

Official Minutes for Webb County
Commissioners Court Meeting

Monday, August 25, 2008
(approved September 8, 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 22nd day of August 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

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to excuse Cmr. Garza and Cmr. Martinez from being present. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 2. Pledge of Allegiance

Cmr. Garza walked in at 9:01 a.m.

Item No. 3. Approval of Minutes for August 11th, 2008

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

Motion carried 4-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 4. Approval of Bills, Payroll, and Monthly Report

Cmr. Martinez walked in at 9:03 a.m.

Ms. Delia Perales, County Treasurer, explained her monthly report ending July 2008.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 5. Communications

Judge Valdez sent his condolences to the Quiroz Family. He congratulated Ms. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Webb County Clerk and staff on winning the Five Star Award on Customer Service issued by the Laredo Chamber of Commerce.

Comr. Sciaraffa had no items under communications.

Comr. Tijerina sent her condolences to the Quiroz Family. She informed the Court and the public that the Civil Service committee had the final draft on the rules and regulations and invited all elected officials, department heads and county employees to attend the September 3rd meeting being held by the committee for all and any questions pertaining to the civil service implementation. Comr. Tijerina stated that an email was sent to the Court asking them for their two candidates being that the selection of the three civil service commissioners would be coming up. She congratulated Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra and staff on the Customer Service Five Star Award and Ms. Juanita Puente, Santa Teresita Community Center Director, on a successful first annual back to school fair. Comr. Tijerina also wished the best of luck to all teachers and students on a new school year. She informed the Court that she would like to see the Webb County minimum wage be increase from \$8.25 to \$9.00 since the last increase was in June 2002.

Comr. Garza congratulated Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra and staff for winning the Five Star Customer Service Award. He welcomed members of the Laredo Rotary Club as well as all residents that attend the Buenos Aires Community Center.

Comr. Martinez sent his condolences to Mr. Ramon Loera and Mr. Victor Prieto. He explained how any purchases made over \$5000 from the Sheriff's Department will first have to be approved by Commissioner's Court.

Judge Valdez wished the best of luck to all administrators and students on their new school year.

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.

1st witness card – Alejandro Garcia

Mr. Garcia explained how deputies from the Sheriff's Department are being taken away their freedom of speech right and how everyday deputies are being moved around within the department. He urged the Court to find Mr. Andy Vera a job since that was a promise made to him by the Court.

2nd witness card – Kristina Ramirez Guerra

Mrs. Guerra informed the Court and public that the Webb County Clerks Office received the Five Star Customer Service Award issued by the Laredo Chamber of Commerce.

3rd witness card – Andy Ramos

Mr. Ramos spoke on item #16 and thanked Comr. Garza for placing the item on the agenda. He asked the Court for a implementation of a Resolution by Commissioner's Court stating support of the three year appraisals. Mr. Ramos also spoke on item #46 in favor of the Resolution.

4th witness card – Javier Cantu

Mr. Cantu spoke on item #16 and stated that he had a file full of thousands of signatures of residents asking for a place on the ballot for the voting on allowing three year appraisals on properties rather than on a yearly basis.

5th witness card – Cesar Cantu

Mr. Cantu stated that he felt that the Webb County Appraisal unit was operating without guidelines. He explained that the Court states that they are not increasing the taxes; however, every year the taxes go up. He urged the Court to tell the people the truth about what is happening with the taxes.

Judge Valdez motioned to go into Public Hearing.

Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Public Hearing

Monday, August 25, 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 22nd day of August 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**
- Item No. 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- Item No. 3. Open Public Hearing on Tax Increase (pursuant to Chapter 26, Tax Code) by Honorable Danny Valdez, Webb County Judge**

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 4. Public Hearing on Tax Increase. Last year, the Webb County property tax rate was .420055. That rate raised \$53,746,937.00 in revenues, a portion of which was used to fund operations such as law enforcement, judicial functions, county government, health and welfare, recreation and culture, community service, and other sources and uses. This year, Webb County is proposing a property tax rate of .420055. That tax rate will raise \$55,583,730.00, which is \$1,836,793.00 more in revenues than that raised by taxes imposed last year.**

Judge Valdez asked if there was anyone wishing to speak for or against the item.

