

SPECIAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 3rd day of September A.D., 2024, 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 RICHARD F. CORTEZ	HIDALGO COUNTY JUDGE
HONORABLE DAVID FUENTES	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1
HONORABLE EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2
HONORABLE ELLIE TORRES	COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4

and ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR., COUNTY CLERK & EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT of Hidalgo County, Texas, wherein the following proceedings were had, to-wit:



**AGENDA
CC REGULAR
HIDALGO COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT
MEETING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024
10:00 A.M.**

NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, that a SPECIAL MEETING of the Commissioners Court will be held in the Commissioners Courtroom of the Administration Building, 100 E. Cano, 1st floor, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas. Discussion and possible action relating to the following business will be transacted:

In accordance with Section 551.127, NOTICE is hereby given that a physical quorum, including the presiding officer/member, will be present at the specified meeting location. Some members of the governing body and/or government officials may participate via videoconference.

Members of the public are encouraged to watch the meetings online, at: www.hidalgocounty.us/HClive

1. Roll Call (Audio Reference 05m:14s)

Judge Richard F. Cortez called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.
All members of the Court were present during the roll call, except Commissioner Everardo "Ever" Villarreal.
Commissioner Everado "Ever" Villarreal was absent from this meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance (Audio Reference 05m:31s)

Veteran Robert Treviño, with the Sheriff's Office, led the Court in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Prayer (Audio Reference 06m:14s)

Director of the Planning Department, Anthony Uresti, offered the prayer.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda (Audio Reference 07m:17s)

The Court proceeded with the discussion and approval of the Consent Agenda.
See the consent agenda for the action taken.

5. Approval of Awards/Recognitions:

A. AI-96589 Approval of Proclamation Recognizing September 2024 as National Suicide Prevention Month. (Audio Reference 07m:59s)

Kimberly Cruz, with the County Judge's Office, read the Proclamation Recognizing September 2024 as National Suicide Prevention Month.

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 2, EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 4, ELLIE TORRES, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on agenda item 5.A.

Vote: 4 - 0 -Unanimously

Nicolas Zepeda, with the City of Pharr Police Department Mental Health Unit, expressed his gratitude towards the Court for recognizing September 2024 as National Suicide Prevention Month and for creating awareness of suicide prevention.

6. Open Forum (Audio Reference 15m:29s)

Open Forum Participant, Fern McClagherty, came before the Court to express her concerns on the 2025 proposed budget tax rate.

No action was taken on Agenda Item 6.

7. District Attorney's Office:

B. AI-96571 Requesting approval of Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Hidalgo County and Region I to assist and collaborate to provide adult education and literacy instructional services for the general community and their respective constituents at the San Carlos Endowment Center located in Precinct 4. (Audio Reference 48m:02s)

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 4, ELLIE TORRES, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on agenda item 20.B.

Vote: 4 - 0 - Unanimously

C. AI-96572 Acceptance and approval of the Project in accordance with Section 791.014 of the Texas Government Code, in connection to (ICA approved by CC 08/20/24)for the "Southeast Park" project located in Precinct 4. (Audio Reference 48m:27s)

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 4, ELLIE TORRES, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on agenda item 20.C.

Vote: 4 - 0 - Unanimously

21. Budget & Management:

A. AI-96446 1. Submission and discussion of 2024 No New Revenue and Voter Approval tax rates.
2. Discussion of 2024 Planning Calendar.
3. Discussion of 2024 Tax Rates. (Audio Reference 48m:50s)

A public participation form was submitted by Fern McClaugherty for agenda item 21.A. Ms. McClaugherty came before the Court to ask for their consideration in lowering the tax rate to 0.5592.

Director of Budget & Management, Dagoberto Soto, discussed Agenda Items 21.A.1., through 21.A.3.

No action was taken on Agenda Items 21.A.1., through 21.A.3.

4. Record vote on proposed 2024 Tax Rate and schedule public hearing, if applicable. (Audio Reference 48m:50s)

Director of Budget & Management, Dagoberto Soto, stated that the staff recommendation is to maintain the same tax rate of 0.5750 as the previous year.

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 2, EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on agenda item 21.A.4., to maintain the same tax rate of 0.5750.

Vote: 4 - 0 -Unanimously

Pct. No. 1 Commissioner David Fuentes voted aye.
Pct. No. 2 Commissioner Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu voted aye.
Pct. No. 4 Commissioner Ellie Torres voted aye.

The Court then proceeded with a vote of approval for the date scheduled for the public hearing that will take place on September 24, 2024, at 2:00 P.M.

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 2, EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on agenda item 21.A.4. to schedule the public hearing on September 24, at 2:00 P.M.

Vote: 4 - 0 – Unanimously

B. American Rescue Plan Act:

1. AI-96552 Approval of budget amendments as per Exhibit A. (Audio Reference 56m:03s)

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 2, EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on agenda item 21.B.1.

Vote: 4 - 0 – Unanimously

2. AI-96553 A. Discussion, consideration and action to approve the use of ARPA funds on the Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Assistance to the City of Mercedes Water Well Project (ARPA-24-121-367) and include under the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Stormwater System Improvement Program.
B. Approval of the Interlocal Coopertion Agreement between the City of Mercedes and the County of Hidalgo, with authority for the County Judge, as authorized official, to sign the agreement.
C. Approval to update the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Stormwater System Improvement Program. (Audio Reference 56m:21s)

On motion by COMMISSIONER PCT. 1, DAVID FUENTES, seconded by COMMISSIONER PCT. 4, ELLIE TORRES, the Court made a UNANIMOUS vote of approval on agenda items 21.B.2.A., through 21.B.2.C.

Vote: 4 - 0 – Unanimously

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.

Dated this the 3rd day of September, 2024

ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR., County Clerk
Hidalgo County, Texas

By: _____
Daniela E. Garza, Deputy

I, ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR., County Clerk attest that this is an accurate accounting of a proceeding of the Commissioners Court held on September 3, 2024.

Signed this 4th day of September, 2024

ATTEST:
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk
Of the Commissioners Court of
Hidalgo County

By: _____
(Seal) Daniela E. Garza, Deputy