

COUNTY OF HIDALGO COMMISSIONERS' COURT

**BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 4th day of
May,
1999 after notice duly having been given, a Special Meeting of
the Commissioners' Court and the Drainage District #1 Board
was begun and holden in the Commissioners' Courtroom, in the
County Administration Building, in the City of Edinburg,
County of Hidalgo, State of Texas, with the following being
members of said Court:**

**HONORABLE JOSE ELOY PULIDO
COUNTY JUDGE**

**HONORABLE SYLVIA HANDY
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 1**

**HONORABLE HECTOR (TITO) PALACIOS
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 2**

**HONORABLE JUAN ROSEL
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 3**

**HONORABLE OSCAR L. GARZA, JR.
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 4**

and where the following proceedings were had to-wit:

COMMISSIONERS' COURT

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

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEM 1. ROLL CALL

The County Judge called the roll and announced that all members of the Commissioners' Court were present.

NO ACTION.

ITEM 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Judge Pulido asked Anthony Covacevich, Urban County Director, to lead the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance.

NO ACTION.

ITEM 3. PRAYER

Dairen Cedillo, Chief of Staff to the County Judge, gave the invocation.

NO ACTION.

ITEM 4. OPEN FORUM

The County Judge then asked if there was anyone who would like to address the Court in open forum. No one responded.

NO ACTION.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

(See Exhibit A)

ITEM 2. LINE ITEM TRANSFERS:

- A. Planning Department - \$5.85
- B. District Attorney - \$300.00
- C. Sheriff Department – Jail - \$2,140.95
- D. Library System - \$8,694.00
- E. Constable Pct. #4 - \$200.00
- F. Pct. #3 - Adm. - \$121.54
- G. Constable Pct. #2 - \$15.00
- H. Health Department – Adm. - \$800.00
- I. Health Department – Sanitation - \$4,000.00
- J. Pct. #2 - County Shop - \$300.00
- K. Warrant Officers - \$395.91
- L. Pct. #4 - Paved/unpaved - \$3,000.00

(See Exhibit B)

ITEM 3. COUNTY TREASURER:

- A. Approval of Investment Brokers and Dealers List

(See Exhibit C)

ITEM 4. URBAN COUNTY:

- A. HOME “First-Time Homebuyer Contract Agreement” and Letter of Commitment to Mortgage Company (3 families)
- B. Extension on “Letter of Commitment” to Mortgage Company on HOME “First-Time Homebuyer Contract Agreement” (2 families)

(See Exhibit D)

ITEM 5. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT:

- A. Hidalgo County Auditor: Requesting approval of maintenance agreement for Copy machine with Jones & Cook effective 4/9/99 to 4/9/00.
- B. Hidalgo County Clerk: Requesting approval of lease agreement for Dictaphone for three (3) years.
- C. Hidalgo County: Requesting approval of service contract for “Fire Extinguisher Inspection Services” effective 5/1/99 to 4/30/00.
- D. Hidalgo County Purchasing Dept: Requesting approval of maintenance agreement for fax machine with IKON Office Solutions effective 4/11/99 to 4/10/00.

- E. Hidalgo County Human Services: Requesting approval of equipment agreement for telephone system with Lucent Technologies effective 3/1/99 to 2/28/00.
- F. Hidalgo County Sheriff's Dept: Requesting approval of lease agreement for "Rental of Vehicle" with CAPPs Van & Car Rental for a period of eight (8) months.

(See Exhibit E)

The County Judge introduced the Consent Agenda and asked if there were any questions and/or comments. Commissioner Rosel indicated that the County Auditor was recommending no action on item 2/F. He also noted that no action would be required on Item 5/B; Items 5/C and 5/F would be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve the Consent Agenda with the changes, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEM 5. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT (FROM CONSENT AGENDA)

- C. Hidalgo County: Requesting approval of service contract for "Fire Extinguisher Inspection Services" effective 5/1/99 to 4/30/00.
- F. Hidalgo County Sheriff's Dept: Requesting approval of lease agreement for "Rental of Vehicle" with CAPPs Van & Car Rental for a period of eight (8) months.