Mr. Andy Ramos explained that there was difference on how the public notice was published in the Laredo Morning Times and the way the item read and asked that the taxes not be increased and that the Court consider their constituents.

Judge Valdez asked if there was anyone wishing to speak for or against the item.

Judge Valdez motioned to close Public Hearing. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 5. Announcement of the date, time, and place of the Commissioner’s Court meeting at which a vote will be taken on the proposed tax rate.

Ms. Patricia Barrera, Tax Assessor Collector, recommended that the vote be taken on September 8, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Webb County Courthouse, 1000 Houston St. 2nd floor, Laredo, Texas 78040.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve Ms. Barrera’s recommendation. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Judge Valdez motioned to close public hearing. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Judge Valdez motioned to return to the regular meeting. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Cmr. Garza motioned to bring up item #14. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 14. Discussion and possible action to accept a donation from Laredo Rotary Club to Buenos Aires Community Center in the amount of \$500.00.

Presentation of donation by the Laredo Rotary Club.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

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.

6th witness card – Zaturino Ramos Jr.

Mr. Ramos was present representing Martinez, Ramos Golf Management Group. He explained how the public notice for Request For Qualification 2008-02 specifically stated the time and date of the deadline for the submissions. Mr. Ramos explained that in reviewing the meeting, he noticed how one of the finalists submitted a new budget to the Court and was asking the Court to go out for new RFQs or that the finalists be reviewed under the original budget submitted.

7th witness card – Pablo Suneson

Mr. Suneson spoke on items 16 and 19. He stated that it was highly unfair to manipulate the bidding process for the golf course. He stated that the entire process should be discarded and should be reopened.

8th witness card – Elvira Valenzuela

Ms. Valenzuela stated that she appreciated all the efforts done and the promise to keep going forward with the implementation of Civil Service. She explained how everyone has the right to voice their concerns. She informed everyone that she attended the meeting with Sheriff Elect Martin Cuellar in representation of the Union.

9th witness card – Edith Hinojosa

Ms. Hinojosa advised the Court on an incident that occurred with Ms. Juanita Puente at the Santa Teresita Community Center. She asked the Court to review her case and that an investigation be conducted.

10th witness card – Juan Ramirez

Mr. Ramirez spoke on item #48. Mr. Ramirez asked the Court to move the polling place at the 700 block of Juarez which is at a senior citizens home to the LISD building on Main and Houston St. He explained how electioneering is conducted while election time which makes a violation of the Texas Election Code.

Honorable Frank Sciaraffa, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 1

Item No. 7. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-0201-5601	Administrative Travel	1,000
To:	001-0201-6205	Materials & Supplies	1,000

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent .

Honorable Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 2

Item No. 8. Discussion and possible action to review, consider and accept the Webb County Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations proposed by the Civil Service Advisory Committee and to recommend their adoption by the Civil Service Commission upon its formation. [This item is being co-sponsored by Commissioner Sergio "Keko" Martinez, Pct. 4]

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 9. Discussion and possible action to consider waiving the bonding requirements for Bid 2008-29 awarded to Saadria, Inc. in the amount of \$74,750.00 and not to release payment until project completion. [Requested by Juan Vargas, Economic Development; Account 708-8001-8801]

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 10. Status report regarding proposed park in Bruni, Texas. [This item is being cosponsored by The Honorable Danny Valdez, Webb County Judge]

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Cmr. Tijerina suggested that a meeting be held with Mr. Fitzgerald Sanchez, County Engineer, and Judge Valdez for further discussion.

Item No. 11. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfers in order to meet projected utility costs for this fiscal year:

From:	001-0109-6022 - General Operating Professional Services	33,500
To:	001-6100-6201 – Utilites (Quad-City Comm. Ctr.)	27,000
	001-6103-6201 – Utilities (Larga Vista Comm. Ctr.)	6,500

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 12. Discussion and possible action to allow the Webb County Economic Development Department to utilize the 12 ton air conditioning unit and air handler from the temporary morgue at the old detention center to be relocated to the new Nutrition Center Building, located on Hwy. 359.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 13. Discussion and possible action to enter into and ratify a Kids Café Program Partner Agreement with South Texas Food Bank to provide nutritious meals for the children at the Webb County Larga Vista Community Center and authorizing the Webb County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Comr. Garza motioned to move up item #20. Comr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Commissioners Court

Item No. 20. Consideration and adoption of an "ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF "WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2008-A" AND AUTHORIZING OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Comr. Garza motioned to approve items as submitted. Comr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Comr. Tijerina not present.

