

SPECIAL MEETING – NOVEMBER 29, 2002

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 29th day of Nov., A.D., 2002, there was begun and held a **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Hidalgo County, Texas, wherein the following members thereof were present, to-wit:

HONORABLE SYLVIA HANDY	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1
HONORABLE HECTOR (TITO) PALACIOS	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2
HONORABLE JOSE FLORES	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3

and **J.D. SALINAS, COUNTY CLERK & EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT** of Hidalgo County, Texas, wherein the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

**COUNTY OF HIDALGO
JOSÉ ELOY PULIDO
COUNTY JUDGE**

NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, that a SPECIAL MEETING of the Commissioners' Court will be held on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2002 at 9:45 A.M., in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Administration Building, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas, discussion and possible action relating to the following business will be transacted:

1. Roll Call

All Members of the Court were counted present, with the exception of Judge Pulido, and Commissioner Garza.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Handy called on Paul Vazaldua to lead the Court and Audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Prayer

Paul Vazaldua led the Court and Audience in Prayer.

4. Open Forum

No presentations made under Open Forum.

5. Indigent Defense Program: (SEE EXHIBIT A)

A. Authorization to submit application for Discretionary Indigent Defense Grant Program (Texas Task Force on Indigent Defense)

Paul Vazaldua stated for the Record as per Commissioner Palacios' request: *The statute was very clear in telling us how they wanted a fair and impartial selection of attorney's. They require certain qualifications being met prior to an attorney being appointed to an indigent defendant. The Board of Judges and Commissioners' have to approve the fee schedule. Majestration has to occur within 48 hours of the arrest. There are situations where the JP's are not available to go to the jail to do majestration. In Phase I, we are working on is implementing a video conferencing system. Phase II will encompass the pretrial services coordinators, and the compliance monitor, and then the actual District and Court-at-Law Judges to do majestration at the jail. They will also serve as majestrate on a rotation basis. Misdemeanors/Pre-Trial Diversion: In looking at other County's systems, the Pre-Trial diversion system is one that collects a lot of fees.*

On motion of Commissioner Palacios, seconded by Commissioner Flores, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval.

B. Approval of cash match

NO ACTION taken on this item.

C. Approval of Resolution

On motion of Commissioner Flores, seconded by Commissioner Palacios, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval.

On motion of Commissioner Palacios, seconded by Commissioner Flores, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval to adjourn this day's meeting.

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

JOSE ELOY PULIDO ABSENT
COUNTY JUDGE

SYLVIA HANDY _____
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 1

HECTOR (TITO) PALACIOS _____
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 2

JOSE FLORES _____
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 3

OSCAR L. GARZA JR. ABSENT
COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 4

Dated this the 29th day of November, 2002

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

By: _____
Priscilla Torres, Deputy

Minutes approved by the Commissioners' Court and the Drainage District #1 Board on the _____ day of _____ 2002.