5/C

Martha Salazar, County Purchasing Director, informed the Court that on the service contract for "Fire Extinguisher Inspection Services" this was on a low bidder among three bidders. With respect to the "Rental of Vehicle" for the Sheriff's Department, the concern was on the insurance. This vehicle would be used under a grant. After some discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve Items 5/C and 5/F.

MOTION CARRIED.

ITEM 5. COUNTY AUDITOR:

- A. Budget Amendment - \$ 8,512.50 for travel

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$8,512.50 for travel for the County Auditor's Office.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit F)

ITEM 6. TAX OFFICE:

- A. Approval of new car dealer sub-station Contracts between Hidalgo County and Bert Ogden Stores:
 - 1. Chevrolet Mission
 - 2. Old Nissan McAllen
 - 3. Mazda Mission Motors
 - 4. RV's Mission
 - 5. Mazda Edinburg

Armando Barrera, County Tax Assessor/Collector, informed the Court that he was requesting approval of new car dealer substation contract with Bert Ogden for the following stores: Chevrolet Mission, Old Nissan McAllen, Mazda Mission Motors, RV's Mission and Mazda Edinburg. After some discussion regarding how this would be beneficial to the County, a motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit G)

ITEM 7. HEAD START:

- A. Requesting approval to advertise for bids for a portable building for the San Carlos Head Start Center
- B. Requesting approval to advertise for bids for:
 - 1. USDA Food Equipment
 - 2. Dumpster Services
 - 3. Pest Control
- C. Requesting approval of the 1999-2000 School Calendar
- D. Recommending award of bid for:
 - 1. Air Condition Services
 - 2. Electrical Services
 - 3. Plumbing Services
- E. Requesting approval of contracts for:
 - 1. Air Condition Services
 - 2. Electrical Services
 - 3. Plumbing Services

7/A

Santiago Alanis, Head Start Director, came before the Court requesting authorization to advertise for bids for a portable building for the San Carlos Head Start Center. Commissioner Garza explained the need for these buildings and the County Judge made some recommendations on the possible use of a vacant building owned by the County in the San Carlos area. A discussion ensued with regards to other buildings that were owned by the County that could possibly be used, after which a motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to authorize the advertising for bids for a portable building for the San Carlos Head Start Center.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit H)

7/B

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize the advertising for bids for USDA Food Equipment, Dumpster Services and Pest Control for the County Head Start Program.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit H)

7/C

Mr. Alanis introduced a proposed calendar as recommended by the Policy Council. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve the 1999-2000 Head Start School Calendar.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit H)

7/D&E

Mr. Alanis was also requesting the awarding of bids to the low bidders for Air Conditioning and Electrical Services to Maistro Services and Garza Plumbing for plumbing services. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to award the bids and approve the contracts as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. (Commissioner Garza abstained.)
(See Exhibit H)

ITEM 8. SHERIFF DEPARTMENT:

A. Authorization and approval of Interagency Agreement with the City of McAllen for the Narcotics Task Force Grant

Roy Quintanilha, from the Sheriff's Department, came before the Court requesting approval of an interagency agreement with the City of McAllen for the Narcotics Task Force Grant. He noted that under this grant, there was no cost to the County. A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit I)

ITEM 9. JUVENILE PROBATION:

- A. Approval to appropriate budget in the amount of \$30,468.00 for the purchase of Juvenile Justice Alternative Grant for period of 01/01/99 - 12/31/99

Israel "Buddy" Silva, Juvenile Probation Director, came before the Court requesting authorization to appropriate the budget in the amount of \$30,468.00 for the purchase of Juvenile Justice Alternative Grant for the Period of January 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit J)

ITEM 10. WIC:

- A. Discussion and approval to use County Land to place or set-up a Double Wide Mobile Home in two (2) different locations next to:
1. Progreso Community Center
 2. McAllen Public Health Clinic
- B. Request to eliminate slot number 10, breast-feeding peer counselor and de-obligate funds in the amount of \$2,143.00
- C. Request approval to appropriate the Hidalgo County WIC Program Breast-Feeding Peer Counselor budget increase in the amount of \$ 20,000.00
- D. Request approval to set salaries for 8 Breast-Feeding Peer Counselors effective May 10, 1999

10/A

Norma Longoria, WIC Director, came before the Court requesting authorization to utilize county land to place or set up a doublewide mobile home in

both the Progreso Community Center and the McAllen Public Health Clinic. Judge Pulido brought up the issue of several vacant buildings owned by the County throughout the County that could be used for this purpose. After further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit K)

10/B

Ms. Longoria was also requesting to eliminate slot #10 and to de-obligate funds in the amount of \$2,143.00. She wanted to use these funds in order to increase the hours. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit K)

10/C

A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garza to authorize the appropriation of the Hidalgo County WIC Program Breast-Feeding Peer Counselor budget increase in the amount of \$20,000.00.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit K)

10/D

Finally, Ms. Longoria was requesting authorization to set the salaries of eight breast feeding peer counselors effective May 10, 1999. She mentioned that the salaries were the same but she was increasing the temporaries to a thirty-nine hour workweek. After some discussion regarding the possible increase in the minimum wage, a motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit K)

ITEM 11. HUMAN SERVICES:

- A. Request authorization to create position of Medical Claims Reviewer/Processor
- B. Request authorization to create two clerical support positions to assist in medical claims processing

- C. Set salaries in the amount of \$ 30,000 for medical claims reviewer/processor and \$ 13,743.53 each for clerical support positions
- D. Request authorization to advertise for computer software with the capability to process in-house Indigent Health Care Claims
- E. Approval of line-item transfer from 9-010-444-300.82 (contractual services) to salaries and fringes and office equipment

11/A

Rudy De La Viña, Human Services Director, came before the Court requesting authorization to create the position of Medical Claims Reviewer/Processor. This was to process the Indigent Health claims in-house. A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit L)

11/B

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize the creation of two clerical support positions to assist in processing of medical claims.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit L)

11/C

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to set the salaries of the medical claims reviewer/processor at \$30,000 and the clerical support positions at \$13,743.53 each.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit L)

11/D

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to authorize the advertising for bids for computer software with the capability to process in-house Indigent Health Care Claims.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit L)

11/E

Mr. De La Viña was also requesting approval of a line item transfer from contractual services to salaries and fringes in the amount of \$57,725.17. A

motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit L)

ITEM 12. HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

- A. Request approval to appropriate the Health Department Program Income for the period of 01/01/99 - 12/31/99:
1. Health Department Administration budget - \$ 208,215.00 - Acct. #9-161-441-100
 2. TDH Immunization Program Income budget - \$ 96,040.00 - Acct. #9-161-441-830
 3. TDH T.B. Elimination Program Income budget - \$ 21,081.00 - Acct. #9-161-441-820
- B. Approval of Affiliation Agreement between Hidalgo Independent School District and Hidalgo County Health Department (Hidalgo Clinic)

12/A

J. Michael Keenan, Health Director, came before the Court requesting authorization to appropriate the Health Department Administration budget in the amount of \$208,215.00; the TDH Immunization Program Income budget in the amount of \$96,040.00 and the TDH T.B. Elimination Program Income budget in the amount of \$21,081.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit M)

12/B

After a discussion regarding the issue of liability, a motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve an affiliation agreement between the Hidalgo ISD and the Hidalgo County Health Department.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit M)

ITEM 13. CONSTABLE PCT. #2:

- A. Authorization for the County Auditor to deduct union dues through County Payroll

13/A

Sergio Hinojosa, Deputy Constable for Precinct Two, came before the Court requesting the Court's authorization for the County Auditor to deduct union dues for the South Texas Deputy Constable Union through the County payroll. After some discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit N)