Judge Valdez motioned to move up item #76. Comr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Webb County Tax Attorneys

Item No. 76. Discussion and possible action to settle and compromise for base tax's on the county's proportionate on the acreage that straddled the unsettled (now settled) La Salle-Webb County Line.

Property # 1 Account 900-32861-001 Property Description Abst 3286-649 S & M 120 Acres

**Proposed Settlement Amount \$ 0.0
Amount Due \$ 10,466.06**

Property # 2 Account 900-90811-002 Property Description Abst 3081-639 S & M 314 Acres

**Proposed Settlement Amount \$0.0
Amount Due \$ 29,130.49**

[Requested by Maria Elena Morales, Cavazos & Morales, LLP, Webb County Tax Attorneys]

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to authorize Ms. Maria Elena Morales, Cavazos & Morales, LLP., Ms. Patricia Barrera, Tax Assessor Collector, and Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, to enter into negotiating settlement of all issues. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Honorable Jerry Garza, Webb County Commissioner Pct. 3

Item No. 15. Discussion and possible action to instruct staff to research and compile report regarding a COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) for the County's Retirement Plan. [Requested by the Webb County Insurance Committee]

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 16. Discussion and possible action to request from the Webb County Attorney a clarification on the opinion from the State Comptroller's Property Tax Division regarding the ability to hold an election for 3 year property appraisals, and any other matters incident thereto.

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Cmr. Garza motioned to request County Attorney to develop a Resolution to be presented in the next Commissioner's Court that stating support by the Court for the three year appraisals. Cmr. Martinez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 17. Discussion and possible action to appoint a representative to the Webb County Rural Rail Transportation District.

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve the item as submitted and that he would have the name of his appointee on the next Commissioner's Court meeting. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 18. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-0203-5601	Administrative Travel	1,000
To:	001-0203-6205	Materials and Supplies	1,000

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

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

Item No. 19. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Webb County Attorney to advise the final four applicants of the Casa Blanca Golf Course Management and Operations Service Request for Qualifications (RFQ2008-02) to proceed under the second phase of the selection process and to submit sealed proposals to the Webb

County Clerk on a date and at a time to be determined by the Court and said proposals should address, at a minimum, the following: Type of management structure (lease, management etc.) terms of revenues, capital improvements, duties and responsibilities based on an anticipated 35,000 annual rounds of golf and projections up to 55,000 annual rounds of golf, length of contract, revenue sharing from all sources (including but not limited to, green fees, cart fees, restaurant, pro-shop, tournaments, banquets, driving range, staffing levels, maintenance), authorizing the County Auditor to disclose financial information regarding revenues and expenditures at the golf course and any matters incident thereto.

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Judge Valdez designated Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, and Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, to negotiate the contract.

Cmr. Tijerina asked if the special meeting could be changed from September 9th to September 10th.

Cmr. Martinez motioned to approve the timeline presented by Mr. Leroy Medford, Executive Administrator to the County Judge, (on file at the Webb County Clerks), approve designators by Judge Valdez and the date change of September 9th to September 10th at 9:00 a.m. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Judge Valdez asked to take a media break.

(MEDIA BREAK 11:52 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.)

Judge Valdez motioned to move up item #31. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0 with Cmr. Martinez and Cmr. Tijerina not present.

Tax Assessor Collector

Item No. 31. Discussion and possible action to approve refund of \$4,940.57 to Ventura Street Inc. dba Rio Grande Plaza/Swiss Chalet Inn, Account 106-0028-010 due to overpayment. [Requested by Patricia A. Barrera, Tax Assessor; Account 001-2139]

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

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Tijerina not present.

County Attorney

Item No. 21. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Two (2) year (September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2010) Cooperative Agreement with the State of Texas, Office of the Attorney General, for the provision of Registry only Court Order information relating to Child Support, Protective Orders, and Family Violence under Title 4 of the Family Code, and local handling of inquiries on and receiving information about Child Support Cases where child support payments are remitted to the Texas Child Support State Disbursement Unit, and authorizing the Webb County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by the Honorable Manuel Gutierrez, District Clerk]

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

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Tijerina not present.

