

# Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Meeting

Monday, January 14, 2008 at 9:00 AM  
(approved January 28, 2008)

Call to order by Judge Danny Valdez

Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 9:00 a.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Danny Valdez	County Judge
Frank Sciaraffa	Commissioner, Pct. 1
Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina	Commissioner, Pct. 2
Jerry Garza	Commissioner, Pct. 3
Sergio "Keko" Martinez	Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2008. Present also were Mrs. Imelda Diaz, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

## **Item No. 1. ROLL CALL BY HONORABLE MARGIE RAMIREZ-IBARRA, WEBB COUNTY CLERK**

Mrs. Kristina Ramirez Guerra, Chief Deputy, called role in Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra's absence.

## **Item No. 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **Item No. 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 10, 2007**

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

## **Item No. 4. APPROVAL OF BILLS, PAYROLL, AND MONTHLY REPORTS**

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, explained his monthly report.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve the Auditor's monthly report. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Ms. Delia Perales, County Treasurer, advised the Court that the November report had been submitted until now due to the Holidays.

### **• Road & Bridge Activity Report 2006-2007 by Mr. Jose Luis Ramos**

Mr. Jose Luis Ramos, Road & Bridge, explained his activity report.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve Road & Bridge report. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 5. COMMUNICATIONS**

Com. Sciaraffa had no items under communications.

Com. Tijerina welcomed everyone back from the Holidays. She sent her condolences to the family of Armando Rodriguez and the family of Patricia Ruiz. Com. Tijerina congratulated Com. Frank Sciaraffa on the wonderful dedication of the community center to Congressman Henry Cuellar and the parkway to Com. Sciaraffa. She informed everyone that she has received positive feedback on outcome of the Christmas party that the Court had provided for all Webb County employees. She stated that this was in appreciation to all employees for their hard work.

Com. Garza congratulated Com. Sciaraffa for his ribbon cutting and dedication of the community center as well as the parkway. He advised everyone that in the coming week he would be unveiling the design for the Buenos Aires Community Center. Com. Garza welcomed everyone back from the holidays.

Com. Martinez welcomed everyone back. He congratulated Com. Sciaraffa on the dedication of the parkway. He advised everyone that he is looking forward to working with all department heads this year. Com. Martinez congratulated Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, and Mr. Jim Allison, Allison, Bass & Associates for taking care of the land fill lawsuit filed against the county.

Judge Valdez wished everyone a Happy New Year and advised that he is looking forward to accomplish a lot of projects that are still on the tables. He sent his condolences to the Garcia and Ruiz Family. He stated that he has spoken to Mr. Frank Salinas, Indigent Services, to offer the support on whatever can be done to help the family. He commended Dr. Stern for a tremendous job. Judge Valdez congratulated Com. Sciaraffa on the dedication of the Parkway and Congressman Cuellar for the beautiful facility. He congratulated newly elected mayor Ramon Garza Barrios of Nuevo Laredo.

**Item No. 6. Public Comment - This section provides the public the opportunity to address the Commissioners Court on any items on the Agenda. Members of the public wishing to participate must complete a Witness Card specifying which agenda item they wish to comment on. Each public member will be allowed a total of three (3) minutes within which to make any/all public comments.**

1<sup>st</sup> witness card – Kristina Ramirez Guerra

Mrs. Guerra thanked everyone for their support with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Blanket Drive held by the Webb County Clerks Office. She stated that a lot of families benefited from all the donations.

2<sup>nd</sup> witness card – Eva Delgado

Ms. Delgado stated that she was to speak regarding the Veteran's Museum. She advised the Court to remember that they were hired so that the taxpayer's money could be put to good use.

3<sup>rd</sup> witness card – Jose Diaz De Leon

Mr. Diaz De Leon spoke in favor of the secondary source of water from Dimmit County. He informed that fifteen years ago his niece was born with birth defects and that the doctors had said it was due to the water problem in Laredo. He informed everyone that the river was one of the ten most polluted in the United States.

4<sup>th</sup> witness card – Luis A. Diaz De Leon Sr.

