

**EL PASO COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

CARLOS LEON
Commissioner, Pct. 1

ILIANA HOLGUIN
Commissioner, Pct. 3



DAVID STOUT
Commissioner, Pct. 2

CARL L. ROBINSON
Commissioner, Pct. 4

RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO
County Judge

Commissioners Court Chambers, El Paso County Courthouse
500 East San Antonio Room 303 El Paso, Texas 79901
Website address: <http://www.epcounty.com>
View live video webcast: <http://epcounty.com/video>

**COMMISSIONERS COURT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022**

HON. RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO	COUNTY JUDGE, PRESIDING	PRESENT
CARLOS LEON	COMMISSIONER, PCT #1	PRESENT
DAVID S. STOUT	COMMISSIONER, PCT #2	PRESENT
ILIANA HOLGUIN	COMMISSIONER, PCT #3	PRESENT
CARL L. ROBINSON	COMMISSIONER, PCT #4	PRESENT

**MINUTES PREPARED BY JESSICA DOMINGUEZ, DEPUTY CLERK
CESAR O. NAVA, DEPUTY CLERK**

1. MEETING CONVENED

Commissioners Court of El Paso County, Texas was called to order by the Deputy Clerk at 9:35 A.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Santiesteban's 3rd Grade Class at Alarcon Elementary School led the Commissioners Court in the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

3. INVOCATION

A. Receive an invocation from Cesar Rivera, representing Join Us for Justice, the El Paso Chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of June 6, 2022.
County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

B. **CORRECTION PER COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE** - Approve and authorize **THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN** a letter of support to be sent to Governor Greg Abbott requesting an extension on the waiver for temporary suspensions of the Texas Health & Safety Code to allow the delivery of emergency services for the County beyond the current termination date of August 26, 2022. Such waiver was implemented during the declaration of disaster related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which continues to impact the health of our community. DSHS asserts that strict compliance with these laws could prevent, hinder, or delay the delivery of services in relation to efforts to cope with the declared disaster. (#205-OP)
Elisa Tamayo, Governmental Affairs Manager, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

C. Pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code, Section 115.021, audit and settle all accounts against the County shown on the attached listing and direct the payment of those accounts.
Edward A. Dion, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 546-2040

D. Approve amendment No. 29 to the County of El Paso's 2021-2022 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Capital Projects by \$20,718,000, thus increasing the overall budget of \$599,696,984.64 to \$620,414,984.64.
Wallace Hardgrove, Executive Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

E. Approve and authorize the Community Services Department to apply for the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act grant for the FY23 El Paso Coordinated Response – El Paso United Family Resiliency Center continuation grant, from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, in the amount of \$1,440,000, to support community victim services related to the August 3, 2019 mass shooting incident. No County match is required. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the resolution. (Contract No. 2022-0424)
Irene G. Valenzuela, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

F. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Service Agreement with Creative Empire LLC, d/b/a Mango Languages to purchase a subscription for the County Digital Library for remote and unlimited online access to 70+ foreign language courses, 20 ESL courses, and 30+ specialty language courses. Funds in the amount of \$10,333 are available in GF-DIGITALLIB-BOOKS&SUBSCRIP. (Contract No. 2022-0418)
Irene G. Valenzuela, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign Contract Amendment No. 2 and related documents with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) amending the Colonias Self Help Center Program (CSHC) grant contract to extend the contract end date from October 11, 2022, to April 11, 2023, transfer funds within categories and change program deliverables. (Contract No. 2022-0423)
Irene G. Valenzuela, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

H. **CORRECTION PER HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT** - Approve and authorize the rehire of a candidate for the position of Senior Trial Attorney (A02) at a step 7 based on additional qualifications relevant to the position which are beneficial to the County, including **OVER 18 YEARS** of direct prosecution experience. Funding is available through salary savings in GF-DA-SALARY-FT REGULAR.
Sam Trujillo, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218

I. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Pyrotechnic Display and Services Agreement and the Addendum to Pyrotechnic Display and Services Agreement for Precision Fireworks, LLC, for a 4th of July Fireworks display at Ascarate Park on July 4, 2022, in the amount of \$20,000. Funding is available in GF-PRKS&RECADM-COUNTY EVENTS. (Contract No. 2022-0390)
Veronica Myers, Director, Parks and Recreation Department (915) 771-2370

J. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Summer Food Service Agreement with the Anthony Independent School District to provide meals to children under the age of 18 (or persons 19 and over who are mentally or physically disabled). Anthony ISD will solely operate the program at Gallegos Park and Ascarate Park from June 6, 2022, through July 22, 2022. There is no cost to the County. (Contract No. 2022-0406)
Veronica Myers, Director, Parks and Recreation Department (915) 771-2370