- Item No. 22. Discussion and possible action to enter into an agreement with the State of Texas by Resolution and Order of the Commissioners Court agreeing to the terms and conditions of the Advance Funding Agreement for Bridge Replacement or Rehabilitation Off The State System (CSJ:0922-33-013 NBI Structure No. 22-2400AA179007) Espada Creek on FM 1472 (Mines Road) with the state to perform engineering and construction at a total cost of SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$687,700.00) and a county match, which has been paid, of FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY DOLLARS AND SIXTY CENTS (\$53,640.60) and authorizing the County Judge to sign the agreement. [Requested by Fitzgerald G. Sanchez, Webb County Engineer]

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

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Tijerina not present.

- Item No. 23. Discussion and possible action to enter into Advance Funding Agreement Amendment #1 to the Advance Funding Agreement for Bridge Replacement or Rehabilitation Off The State System entered into on April 24, 2007 (CSJ:0922-33-013 NBI Structures #22-2400AA0179006, 22-2400AA0179007 and 22-2400AA0179005) for structures on FM 1472 (Mines Road) by terminating the agreement and authorizing the County Judge to sign the agreement. [Requested by Texas Department of Transportation]

- Item No. 24. Discussion and possible action to order an exemption to competitive bidding and enter into a Twelve (12) month (August 25, 2008 thru August 24, 2009) professional service agreement with Dr. Jose M. Gonzalez, D.D.S. to provide dental services to inmates for THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) per month or an annual amount of THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$36,000.00) or by fee schedule in Section V. and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Honorable Sheriff Rick Flores, Webb County Sheriff; Account 001-2062-6022 (Professional Services)]

- Item No. 25. Discussion and possible action to approve renewal of Title IV-E County Legal Services Contract #233258109 with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services providing for partial reimbursement to Webb County for expenditures related to the provision of legal services by the Webb County Attorney's Office in child abuse and neglect cases, and to authorize the Webb County Judge to execute all necessary documents related thereto.

- Item No. 26. Discussion and possible action to approve renewal of Title IV-E Child Welfare Services Contract #23358108 with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services requiring Webb County to maintain a Child Welfare Board and providing for the reimbursement for certain expenditures made by Webb County relating to foster children, and authorizing County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

- Item No. 27. Discussion and possible action to enter into a Twelve (12) month boat storage lease with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, at 100.00/month, effective September 1, 2008, and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Item No. 28. Discussion and possible action to enter into a One (1) year (September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009) interlocal agreement with United Independent School District (UISD) for three (3) Justices of the Peace Juvenile Court Coordinators in the amounts of FIFTEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETEEN DOLLARS AND THIRTY-SIX CENTS (\$15,119.36) for the coordinator assigned to J.P. Court Precinct 2, Place 1, SEVENTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-SEVEN DOLLARS AND FOURTEEN CENTS(\$17, 687.14) for the coordinator assigned to J.P. Court Precinct 2, Place 2, and EIGHTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVEN DOLLARS AND NINETY-EIGHT CENTS (\$18,867.98) for the coordinator assigned to J.P. Court Precinct 4, and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by: J.P. Pct. 2, Pl. 1; Pct. 2, Pl. 2; and Pct. 4, County Attorney; Account Number 001-1045-6022, 001-1044-6022, and 001-1042-6022]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve items 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Tijerina not present.

Sheriff's Department

Item No. 29. Discussion and possible action to approve the submission of a proposal to the U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration for an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) agreement for law enforcement equipment and designating the Webb County Judge as the authorized official in all matters pertaining to this grant. No county match required.

