting that various office equipment be declared surplus. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.  
(See Exhibit V)

ADD.1. PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

A. Subdivision:

1. Villa San Miguel Phase III - Pct. 2

A motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Garces to approve the subdivision as requested.

MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners' Court, a motion was made by Commissioner Arcaute and seconded by Commissioner Rosel that said meeting be hereby adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED.