Mr. Diaz De Leon Sr. spoke in favor secondary water source. He stated that there is a lot of good water in Carrizo Springs and it is moving water that flows all the way to the valley. He thanked Com. Martinez for placing this item on the agenda.

5<sup>th</sup> witness card – Manuel Balbutin

Mr. Balbutin stated that he would not be speaking.

**Honorable Danny Valdez, Webb County Judge**

- Item No. 7. Discussion and possible action to proclaim the day of January 26, 2008 as "UETA Jamboozie Day" in Webb County, Texas.**

Ms. Viviana Frank and Mr. Francisco Barrientos among other Board members were present for the reading of the Proclamation.

Judge Valdez read the Proclamation.

**Honorable Frank Sciaraffa, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 1**

- Item No. 8. Discussion and possible action to name a new appointee to serve on the Community Action Advisory Board.**

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to table the item. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza motioned to bring up item #15. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 15. Discussion and possible action to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Laredo to contribute ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$175,000.00) to the construction for the El Eden Recreational Facility and any matters incident thereto; and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.[Requested by the City of Laredo and Honorable Frank Sciaraffa, Commissioner Pct. 1, Account Number; 658-8103-8710-1 One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-One Dollars (\$149,741.00) and Account Number; 723-8103-8710-1 Twenty-Five Thousand Two Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$25,259.00)]**

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Honorable Jerry Garza, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 3**

- Item No. 9. Discussion and possible action to appoint Mr. Daniel Barrera to the Webb County Planning Committee.**

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that it should be Webb County Planning Advisory Committee.

Cmr. Garza advised that Mr. Barrera would replace Dr. Michael Yoder.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 10. Status and presentation on the County/City 3-1-1 project.**

Status report given by Cmr. Garza, Mr. Jaime Alvarado, MIS Director, and Mr. Jerry Castro, AT&T account manager.

Cmr. Garza informed that the 311 project has an anticipated date to go live on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Item No. 11. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchasing agent to solicit proposals for the remediation of the mold infestation and clean up of the Webb County Courthouse, and any matters incident thereto.**

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office in the January 14, 2008 Commissioner's Court meeting DVD.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 12. Discussion and possible action to approve the Request for Proposals for the architectural services for the Precinct 3 Northside International Park and to authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit RFQ's for said project.**

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office in the January 14, 2008 Commissioner's Court meeting DVD.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Honorable Sergio "Keko" Martinez, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 4**

**Item No. 13. Presentation by Representatives from the Dimmit Utility Water Supply Corp ("DU") regarding the delivery system and sale of water to Webb County, Texas from a secondary water source with discussion and any possible action.**

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office in the January 14, 2008 Commissioner's Court meeting DVD.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to forward all the information presented to the Court's Bond Attorneys so that they can act administratively and schedule a workshop of the Commissioner's Court in the next weeks. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Judge Valdez advised that the Court would take a fifteen minute Media Break.

**(MEDIA BREAK 10:51a.m. to 11:07 a.m.)**

**Webb County Attorney**

**Item No. 14. Discussion and possible action to enter into the following third party funding contracts and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents:**

<b>Contractor Organization</b>	<b>Contract amount</b>
General Fund	
Gateway Community Health	\$150,000.00
Washington Birthday Celebration Association	\$ 8,400.00

Border Olympics, Inc	\$ 8,400.00
Webb Soil and Conservation District #337	\$ 5,000.00
Webb County Historical Commission	\$ 4,200.00
South Texas Council, Inc., Boys Scouts of America	\$ 3,750.00

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, explained that there was going to be an amendment to add a provision on the disclosure information of HEPA and also advised that Gateway Community Health does not receive two funding accounts from the County and that only \$150,000.00 are paid.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 16.** Discussion and possible action to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Maverick County for autopsy services at ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500.00) per autopsy for a One (1) year period beginning January 14, 2008 and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Dr. Corrine Stern, Webb County Medical Examiner]

**Item No. 17.** Discussion and possible action to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Zavala County for autopsy services at ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500.00) per autopsy for a One (1) year period beginning January 14, 2008 and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Dr. Corrine Stern, Webb County Medical Examiner]