ITEM 14. PCT. #4:

- A. Request authorization to accept cost-share funds from Bar V Subdivision
(Located in Pct. 4)

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Handy to accept the cost share funds in the amount of \$2,000.00 from the residents of Bar V Subdivision.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit O)

ITEM 15. URBAN COUNTY:

- A. Approval of a Resolution authorizing the Urban County Program to submit the FY 1999 Consolidated Plan Strategy and One Year Action Plan for CDBG, HOME & ESG funding
- B. Approval of an Order for the 1998-1999 (FY) Community Development Funds
- C. Approval of Program Amendments - Pct. #3 Year 9 (1996)
- D. Approval of Change Order No. 1 for Rio Valley Construction - Hidalgo County Pct. #2 - Parks and Recreational Facilities - 1996, 1997 and 1998 (Urban County Years 9, 10 & 11)
- E. Approval of a Professional Service Agreement with Flores Engineering, Inc. - City of Peñitas - Parks and Recreational Facilities - Urban County Year 10 (1997)

15/A

Anthony Covacevich, Urban County Director, came before the Court requesting approval of a resolution authorizing the Urban County Program to submit the FY 1999 Consolidated Plan Strategy and One Year Action Plan for CDBG, HOME and ESG funding. He mentioned that a public hearing had been held at the previous meeting in conjunction with the resolution. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit P)

15/B

Mr. Covacevich reported that this item would allow the County Judge, the Chief of Staff, the Urban County Director and the Urban County Program Monitor to sign requests for payment from the Texas Department of Community Affairs on the Colonia Grant funds. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit P)

15/C

Precinct Three was requesting approval of program amendment under their UCP Year 9 funds. The amendment is to the work plan to include an additional ½ mile on Los Ebanos Road and ½ mile on Bentsen Palm Drive. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit P)

15/D

Precinct Two was requesting approval of change order number one on a contract with Rio Valley Construction in the amount of \$489.00 and an additional forty-five days. A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit P)

15/E

The City of Peñitas was requesting approval of a professional service agreement with Flores Engineering Inc. in the amount of \$18,000.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit P)

ITEM 16. OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING:

- A. Discussion and possible action to approve the submission of the Welfare-to-Work Competitive Grant Application to the United States Department of Labor in the amount of \$ 4,126,321.
- B. Discussion and possible action to approve the submission of the Program Year 1999 Job Training Partnership Act - Employment Service Plan Modification. The estimated allocations are Title IIA \$7,977,749, Title IIC \$ 1,358,650 and Title III \$ 1,844,346 for a total amount of \$ 11,180,745.
- C. Discussion and possible action to approve the Release of Request for Proposals for *Out-of-School* Youth Services Under JTPA Title IIC
- D. Discussion and possible action to approve the Release of Request for Proposals for *In-School* Youth Services under JTPA Title IIC
- E. Discussion and possible action to approve the Release of Request for Proposals for Training Services for Economically Disadvantaged Adults and Dislocated Workers under JTPA Titles IIA and III
- F. Discussion and possible action to approve the Release of a Request for Information from Training Vendors for the Individual Referral Program Under JTPA Titles II and III
- G. Discussion and possible action to approve the Welfare-to-Work Proposals for Award in the amount of \$2,126,002.
- H. Discussion and possible action to approve the JTPA Summer Youth Employment and Training Program (Title IIB) Proposals for Award in the amount of \$4,897,514
- I. Discussion and possible action to approve the Proposals to provide training in heavy equipment operation and maintenance:
 - 1. Proposals from Texas A & M and Tri-State Trucking in the amount of \$ 453,000.
 - 2. In-House Training Component in the amount of \$ 886,081.
- J. Discussion and possible action to terminate a Private Industry Council Member
- K. Discussion and possible action to approve and authorize the creation of a temporary position and set salary plus fringe benefits for the OET
- L. Discussion and possible action to approve the County of Hidalgo Office of Employment and Training's Amended Organizational Chart