Item No. 30. Discussion and possible action to approve the submission of a grant application to the Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division for a Border Star Grant for border security operations and designating the Webb County Judge as the authorized official in all matters pertaining to this grant. No county match required.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve items 29 and 30 as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Treasurer

Item No. 32. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-0300-6402	Repairs & Maintenance	117
	001-0300-6014	Equipment Rental	120
	001-0300-5602	Local Mileage	125
	001-0300-5601	Administrative Travel	69
	001-0300-6010	Books & Subscription	60
To:	001-0300-6010	Materials & Supplies	491

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Auditor

Item No. 33. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From: 001-1050-60031 Judicial General Operations/Capital Murder 20,000
To: 001-1050-6018 Judicial General Operations/Transcripts 20,000

Administrative Services Department

Item No. 34. Discussion and possible action to increase the employee contribution to the Webb County Health Insurance by FIVE DOLLARS (\$5.00) per pay period, per employee across all Employee Tiers and reducing the tiers from 5 to 4 as recommended by the Insurance Committee. Effective October 1, 2008 resulting in the following changes:

TIER	FROM	TO
Employee Only	\$20.00	\$25.00
Employee One Child	\$55.00 Tier Removed	
Employee Children	\$70.00	\$75.00
Employee Spouse	\$100.00	\$105.00
Employee Family	\$120.00	\$125.00

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve items 33 and 34 as submitted. Judge Valdez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 35. Discussion and possible action to authorize the purchasing agent to solicit Requests for Proposals for the Webb County Employee Drug and Alcohol Testing Program for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

Item No. 36. Discussion and possible action to approve the Renewals with the Texas Association of Counties (HEBP), with Blue Cross Blue Shield as carrier, for the Webb County Health Insurance Program (November 01, 2008 – October 31, 2009). The claim administration services rates will be as follows, per month, per covered individual: \$41.21 for medical claim administration services, \$3.79 for dental claim administration services, \$2.20 for disease management services, \$23.68 for specific stop loss insurance, with a \$200,000 deductible for medical claims, and \$3.40 for aggregate stop loss insurance with a 125% corridor for medical and prescription drug claim.

Item No. 37. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Administrative Services Department to obtain a separate Pollution Insurance Policy for the Road & Bridge Dept. in regards to fuel storage tanks as mandated by the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ), with Ace – Illinois Union Insurance Company as the insurance carrier, for total Annual Premium of \$2,591.28., and authorize the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Cynthia Mares, Administrative Services Director; Account 001-0114-6032 Property Casualty Premium]

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item 35 and include the program management of the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program, item 36 and include that the county will go out on RFPs for next year, and item 37 as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Economic Development

- Item No. 38. Discussion and possible action to accept TCDP Grant #728449 contract commencing June 22, 2008 and terminating June 21, 2010 from the Office of Rural Community Affairs in the amount of \$800,000 for water well projects to be located in Mirando, Oilton, Bruni, & HWY 59.
- Item No. 39. Discussion and possible action to authorize the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs for the Community Development Program in the amount of \$420,000.00; 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 Community Development Program.
- Item No. 40. Discussion and possible action to approve the release of retainage in an amount of \$1,301.40 to Delta Construction, for the rehabilitation project of Ramiro Macias, located at 234 Los Altos Dr., Los Altos Subdivision. This will have no impact to the County's general fund.
- Item No. 41. Discussion and possible action to approve the release of retainage in an amount of \$2,734.00 to Mortimer Investments, for the rehabilitation project of Luis Perez, located at 239 El Rocio Rd., Tanquecitos I Subdivision. This will have no impact to the County's general fund.
- Item No. 42. Discussion and possible action to ratify and approve a contract with the Office of Rural Community Affairs Contract No. 728075, effective June 22, 2008 and ending June 2, 2010, in the amount of FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000.00) with an in-kind contribution from the Engineering Department in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000.00) for sewer and water house-to-line connections in San Carlos (a/k/a San Enrique) and San Carlos II and any matters incident thereto.
- Item No. 43. Discussion and possible action to ratify and approve a contract with the Office of Rural Community Affairs Contract No. 728449, effective June 22, 2008 and ending June 2, 2010, in the amount of EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$800,000.00) with an in-kind contribution from Webb County, Bruni Rural Water Supply Corp., and Mirando Rural Water Supply Corp. in the amount of FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$45,000.00) to drill a new water well for the Bruni Rural Water Supply Corp., replace the water source to the community of Mirando, drill a new water well for the Oilton Rural Water Supply Corp. and drill a new water well and appurtenant improvements for the County run daily water dispensing facility and any matters incident thereto.
- Item No. 44. Discussion and possible action to enter into a contract with the Oilton Rural Water Supply Corp. to allow the continued use of a well and the drilling of a second well on a 3.5 acre County owned tract located 4.3 miles east of Oilton off State Highway 359 and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve items 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44 as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Mr. Juan Vargas, Economic Development, recommended that on item 44 the contract read that Webb County should oversee the drilling of the well and the Oilton Rural Water Supply Corp. pay the electricity and do the fencing.