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve items #16 and 17 as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 18.** Discussion and possible action to enter into a One (1) year (January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008) Non-Financial Interlocal Agreement with AARP Foundation to provide job training to senior volunteers at NO COST to the County and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 19.** Discussion and possible action to enter into a House Bill 1196 (80th Legislature Session) Agreement with the State of Texas, through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, concerning the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) wherein Webb County agrees to repay the State of Texas any CEAP monies, with interest, given to Webb County if it knowingly violates 8 U.S.C. §1324(f) (employing undocumented workers) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 20. Discussion and possible action to authorize and approve a monthly rental increase from EIGHTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$85.00) a month TO NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$95.00) a month on a storage unit (Lease Unit TD27) leased to the Community Action Agency (CAA) by Townlake Hillside Self Storage, LLC, and authorizing the county judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director, Account Number; 920-4200-6012]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 21. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Three (3) year (January 14, 2008 through January 13, 2011) lease agreement with Toshiba Business Solutions of Texas concerning the lease of a Toshiba ES-720 copier located in the office of the Community Action Agency at a monthly cost of TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR DOLLARS AND ELEVEN CENTS (\$264.11) for a total cost of NINE THOUSAND FIVE-HUNDRED SEVEN DOLLARS AND NINETY-SIX CENTS (\$9,507.96) over the term of the agreement and with a one time document fee of SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$75.00) and authorizing the county judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director, Account Number; 920-4200-6014]

Item No. 22. Discussion and possible action to enter into a One (1) year (January 14, 2008 through January 13, 2009) maintenance agreement with Toshiba Business Solutions of Texas concerning a Toshiba ES-720 Copier located in the office of the Community Action Agency at a cost of ONE HUNDED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$180.00) over the term of the agreement and with copy overages being billed at .007700 cents per copy and authorizing the county judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director, Account Number; 920-4200-6014]

Item No. 23. Discussion and possible action to enter into a One (1) year (January 14, 2008 through January 13, 2009) maintenance agreement with Toshiba Business Solutions of Texas concerning a Toshiba ES-850 Copier located in the Auditor's office at a cost of ONE HUNDED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$180.00) over the term of the agreement and with copy overages being billed at .007000 cents per copy and authorizing the county judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Leo Flores, Webb County Auditor, Account Number; 001-0400-5402, Repairs & Maintenance]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve items #21, 22, and 23 as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 24. Discussion and possible action to enter into a One (1) year (January 14, 2008 through January 13, 2009) burglar alarm service and maintenance agreement with LAREDO ALARM to provide burglar alarm services at the Webb County P.A.L. Boxing Gymnasium at a monthly cost of TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$25.00) for a total cost of THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300.00) over the term of the agreement

and with a one-time installation fee of ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$1,150.00) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Rick Flores, Webb County Sheriff, Account Number 001-2001-6014]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 25.** Discussion and possible action to enter into a One (1) year contract (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008) contract with Justice Benefits, Inc. to help the Sheriff apply for federal financial participation for federal reimbursement of the costs of housing illegal aliens at the Webb County Jail at the rate of 11% compensation for amounts up to \$115,000.00 (baseline) and 22% compensation for amounts over \$115,000.00 through Justice Benefit's efforts, and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Rick Flores, Webb County Sheriff, Account Number; 001-0300-3409-1 (Revenue)]

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to move up items #59, 60, and 61. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to also move up items #29 and 30. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Webb County Sheriff's Department**

**Item No. 29.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the County Auditor to approve the expenditure of funds from the South Texas HIDTA Laredo Initiative for FY 2008, effective January 1, 2008 and to end on December 31, 2008.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 30.** Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers:

From:	001-2001-5002	Incentive	3,000
	001-2001-5004	Longevity Pay	5,000
	001-2001-5006	Education Incentive	2,000
	001-2001-5009	Uniform Allowance	2,400
	001-2003-5011	Sick Leave Buy Back	352
	001-2060-5004	Longevity Pay	6,000
	001-2060-5009	Uniform Allowance	3,400
	001-2600-5002	Incentive	1,500
	001-2600-5003	Overtime	9,815

To:	001-2001-5011	Sick Leave Buy Back	15,187
	001-2060-5011	Sick Leave Buy Back	15,792
	001-2600-5011	Sick Leave Buy Back	2,488