16/A

Dick Dickinson, OET Executive Director, came before the Court to request authorization to submit the Welfare-to-Work Competitive Grant application in the amount of \$4,126,321.00. He added that this grant did not require a match and it targeted people within the empowerment zone for the creation of infrastructure. After a discussion regarding what area constituted the empowerment zone, a motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit Q)

16/B

Mr. Dickinson was also requesting authorization to submit the Program Year 1999 Job Training Partnership Act Employment Service Plan Modification. He added that the estimated allocations under this plan are as follows: Title IIA \$7,977,749.00 Title IIC \$1,358,650.00 and Title III \$1,844,346.00 for a total amount of \$11,180,745.00. He added that this did not include the Summer Youth IIB monies. After a brief explanation of each program, the de-obligation of certain funds from the local program regarding the Haggar employees, a motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit Q)

16/C

Mr. Dickinson was also requesting approval on the Release of Request for Proposals for *Out-of-School* Youth Services Under JTPA Title IIC. He added that this was modified to include WEA's definition of out-of school in the implementation of the program. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit Q)

16/D

Mr. Dickinson indicated that this was the same as the previous request with the exception that this was for in-school youth services. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the Release of Request for Proposals for *In-School* Youth Services under JTPA Title IIC.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit Q)

16/E

A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Handy to Release of Request for Proposals for Training Services for Economically Disadvantaged Adults and Dislocated Workers under JTPA Title IIA in the amount of \$7,977,749.00 and under Title III \$1,844,346.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit Q)

16/F

A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve the Release of a Request for Information from Training Vendors for the Individual Referral Program Under JTPA Titles II and III.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit Q)

16/G

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve the Welfare-to-Work Proposals for Award in the amount of \$2,126,002.00 subject to pre-award survey and contract negotiations.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit Q)

16/H

Mr. Dickinson was requesting approval of the JTPA Summer Youth Employment and Training Program (Title IIB) Proposals for Award in the amount of \$4,897,514.00 subject to pre-award survey and contract negotiations. He added that this was for CRT and work experience. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve the JTPA Summer Youth Employment and Training Program (Title IIB) Proposals for Award in the amount of \$4,897,514.00 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit Q)

Mr. Dickinson stated that he had a proposal under Title IIC that was sent by a consortium of thirteen school districts in the amount of \$1.3 million to serve 312 children in a limited internship for both summer and year round with Super Splash. After some discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit Q)

16/I

This was for approval to provide training in heavy equipment operation and maintenance. They had received proposals from Texas A & M Extension Service and they were requiring that it include a truck-driving component because of the need to get the equipment to and from the location and thus the proposal from Tri-State Trucking in the amount of \$453,000.00. He added that the in-house training component would be in the amount of \$886,081.00. After

some discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve the proposal as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit Q)

16/J

Mr. Dickinson was also bringing a request from the Private Industry Council to terminate the term of a PIC member as per the PIC by-laws. He added that this member has missed three or more meetings and as per the by-laws can be terminated. The member in question is Ruben Flores. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit Q)

16/K

Mr. Dickinson was also requesting the creation of a temporary position and to set the salary at \$31,782.00 to \$39,686.00 plus fringes for an Assistant Planner. A discussion ensued with regards to some concerns by the County Judge on the process in the temporary employment procedures, after which a motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve the request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit Q)

16/L

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garza to amend the County of Hidalgo Office of Employment and Training's Organizational Chart to reflect this temporary position.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit Q)

ITEM 17. PRESENTATION BY LUISA SAENZ - COALITION FOR VALLEY FAMILIES

Luisa Saenz, representing the Coalition for Valley Families, who made a presentation to request that this County Commissioners' Court serve as the lead entity in applying for a \$1,090,000.00 for a SAFE START Initiative grant. She then went on to explain how these funds if awarded would be utilized and also noted that

no matching funds would be required. A discussion ensued during which Steve Crain, the County legal counsel, indicated that under the State provisions the County might not be able to participate in this endeavor. Commissioner Garza recommended that she discuss this issue with our legal counsel to find out if there was a way for the County to participate in this project. After further discussion, no action was taken on this item at this time.

