

Official Minutes for Webb County  
Commissioners Court Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009 at 2:00 PM  
(approved March 9, 2009)

Call to order by Judge Danny Valdez

Let it be remembered that a special meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 2:00 p.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 13<sup>TH</sup> of FEBRUARY, 2009. Present also were Mrs. Nancy Rodriguez, 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. 01. Roll call by the Honorable Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Webb County Clerk**

Mrs. Kristina Ramirez Guerra, Chief Deputy, called role in place of Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra.

**Item No. 02. Pledge of Allegiance**

**Item No. 03. Communications**

**Cmr. Sciaraffa** – No communication to report

**Cmr. Tijerina** – Congratulations to Douglas McDonald 2009 recipient of the L.I.F.E. Organization 2009 Rancher of the Year Award and she wished the organization the best for this year's festivities. She also extended her condolences to the families of Ramiro Paredes, Hector Rodriguez, and the Devally Family.

**Cmr. Garza** – No communication to report

**Cmr. Martinez** – Gave his condolences to the families of Hector Rodriguez and Ramiro Paredes. He encouraged all Webb County Employees to sign the sympathy card and if at all possible to make any donations to the Paredes family.

**Judge Valdez** – Condolences to the families of Hector Rodriguez and Ramiro Paredes. He also advised that there would be a meeting at 11:00am on 02/18/2009 at the Kazen Center with Congressman Cuellar. He will be speaking on stimulus package monies and how they will be disbursed. He then announced that Cmr. Sciaraffa had an announcement.

**Cmr. Sciaraffa** – Announced that Judge Valdez and he would be attending the city council meeting at 5:30 to enter into an inter local agreement concerning the Santo Nino Community Center. The community center will house a Sheriff's Sub-Station, elderly community center, and a Kids Café. The item will be placed on the next commissioner court agenda.

**Item No. 04**      **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.**

There were no members of the community who signed up.

**Honorable Rudy Rodriguez, Constable Pct. 1.**

**Item No. 05**      **Discussion and possible action to approve a transfer of funds in the amount of \$6,200.00 from within the general fund to cover the projected deficits in payroll incentive line items in Department #2500, Constable Precinct 1 Rodolfo Rodriguez; and any other matters incident thereto.**

Discussion on file with the Webb County Clerks Office of the Commissioners Court Special Meeting DVD dated 02/17/2009.

Motion was made for the County Auditor to verify if any funds were available in each of the commissioner's payroll savings to transfer funds necessary to cover the Constables deficit of \$6,200; and if any additional funds were needed, they should be covered by the funds in Professional Services.

Cmr. Tijerina motioned with a second by Cmr. Martinez motioned passed unanimously.

**Closed Session/Executive Session      Session entered at 2:25 pm      Court reconvened at 3:38 pm**

**Item No. 06**      **Consultation with County Attorney regarding proposal from Laredo Race Park, LLC for possible future lease or sublease of county land and buildings to conduct simulcast operations and other uses, with discussion and possible action to accept the recommendations from the golf course committee for approval of recommended location, and any other matters incident thereto. [The Commissioners Court may meet in a Closed Meeting (Executive Session) pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 5 Subchapter D, Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property)]**

No action taken.

Recommendation from County Attorney is that a committee be formed made up of Mr. Mike Bukiewicz, Cmr. Martinez and Ana Laura Cavazos, County Attorney to meet with attorney Murry Malacoff to review specific of his legal expense bill and come back to the court with a recommendation.

Comr. Tijerina motioned for the above with a second by Comr. Garza (with a question) - motioned passed unanimously.

Discussion on file with the Webb County Clerks Office of the Commissioners Court Special Meeting DVD dated 02/17/2009.

**Item No. 07** Discussion and possible action status of case and possible payment of legal expenses related to Civil Action No. 5:08-cv-00128; Cynthia Alcalá, Rosalinda Cantu, Erika Castillo, Raquel Farias, Bertha Garcia, Maribel Gonzalez, Julissa Guajardo, Diana Hernandez, and Ileana Rincon vs. Webb County, Texas; Patricia Barrera, Individually and in her Official Capacity as Webb County Tax Assessor-Collector; Mary Ethel Novoa, Individually and in her Official Capacity; Rosa Hernandez, Individually and in her Official Capacity; and Dora Jimenez, Individually and in her Official Capacity; in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Laredo Division. [Executive Session is requested pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)]

No action taken.

Recommendation made by the County Attorney is that an item be posted on the agenda for Monday's Commissioners Court Meeting to include item No. 6 and to include the following: Requesting proposals for the lease of properties, now known as the Casa Blanca Golf Course, to a group interested in establishing a simulcast facility and race park; and treat a portion of the building as a surplus property to be renovated by this group and that will be part of the lease and that we detail in the proposal (which will be requested by sealed proposal and published in a local newspaper) that the interested parties must renovate the portion of the Casa Blanca Golf Course for a simulcast facility that will include the expansion/renovation of the parking lot and bathroom areas; and that Webb County proposes a possible long term lease of the property for the simulcast and BLT's (if permitted by law) and a race track for horse races. The County Attorney also proposes for the item on Monday, that a procedure be in place for these proposals and that the Purchasing Agent meets with the County Attorney to review the procedures.

Judge Valdez made a motion to the above with a second by Comr. Garza (with discussion) motioned passed unanimously.

Discussion on file with the Webb County Clerks Office of the Commissioners Court Special Meeting DVD dated 02/17/2009.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Comr. Sciaraffa and second by Comr. Tijerina - motioned passed unanimously.