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 59.** Discussion and possible action to approve Change Order #2 in the amount of \$17,648.50 from Rhino Builders, LTD for the Sheriff's Substation and Lavatory Facilities, Webb County Jail. [Requested by Rick Flores, Webb County Sheriff, Account Number; 170-2001-8801 Capital Outlay Forfeiture Fund]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 60.** Discussion and possible action to ratify the emergency repair/replace of the Id Transfer Switch for the Webb County Jail Generator by Holt Power Systems in the amount of \$17,799.38. [Requested by Major J.J. Gonzalez, Webb County Sheriff Department, Account Number; 001-2060-6401 Repairs and Maintenance Buildings]

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 61.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchase of a telephone system for the Sheriff's Substation from Summit Communications in the amount of \$15,212.00. [Requested by Rick Flores, Webb County Sheriff, Account Number; 168-2001-6205 Materials & Supplies]

Major J.J. Gonzalez, Sheriff's Department, advised the Court that the account should be #168-2001-6224 Minor Tools & Apparatus.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Webb County Tax Attorneys**

**Item No. 26.** Discussion and possible action to accept the county's proportionate share of the proceeds in the sale of two properties that were being held in trust just by the City of Laredo.

Property #1. Cause #1989TXA000093D1 Account # 438-00715-010  
 Property Description N1/3 of 1 BLK 715 ED City of Laredo, County of Webb, Texas  
 Amount Due \$ 1,001.55 Amount Paid \$759.79

Property # 2. Cause #2006TXA000447D1 Account # 324-00048-051  
 Property Description N7.7'-E50' of 5 & S26' of E50'O F 4 BLK 48 ED City of Laredo, County of Webb, Texas  
 Amount Due \$ 2,912.33 Amount Paid \$ 2,623.43

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office in the January 14, 2008 Commissioner's Court meeting DVD.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to waive the P & I on most sales so that the amounts that are lacking can be balanced out. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Constable Ruben Reyes Pct. 2**

**Item No. 27. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers:**

<b>From:</b>	<b>001-2503-6011</b>	<b>Training &amp; Education</b>	<b>104.61</b>
<b>To:</b>	<b>001-2503-5011</b>	<b>Sick Leave Buy Back</b>	<b>104.61</b>

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Constable Annette Munoz Pct. 3**

**Item No. 28. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers:**

<b>From:</b>	<b>001-2501-6011</b>	<b>Training &amp; Education</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>To:</b>	<b>001-2501-6403</b>	<b>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b>	<b>1,500</b>

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Webb County Tax Assessor**

**Item No. 31. Discussion and possible action to approve the following refunds:**

1. \$4,000.64 to IBOC Real Estate as Acct. #557-01668-010 was already paid.
2. \$3,018.37 to LNB, Acct. #946-80003-014, Account deleted as it split into residential condos for 2007; refund to LNB, as they paid 2007.

[Requested by Patricia Barrera, Webb County Tax Assessor, Account Number; 001-2139 & 001-0700-3063]

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Administrative Services Department**

**Item No. 32. Discussion and possible action to finalize procedures for the selection process of the Webb County Engineer, including but not limited to, the scheduling of interviews and applicants.**

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office in the January 14, 2008 Commissioner's Court meeting DVD.

Judge Valdez advised Ms. Cynthia Mares, Administrative Services, to schedule a meeting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> interviews for Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

### Webb County Auditor

Item No. 33. Discussion and possible action to correct agenda item #44 and minutes of the October 22, 2007 meeting from the Medical Examiner wherein the filling of slot #2394 was erroneously identified when in fact the slot number should have been #2232. The effective date of October 22, 2007 and the hourly rate of \$12.02 remain unchanged.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### Community Action Agency