NO ACTION.
(See Exhibit R)

ITEM 18. COUNTY JUDGE:

- A. Discussion and appointment of member to the Hidalgo County Housing Authority Board for the term May 05, 1999 to May 04, 2001
- B. Approval of Bridge Load Posting Agreement from TX Dot
- C. Designation of open forum on courthouse grounds
- D. Approval of application for Adopt-A-Highway Program between Hidalgo County and Texas Department of Transportation
- E. Budget amendment - Warrant Officers Acct. - \$ 611.00 (for pending fuel invoices from 1997 & 1998)
- F. Approval of Resolution for Expanded Food Nutrition Education Program
- G. Approval of Design Build methodology for construction of new jail facility

18/A

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to appoint Yolanda Chapa to the Hidalgo County Housing Authority Board for the term of May 05, 1999 through May 04, 2001.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit S)

18/B

Tozi Gutierrez, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge, was requesting approval of a Bridge Load Posting Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation. Under this agreement TX Dot would provide the signs for load posting the County would install them and maintain them. A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit S)

18/C

Valde Guerra, Administrative Assistant to the County Judge, stated that in the past this County has had different entities approach the Court for space within the Courthouse grounds to present various forums. Judge Pulido indicated that an area needs to be designated for open forums. Steve Crain, County legal counsel, noted that an area had to be limited to grounds not within the Courthouse structures and a notice would have to be filed with the County Judge's Office. Mr. Guerra was proposing the area east of the Courthouse in front of the Memorial structure. Mr. Crain added that this area would have to be marked out specifically. Commissioner Palacios recommended that this item be brought at a later date and Mr. Guerra indicated that this item was being brought up at this time because there was a request by Mr. Tony Espinoza for "National Prayer Day" which would be held tomorrow. Mr. Crain pointed out that an area and policies would have to be established because once this Court granted open forum to one organization then they may not have control over other groups or individuals who seek the open forum on Courthouse grounds. After further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve Mr. Guerra's request subject to him designating the area.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit S)

18/D

Mr. Guerra was also requesting approval of an application for the "Adopt-a-Highway" Program between the County of Hidalgo and the Texas Department of Transportation. Under this agreement the County would utilize probationers to clean a designated area of highway within the County. A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit S)

18/E

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$611.00 for pending fuel invoices from 1997 and 1998 for the Warrant Officers.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit S)

18/F

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve a resolution for the expansion of the Food Nutrition Education Program.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit S)

18/G

Mr. Guerra was also requesting approval of the design-build methodology for the construction of the new jail facility. He added that on April 19, the bond counsel had faxed a memo with a recommendation by the Commission on Jail Standards to allow this form of construction. Commissioner Garza did not feel that this action should be taken on this item at this time. Judge Pulido stated that this action had to be taken and that a meeting would be called for Friday to discuss another issue that would possibly affect the construction of the proposed Hidalgo County Adult Detention Facility. He felt that if this facility is built and federal prisoners are brought in it would help with some of the cost of construction. After further discussion, it was recommended that a special meeting be set for 2:00 on Friday in order to discuss this issue.

NO ACTION.

(See Exhibit S)

ITEM 19. RIGHT OF WAY:

- A. Authorization for exemption from bidding process - Professional Services
- B. Authorization to enter into Contract: R. Gutierrez Engineering - So. Jackson Rd. Irrigation Line Relocation
- C. Authorization for approval - Change Order No. three (3) - J.E. Saenz & Assoc. - Jackson Rd. Irrigation Line Relocation

19/A

A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Handy to authorize an exemption from the competitive bidding process under professional services for R. Gutierrez Engineering.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit T)

19/B

A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Handy to approve a contract with R. Gutierrez Engineering for the South Jackson Road Irrigation Line Relocation project.