Cmr. Sciaraffa included Mr. Juan Vargas' recommendation into his motion for item 44. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Elections Administration

Item No. 45. Discussion and possible action to order a General Election for the purpose of electing county and precinct officers be held on the 4th day of November, 2008, as required by Article XVI, Section 65 of the Texas Constitution.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 46. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution and Order to authorize the conduct of Joint Elections between the County of Webb, the City of El Cenizo, the Laredo Independent School District, the United Independent School District, and the 8 Webb Consolidated Independent School District to be conducted on November 4, 2008 pursuant to Chapter 271, Texas Election Code.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent .

Item No. 47. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution and Order authorizing and establishing the main and temporary branch early voting polling sites for the November 4, 2008 Joint General Elections within Webb County, Texas, pursuant to Chapter 85, Texas Election Code.

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 48. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution and Order authorizing and establishing election day polling sites for the November 4, 2008 Joint General Elections within Webb County, Texas, in accordance with Chapter 43, Texas Election Code.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 49. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution and Order authorizing and establishing the salaries for presiding judges and clerks and establishing the maximum number of election day clerks for each election precinct pursuant to Sections 32.091(a), and 32.033, Texas Election Code, for the November 4, 2008 Joint General Elections.

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Comr. Martinez motioned to approve item as submitted. Comr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Comr. Garza motioned to increase the clerk's hourly pay to \$9.00/hr and the presiding judges to \$10.00/hr.

No second on the motion.

Item No. 50. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution and Order authorizing and establishing a central counting station, appointing the central counting station manager, tabulation supervisor, assistant tabulation supervisors, presiding judge, and establishing their respective salaries for the November 4, 2008 Joint General Elections pursuant to Section 127, Texas Election Code.

Item No. 51. Discussion and possible action to fill vacant slot # 048, effective August 25, 2008, Elections Clerk, at \$10.04 per hour to be charged to the Elections Administration Payroll Account # 001-0107-5001.

Engineer Department

Item No. 52. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	672-8001-5001	Administrative Payroll	15,308
To:	672-8001-8801-14	Capital Outlay Construction	15,308

Item No. 53. Discussion and possible action to authorize the County Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids for the reconstruction of Rio Bravo Water Treatment Plant reservoir and for the demolition of the old Water Plant. The project is located at the new Rio Bravo Water Treatment Plant.

Head Start

Item No. 54. Discussion and possible action to ratify the filling of slot #s 2044 and 1808, AA Teacher Assistants (10 Month Program) with an annual salary of \$15,770.18, effective August 18, 2008. [Requested by Aliza F. Oliveros, Head Start Director; Account 903-4208-5001]

Item No. 55. Discussion and possible action to ratify the filling of slot #s 1694 and 1701, Substitute Teacher (Part-time 30 hrs/week) with an annual salary of \$9,370.12, effective August 18, 2008. [Requested by Aliza F. Oliveros, Head Start Director; Account 903-4208-5001]

Item No. 56. Discussion and possible action to ratify the filling of slot # 2038, AA Teacher Assistant (11 Month Program) with an annual salary of \$18,023.02, effective August 12, 2008. [Requested by Aliza F. Oliveros, Head Start Director; Account 903-4208-5001]

Item No. 57. Discussion and possible action to ratify the filling of slot # 1044, Teacher Assistant (10 Month Program) with an annual salary of \$13,568.07, effective August 18, 2008.

La Presa Community Center

Item No. 58. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-6115-6204	Fuel & Lubricants	1,200
	001-6115-6402	Repairs & Maintenance	300
	001-6115-5601	Administrative Travel	700
To:	001-6115-6401	Repairs of Buildings	2,200

Planning Department

Item No. 59. Discussion and possible action to issue a "Certificate of Compliance with Plat Requirements Regarding the Connection of Utilities" to authorize an electrical service connection pursuant to Section 232.028 (b), Local Government Code to Tract 99, Tanquecitos South Acres Subdivision of on dwelling only (limited to a total of three dwellings unless replatted). Staff recommends the Court's approval of this item since all three dwellings on this property are connected to water and sewer service.