Item No. 34. Discussion and possible action to approve Category "B" Elections to fill a current vacancy as per the Governing Regulations of the Advisory Board of the Webb County Community Action Agency. (The Advisory Board shall be composed of membership that complies with the Community Services Block Grant Issuance #2002-2.3). Election will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, for Representative and Alternate for Area X- El Cenizo in the Cenizo Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 35. Discussion and possible action to approve Category "B" Elections to fill a current vacancy as per the Governing Regulations of the Advisory Board of the Webb County Community Action Agency. (The Advisory Board shall be composed of membership that complies with the Community Services Block Grant Issuance #2002-2.3). Election will be held on Thursday, January 17, 2008, for Representative and Alternate for Area IX-Rio Bravo in the Rio Bravo Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director]

Item No. 36. Discussion and possible action to approve Category "B" Elections to fill a current vacancy as per the Governing Regulations of the Advisory Board of the Webb County Community Action Agency. (The Advisory Board shall be composed of membership that complies with the Community Services Block Grant Issuance #2002-2.3). Election will be held on Thursday, January 24, 2008, for Representative and Alternate for Area VII- in the Santo Nino Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve items #35 and 36 as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 37.** Discussion and possible action to accept \$495,750.00 of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds for FY-2008, issue general orders accordingly, publish a notice of public hearing, and authorize the CAA Executive Director to proceed with any necessary negotiations with the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs; and authorizing the Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director, Fund Number; 920]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 38.** Discussion and possible action to accept additional monies for the Department of Energy Weatherization Program (DOE) from the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs (TDHCA), for FY-2007-2008, in the amount of \$14,574.00 for a total award of \$74,943.00. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director, Fund Number; 912-4206]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 39.** Discussion and possible action to accept additional monies for the Department of Low Income Energy Assistance Weatherization Program (LIHEAP) from the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs (TDHCA), for FY-2007-2008, in the amount of \$6,651.00 for a total award of \$111,708.00. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director, Fund Number; 912-4224]

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 40.** Discussion and possible action to accept TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) from TXU Energy Retail Company to be used to help families that are in financial distress to meet energy related costs essential to their health and welfare. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director, Account Number; 902-4202-6201]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 41.** Discussion and possible action to approve the appointment of Sister Rosemary Welsh, Casa Misericordia as a Community Representative, for Category "C" for the Webb County Community Action Agency Advisory Board, to fill a current vacancy. [Requested by Mike Kazen, Webb County Community Action Agency Director]

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

## Economic Development

- Item No. 42.** Discussion and possible action to accept a grant from the Texas Task Force on Indigent Defense in the amount of \$112,845 for the Webb County Public Defenders Office; and designating the County Judge as the County's Chief Executive Officer and authorized representative to act in all matters in connection with this project.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 43.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the development and submission of an application requesting Three (3) VISTA positions from the National Community Service AMERICORPS VISTA Program in support of the Laredo Family Economic Success Coalition (LFESC) Volunteers In Tax Assistance (VITA) program; and designating the County Judge as the County's Chief Executive Officer and authorized representative to act in all matters in connection with this project.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 44.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the development and submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs for the Colonia Economically Distressed Areas Program in the amount of \$500,000.00; and authorizing the County Judge to act as the County's Executive Officer and authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the County's participation in the Texas Community Development Program.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 45.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the development and submission of a Community Outdoor Outreach Program Grant Application to the Texas Park and Wildlife Department in the amount of \$25,000 with an in-kind contribution amount of \$10,000; and designating the County Judge as the authorized representative of the County to act on behalf of the Webb County Commissioners Court in all matters pertaining to the submission and execution of the grant.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 46.** Discussion and possible action to approve and accept the amended Housing Rehabilitation Program Guidelines utilized by the Webb County Self Help Center and all other Housing Rehabilitation Programs throughout Webb County; and authorize the submission of these amended guidelines to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA).

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Elections Department**

**Item No. 47.** Discussion and possible action to authorize a Joint Primary Election Services Contract by and among the County Democratic Chair, the County Republican Chair, and the County Elections Administrator for the conduct and supervision of the Webb County Joint Primary Elections on March 4, 2008 and the Joint Primary Runoff Elections, if necessary, on April 8, 2008.