MOTION CARRIED.

(See Exhibit T)

19/C

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve change order number three on a contract with J.E. Saenz & Associates for an additional one hundred fifty days due to unforeseen circumstances.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit T)

ITEM 20. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT:

A. HIDALGO COUNTY

1. Requesting exemption from competitive bidding requirements under Texas Local Government Code, section 262.024 (a)(9)(C)
 - a. State Political Subdivision - Telephone Audit Services (State Contract) and, section 262.024 (a)(4)
 - b. Professional Audit Services - Future Savings Plan
2. Presentation, discussion and possible action to accept negotiated Best and Final Offer (BAFO) from Carolyn Arnold Communications Consultant (CACC) for
 - a. Telephone Audit Services, through the resolution with the State of Texas, under the General Services Commission's State Contract Award Program; and
 - b. Future Savings Plan
3. Requesting approval of contracts for
 - a. Telephone Audit Services and
 - b. Future Savings Plan
4. Requesting authority to advertise & approval of specifications as attached hereto for "A/C Plumbing & Electrical Services."
5. Presentation of evaluation and scoring grid, discussion and action on Commissioner's Court ranking of top three (3) firms submitting Statements of Qualification in answer to County's RFQ for Health Benefits Consultant Services.
6. Authority for purchasing to proceed to negotiate a best and final draft contract with the number one ranked firm.
7. Requesting approval of contract with Tropical Texas Center for Mental Health and Retardation.

B. HIDALGO COUNTY PRECINCT NO. 1

1. Requesting authority to award "Hauling of Rap Material Services" to low bidder.

C. HIDALGO COUNTY PRECINCT NO. 3

1. Requesting authority to advertise for "Crushed Caliche-East of Abraham."

D. HIDALGO COUNTY PRECINCT NO. 4

1. Requesting authority to advertise for “Hauling Services of All Road Materials (Excluding Hot Mix).”
- E. HIDALGO COUNTY HIDTA TASK FORCE
1. Requesting authority to declare court-awarded real estate property surplus and order appointing Special Commissioner for the sale of said property.
- F. HIDALGO COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM –
1. Recommending award of RFP for “Integrated Library Catalog & Circulation System” to Sirsi Corporation.
 2. Recommending approval of contract for “Integrated Online Library Catalog & Circulation System” to Sirsi Corporation.
- G. HIDALGO COUNTY –
1. Requesting vehicles and various (miscellaneous) equipment be declared surplus
 - a. Hidalgo County Precinct No. 2
 - b. Hidalgo County Tax Office-Assessing
 - c. Hidalgo County Wide Shop
- H. Hidalgo County’s Health Plan

20/A/1/a

Martha Salazar, County Purchasing Director, indicated that this was a request for an exemption from the competitive bidding requirements under Texas Local Government Code Section 262.024(a)(9)(C) for telephone audit services. Under this program, a study would be done on past telephone services to find out if the County was over charged or charged for any services that the County did not contract out for. The fee is for 30% of the returned funds once they are deposited with the County. This exemption would be for Carolyn Arnold Communications Consultant. A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/1/b

Mrs. Salazar stated that this next request was for a similar service under a future savings plan. The County Judge indicated that no action would be required on this item at this time.

NO ACTION.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/2/a

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to accept the best and final offer from Carolyn Arnold

Communications for telephone audit services through the resolution with the State of Texas, under the General Services Commission's State Contract Award Program.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/2/b

No action was required on this item at this time.

NO ACTION.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/3/a

A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve a contract with Carolyn Arnold Communications for telephone audit services.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/3/b

No action was required on this item at this time.