Item No. 60. 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:

San Carlos Subdivision, Phase 1 (aka, San Enrique)
1) Block 7, Lot 4 (1 dwelling only)
2) Block 8, Lot 4 (1 dwelling only)

San Carlos Subdivision, Phase 11
3) Block 3, Lot 2 (1 dwelling only)
4) Block 4, Lot 17 (2 dwellings only)

Staff recommends approval of the above-referenced properties as submitted containing Five (5) dwellings on Four (4) lots.

Public Defender

Item No. 61. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-1102-5602	Local Miles	1,000
	001-1102-6005	Postage	670
	001-1102-6007	Dues & Membership	683
	001-1102-6900	Expert Witness	1,000
To:	001-1102-6011	Training & Education	3,353
From:	001-1102-6403	Repairs & Maintenance of Vehicle	400
To:	001-1102-6204	Fuel & Lubricants	400

Item No. 62. Discussion and possible action to fill the following slot effective September 1, 2008:
Slot #1884 Assistant Public Defender

Purchasing Department

Item No. 63. Discussion and possible action to accept a donation of the following motorcycles from City of Laredo Police Department for Constable Pct. 4, Agustin "Tino" Juarez.

1. (1) Model 2000 Harley Davidson Motorcycle VIN #1HD1FMW12YY609757
2. (1) Model 2000 Harley Davidson Motorcycle VIN #1HD1FMW11YY611886

[Requested by Agustin "Tino" Juarez, Constable, Pct. 4]

Cmr. Tijerina motioned to approve items 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, and 63 as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent .

Item No. 49. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution and Order authorizing and establishing the salaries for presiding judges and clerks and establishing the maximum number of election day clerks for each election precinct pursuant to Sections 32.091(a), and 32.033, Texas Election Code, for the November 4, 2008 Joint General Elections

Judge Valdez explained that on item 49 the motion for the salary increases was lacking a second.

Cmr. Garza motioned to increase the clerk's hourly pay to \$9.00/hr and the presiding judges to \$10.00/hr. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 64. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase Footwear (boots) from Gateway Uniform Service, Inc. in the amount of \$9,871.30 for the Road and Bridge Department. [Requested by Jose Luis Ramos, Road and Bridge Director; Account 001-0108-6202 and 010-7002-6202 Uniforms]

Item No. 65. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase Three (3) Battery Back-Up UPS Outlets from GovConnection (TCPN Contract #R4718) for Judge Oscar Martinez's Office. [Requested by Oscar Martinez, Justice of the Peace, Pct. 4, Pl. 1, Account 016-1044-6224, Technology]

Item No. 66. Discussion and possible action to award Bid 2008-34 "Refrigeration Units" located at the old morgue to South Texas Mortuary Services, LLC in the amount of \$800.00. [Requested by Eloy Ramirez, Jr., Purchasing Agent]

Item No. 67. Discussion and possible action to authorize the transfer of a trailer from Parks and Grounds Department to Road and Bridge Department:

Unit #	V.I.N.	Purchase Date
06-	17 69PAN150	10/1/75

[Requested by Jose Luis Ramos, Road and Bridge Director]

- Item No. 68. Discussion and possible action to rescind action taken by the Commissioners Court on 7/28/08 agenda item number 59, and award furniture contract for the Youth Village to Workplace Resource in the amount of \$24,032.32 (classroom furniture, Youth Village Project). [Requested by Eloy Ramirez, Jr., Purchasing Agent; Account 984-1301-8401, Furniture & Fixtures]
- Item No. 69. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to award contract to Designs International in the amount of \$6,473.94 for the installation of carpet and VCT in Five (5) Head Start Centers. [Requested by Estela Salazar; Account 903-4208-6401, Repairs & Main. Bldgs]
- Item No. 70. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase software technical support and licenses from SHI Government Solutions (DIR-SDD-192) in the amount of \$17,298.00 for the M.I.S. Department. [Requested by Jaime F. Alvarado, MIS Director; Account 001-0500-6411, Repairs & Maint. Software]
- Item No. 71. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Purchasing Agent through James Humphries, Architect to solicit bids for the Parks and Wildlife Building to be located at the Casa Blanca State Park. [Requested by Eloy Ramirez, Jr., Purchasing Agent]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve items 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, and 71 as submitted. Cmr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

- Item No. 72. Discussion and possible action to designate a County Representative's' to negotiate an agreement regarding payment for the proposed Parks & Wildlife Building.