**Item No. 48.** Discussion and possible action to authorize and establish the Main and Temporary Branch Early Voting Polling Sites for the March 4, 2008 Joint Primary Elections within Webb County, Texas pursuant to Chapter 85, Texas Election Code.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve items #47 and 48. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Engineer Department**

**Item No. 49.** Discussion and possible action to appoint Mr. Mario Santos Jr., of the Webb County Engineering Department as the provisional Webb County representative to the Board of the Rio Grande River Authority; and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Tony Alderete, Interim County Engineer]

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 50.** Discussion and possible action to approve Change Order #3 to the contract with C. G. Construction for the Medical Examiners Office increasing the contract by \$46,202.36 and adding an additional 30 calendar days for a total construction cost of \$940,904.67 and 246 Calendar days. [Requested by Tony Alderete, Interim County Engineer]

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office in the January 14, 2008 Commissioner's Court meeting DVD.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to authorize Mr. Eloy Ramirez, County Purchasing Agent, Mr. Jose Luis Ramos, Road & Bridge Superintendent, Mr. Raul Elizondo, Facilities Director, and Dr. Corrine Stern, Medical Examiner to work together and see what work can be done in house and eliminate costs. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Planning Department**

**Item No. 51.** Discussion and possible action to approve the issuance of "Certificates of Compliance with Plat Requirements Regarding the Connection of Utilities" to authorize water and sewer service connections pursuant to the provisions of Section 232.028(b), Local Government Code and contingent upon the owner's execution of required affidavits regarding present and future dwellings/structures limitations, uses and sales for the following properties:

**Los Altos Subdivision, Phase I**

- 1) Block 1, Lot 16 (1 dwelling only)
- 2) Block 1, Lot 19 (1 dwelling only)
- 3) Block 2, Lot 3 (1 dwelling only)
- 4) Block 2, Lot 4 (1 dwelling only)
- 5) Block 2, Lot 6 (1 dwelling only)
- 6) Block 2, Lot 9 (1 dwelling only)
- 7) Block 2, Lot 27 (1 dwelling only)
- 8) Block 2, Lot 28 (1 dwelling only)
- 9) Block 7, Lot 9 (2 dwellings only)
- 10) Block 7, Lot 17 (1 dwelling only)

Staff recommends approval of all above-referenced properties as submitted containing 11 dwellings on 10 Lots.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Purchasing Department**

**Item No. 52.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase Upgrade of Plato Learning Program to 4.3 and Software Renewal in the amount of \$6,545.41 from Plato Learning, Inc. for the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program. (J.J.A.E.P) [Requested by Irma Valenzuela, Account Number; 149-1301-6022 Professional Services]

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 53.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase a 2008 LXDH48 Charger Police Unit from Rogers Dodge of Alvin for the trade-in of one 2007 Chevrolet Impala and \$15,474.00 for the District Attorney's Office. [Requested by Gloria Perez, District Attorney's Office, Account Number; 169-1100-8801 Forfeiture Funds]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 54.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to add Brothers Paving (Penitas Pit) to Flexible Base (Caliche) Bid 2008-03 at the following price 4.75 per cubic yard loaded at their pit. [Requested by Jose Luis Ramos, Road and Bridge Superintendent]

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 55.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase a 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan from Planet Dodge (Contract TASB #281-07) in the

amount of \$28,736.00 for the District Attorney's Office. [Requested by Gloria Perez, District Attorney's Office, Account Number; 169-1100-8801 Forfeiture Funds]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 56.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to Lease /Purchase (36 months) a Toshiba E-Studio 720 Digital Copier from Office Communications Systems in the amount of \$264.11 per month for the Community Action Agency Department. [Requested by Mike Kazen Account Number; 920-4200-6014 Equipment Rental]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 57.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase Two (2) XTL2500 Mobile Unit-Astro 925-Remote Mount-UHF 450 MHz from Motorola in the amount of \$6,914.71 (H-GAC Contract price) for the Road and Bridge Department. [Requested by Jose Luis Ramos, Road and Bridge Superintendent, Account Number; 727-8108-8801]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 58.** Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase and to authorize the County Auditor to seek funds for the following equipment for the Medical Examiner Morgue Building:

QTY.	DESCRIPTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT
1	Furniture	Patria	3,810.92
1	Executive Desk	Wittigs	2,535.42
1	Sofa Upholstery	Laura's	689.00
1	Printer	Valcom Computer	356.00
1	Computer Software	SHI-DIR-SDD-198	353.00
1	Computer	DELL-DIR-SDD-192	991.88
1	Screen	C DW-G	69.66
1	Conference Table	Executive	1,325.00
1	Lockers	Executive	2,010.00
1	Chair	Executive	229.00
1	End Table	Executive	145.00
1	Microwave/Refrigerator	Lowe's	723.04
1	Panasonic Phone	Summit Communications	9,200.00
1	P.A. System	Summit Communications	1,800.00
1	Executive Chair	Executive	495.00

GRAND TOTAL 24,732.92

[Requested by Dr. Corrine Stern, Webb County Medical Examiner]

Com. Martinez motioned to table item and have Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, find funding for this equipment. Com. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**Item No. 62. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to retain the services of Francis Villarreal certified appraiser to appraise the Courthouse Annex pursuant to Texas Local Government Code, Section 263.07 Sale or Lease of Real Property through Sealed Bid Procedure. [Requested by Jerry Garza, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 3., Account Number; 001-0109-6022 Professional Services]**

Com. Martinez motioned to table the item and authorize Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, to negotiate the price.

After discussion, Com. Martinez withdrew his motion.

Com. Garza motioned to authorize Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, to negotiate up to \$3,000.00 with Ms. Francis Villarreal on the appraisal services. Com. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Webb County Veterans Office**

**Item No. 63. Discussion and possible action to authorize the filling of slot #2260, Secretary/Receptionist effective January 14, 2008.**

Com. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Com. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

### **Honorable Jerry Garza, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 3**

#### **Addendum No. 1.**

**Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchasing agent to prepare and solicit requests for qualifications for architectural/design services for the Webb County Veterans Museum.**

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office in the January 14, 2008 Commissioner's Court meeting DVD.

Judge Valdez motioned to form a committee composed of Com. Tijerina as Chair, Com. Martinez, Mr. Leroy Medford, Mr. Juan Vargas, and each of the Commissioners to appoint a member so that they can come back with a recommendation. Com. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Com. Garza asked if each Commissioner was to relay their appointee to Com. Tijerina; to which Judge Valdez acknowledged.

Com. Garza motioned to go into executive session. Com. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

**(Closed Session/Executive Session 12: 30 p.m. – 12:51 p.m.)**

Judge Valdez announced that no action was taken during executive session.

- Item No. 64. Discussion and possible action regarding Application of Regional Land Management Services, Ltd. For Permit No. 2286, TCEQ Docket No. 2003-0729-MSW; SOAH Docket No. 582-04-0975 and any matters incident thereto. [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)]
- Item No. 65. Discussion and possible action regarding Cause No. 506-CV-00168, Mario A. Compean et al v. County of Webb, et al; in the Southern District of Texas, Laredo Division; and any matters incident thereto. [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)]
- Item No. 66. Discussion and possible action regarding Cause No. 2006-CVQ-001710-D Killam Ranch Properties, Ltd. v. County of Webb; in the 341st Judicial District Court of Webb County, Texas; and any matters incident thereto. [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)]
- Item No. 67. Discussion and possible action regarding Cause No. 2007-CVQ-00168004, Killam Ranch Properties, Ltd. v. County of Webb; in the 406th Judicial District Court of Webb County, Texas; and any matters incident thereto. [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)]

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, advised the Court that items #64, 65, 66, and 67 were status reports; therefore, no action was necessary.

- Item No. 68. Discussion and possible action regarding Cause No. 2004-CVE-001299-D1, Barbara Jeanne Goodman v. Webb County, Texas in the 49th Judicial District Court of Webb County, Texas; and any matters incident thereto. [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)]
- Item No. 69. Discussion and possible action to retain the services of Allison, Bass & Associates to represent Webb County in Cause No. 2007-CVE-001055-D2; Armando Mata and Melissa Ramos v. County of Webb; In the 111th Judicial District Court of Webb County, Texas; to enter into and ratify a contract for professional services; and to authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)]

Mr. Homero Ramirez advised that no action was needed on item #68 and #69.

**Item No. 70. Adjourn**

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to adjourn meeting. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.