NO ACTION.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/4

A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize the advertising for bids for "A/C, Plumbing and Electrical Services" for the County of Hidalgo.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/5

Mrs. Salazar reported that she was presenting the evaluation and scoring grid for discussion and possible action by this Commissioners' Court for the ranking of the top three firms who submitted statements of qualifications for Health Benefits Consultant Services. A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Handy to rank Edwards Risk Management and to enter into negotiations with them.

MOTION CARRIED. (Commissioners Rosel and Garza voted against the motion)
(See Exhibit U)

Steve Crain, County legal counsel, pointed out that the statute dictated that this Court rank the firms and then proceed to enter into negotiations in the order designated. After some discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Handy to rescind the previous action.

MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was then made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garza to accept the ranking as evaluated by the Purchasing Department follows: number one - Edwards Risk Management and number two - Alton, Cook & Company.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/6

A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to proceed with negotiations for a best and final draft contract with the number one ranked firm, Edwards Risk Management, for Health Benefits Consultants Services.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/A/7

Mrs. Salazar was also requesting approval of a contract with the Tropical Texas Center for Mental Health and Mental Retardation for psychotropic drugs for indigent program participants that are referred by physicians. A motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Garza to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/B

After a discussion regarding the discrepancy in rates between the Precincts, a motion was made by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to award the bid for "Hauling of Rap Material Services" for Precinct One to the low bidder being M-C Hauling Services.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/C

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Garza to authorize the advertising for bids for “Crushed Caliche-East of Abram” for Precinct Three.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/D

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize the advertising for bids for “Hauling Services of All Road Materials (Excluding Hot Mix)” for Precinct Four.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/E

A motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve a request by the HIDTA Task Force to authorize the declaration of court awarded real estate property as surplus and approval of an order appointing Godfrey Garza as Special Commissioner for the sale of said property.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/F/1

A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Garza to award an RFP for “Integrated Library Catalog & Circulation System” to Sirsi Corporation for the Hidalgo County Library System.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/F/2

A motion was made by Commissioner Rosel and seconded by Commissioner Palacios to approve a contract with Sirsi Corporation for the “Integrated Library Catalog & Circulation System” for the Hidalgo County Library System.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/G/1

Mrs. Salazar was also requesting that no action be taken on Items G/1 and G/3 with respect to the vehicles. She was, however, requesting the declaration of certain pieces of equipment from the Hidalgo County Precinct Two as surplus. A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/G/2

A motion was made by Commissioner Palacios and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to authorize the declaration of various pieces of equipment from the Hidalgo County Tax Office as surplus.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit U)

20/G/3

Mrs. Salazar reported that no action would be required on this item at this time.

NO ACTION.
(See Exhibit U)

20/H

Mrs. Salazar stated that she had placed this item on the agenda due to some concerns that were voiced previously, but since they were now negotiating a contract with a contractor she was recommending that no action be taken. Judge Pulido requested that this item be added to the special meeting set for Friday.

NO ACTION.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

DRAINAGE DISTRICT

The Honorable Jose Eloy Pulido, 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

The County Judge introduced the Consent Agenda and asked if there were any questions and/or comments. They're being none, a motion was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Commissioner Rosel to approve.

MOTION CARRIED.
(See Exhibit)

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEM 1. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT:

A. Hidalgo County's Health Plan

Mrs. Salazar reported that no action was required on this item and it would be placed on the special meeting to be held on Friday.

NO ACTION.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

They're being no further business to come before said Court, the meetings of the Commissioners' Court and the Drainage District #1 Board are hereby adjourned.

JOSE ELOY PULIDO _____
COUNTY JUDGE

SYLVIA HANDY _____
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 1

HECTOR (TITO) PALACIOS _____
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 2

JUAN ROSEL _____
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 3

OSCAR L. GARZA _____
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 4

Dated this the 3rd day of January, 2000.

JUAN D. SALINAS, III, County Clerk
Hidalgo County, Texas

By: _____
Jennifer Castillo, Deputy

Minutes approved by the Commissioners' Court and the Drainage District
#1 Board on the 10th day of January, 2000.