Judge Valdez designated Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, and Mr. Leroy Medford, Executive Administrator to the County Judge, as County Representatives.

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

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Road and Bridge

- Item No. 73. Discussion an possible action to fill the following slot effective August 25, 2008.

Slot # 2354 Maintenance Aide \$ 9.15 hr.

Rio Bravo Community Center

- Item No. 74. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-6105-6402	Repairs & Maintanance of Equipment	700
	001-6105-6502	Janitorial Supplies	600
	001-6105-6219-2	Goods for Public Events	136
To:	001-6105-6201	Utilities	1436

Webb County Medical Examiner

Item No. 75. Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer:

From:	001-2070-6022	Ology	1,200
To:	001-2070-6204	Fuel & Lube	1,000
	001-2070-6205	Materials & Supplies	200

Comr. Tijerina motioned to approve items 73, 74, and 75 as submitted. Comr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 60. 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:

San Carlos Subdivision, Phase 1 (aka, San Enrique)

1) Block 7, Lot 4 (1 dwelling only)

2) Block 8, Lot 4 (1 dwelling only)

San Carlos Subdivision, Phase 11

3) Block 3, Lot 2 (1 dwelling only)

4) Block 4, Lot 17 (2 dwellings only)

Staff recommends approval of the above-referenced properties as submitted containing Five (5) dwellings on Four (4) lots.

Mr. Rafael Vidaurri, Planning Department, stated that on item 60 there was a typographical error and that the corrected item should read Block 3 Lot 17.

Comr. Sciaraffa motioned to incorporate the correction in his motion. Comr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Comr. Sciaraffa motioned to go into executive session. Comr. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

(Closed Session/Executive Session 12:55 p.m. to 1:40 p.m.)

Judge Valdez stated that no action was taken in executive session.

Item No. 77. Discussion and possible action regarding an incident which occurred on August 14, 2008 at the Santa Teresita Community Center involving two Webb County employees including possible reprimand, suspension or termination and any matters incident thereto. [Executive/Closed Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.074 (Personnel Matters)]

Discussion on file at the Webb County Clerks Office under the August 25th, 2008 Commissioner's Court dvd.

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, explained that there was only consultation with counsel during executive session.

Com. Tijerina motioned to suspend both individuals without pay pending the outcome of the investigation. Com. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 78. Discussion and possible action regarding engineering contracts with Foster Engineering and any matters incident thereto. [Executive/Closed Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)]

Mr. Nathan Bratton, Assistant County Attorney, asked the Court for authority to negotiate the termination of the engineering contracts with Foster Engineering and authority for Mr. Leroy Medford and Mr. Fitzgerald Sanchez to interview engineers for each of the three contracts which include the Vela Tract, the Damm project, and the ongoing projects at Tanquesitos I and II.

Com. Martinez motioned to authorize the County Attorney, to terminate the contracts with Foster Engineering and take any necessary steps to negotiate any terms to finish the three ongoing projects. Com. Garza seconded the motion.

Mr. Nathan Bratton asked if the motion included authorization for Mr. Leroy Medford and Mr. Fitzgerald Sanchez to conduct interviews; to which, Com. Martinez acknowledged.

County Attorney

Addendum No. 1. Discussion and possible action to compromise and settle Workers Compensation liens against liability claims filed by Webb County employees, Juan A. Garcia and Fidel Gonzalez, against a third-party tortfeasor in connection with a motor vehicle accident. [Closed Session (Executive Session) is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.074 (Personnel Matters)].

Mr. Nathan Bratton asked for authority for the attorney representing the county to negotiate at least 50% return refund on the medical expenses.

Com. Martinez motioned to approve authorization. Com. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.

Item No. 79. Adjourn

Com. Sciaraffa motioned to adjourn. Com. Tijerina seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0 by unanimous consent.