- K. Approve and authorize the Public Works/Parks and Recreation Department to accept up to 100 Bug Zappers from Helen of Troy to use at special events and as prizes in accordance with Texas Local Government Code Section 81.032.
Veronica Myers, Director, Parks and Recreation Department (915) 771-2380
- L. **PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER LEON** - Approve and authorize the Planning & Development Department to apply for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) 2022 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Rural Areas Public Transportation Grant from September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2023, in the amount of \$2,616,415. A County match is required in the amount of \$2,150,375. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the Obligation Certificate. (Contract No. 2022-0408)
Sal Alonzo, Associate Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- M. Rescind the Commissioners Court Order of May 16, 2022, Item No. 4P which authorized the County Judge to sign the software maintenance renewal agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) (Contract No. 2022-0319) Further, approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the final software maintenance renewal agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) for geographic information systems database management in the amount of \$15,100. Funding is available in SR-R&B-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE. (Contract No. 2022-0319)
Sal Alonzo, Associate Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- N. Rescind the approval and authorization for the recommendation from the Executive Director of Public Works, to accept a donation of real property pursuant to the County Real Property Donation Policy from the meeting of May 3, 2021, Item No. 4N, only for the property provided on the attached listing. (OP-21-0744)
Sal Alonzo, Associate Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- O. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Sections 232.028 and 232.029, approve and authorize the issuance of certification regarding compliance with applicable plat requirements as provided on the attached listing.
Sal Alonzo, Associate Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- P. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign Change Order No. 7 with Perikin Enterprises, LLC which credits back \$42,901.80 to the County, the amount for the reduction in the scope of work related to IT components for the Employee Fitness and Wellness Center for the County of El Paso. (Contract No. 2022-0422)
Norma Rivera-Palacios, Executive Director, Public Works Department (915) 546-2015
- Q. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Contract for Purchase of Paving Materials with Jobe Materials L.P. for delivery of services per the County's Bid 22-018, Up to 20,000 tons of paving rock grade F and Up to 12,000 tons of paving rock grade C for the County of El Paso (RE-BID). Funds are available in SR-R&B-ROAD RESURFACING. (Contract No. 2022-0428)
Fernando Hernandez, Director, Infrastructure Services/Public Works Department (915) 546-2015
- R. Approve and authorize the transfer and removal of surplus assets from the respective departments to the Purchasing Department in compliance with Texas Local Government Code Section 262.011(j). See attachment.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 546-2048
- S. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Declaration and Certification to the U.S. Department of Justice as to Acceptance form, as required by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Policing Orienting Services (COPS) for the FY21 COPS CIT grant award. (Contract No. 2022-0419)
Sheriff Richard D. Wiles, El Paso County Sheriff's Office (915) 538-2234
- T. Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the Department of Homeland Security FY21 Operation Stonegarden grant award, on behalf of the Sheriff's Office, in the amount of \$1,515,112.92 from March 1, 2022, through February 28, 2023. No County match required. (Contract No. 2022-0429)
Sheriff Richard D. Wiles, El Paso County Sheriff's Office (915) 546-2262

U. Approve and authorize the El Paso County Sheriff's Office to apply for the U.S. Department of Justice, 2022 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program grant in the amount of \$984,152 with a total match contribution of \$246,038 from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2026. Further approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Application for Federal Assistance, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, and waiver request letter. (Contract No. 2022-0419)

Sheriff Richard D. Wiles, El Paso County Sheriff's Office (915) 546-2262

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by Commissioner Leon Members Voting Nay: None

5. RESOLUTIONS

A. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing June 2022 as "Immigrant Heritage Month" in El Paso County, Texas.

David Stout, Commissioner, Pct. 2 (915) 546-2111

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Stout Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin Members Voting Nay: None

B. Approve and adopt a resolution in appreciation of the Elks Lodge #187 for ongoing community support of veterans, cultivating good fellowship, and promoting patriotism in El Paso County.

David Stout, Commissioner, Pct. 2 (915) 546-2111

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Stout Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by County Judge Samaniego Members Voting Nay: None

C. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing June 15, 2022, as "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day" and the entire month of June as "Elder Abuse Awareness Month" in El Paso County, Texas.

Iliana Holguin, Commissioner Pct. 3, Commissioners Court (915) 546-2144

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Holguin Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by County Judge Samaniego Members Voting Nay: None

D. Approve and adopt a resolution declaring June 19, 2022, as "Juneteenth Day" in El Paso County, Texas.

Carl L. Robinson, Commissioner, Pct. 4 (915) 546-2044

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Robinson Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by Commissioner Stout Members Voting Nay: None

E. Approve and adopt a resolution declaring June 14, 2022, as "National Flag Day" in El Paso County, Texas.

Carl L. Robinson, Commissioner, Pct. 4 (915) 546-2044

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Robinson Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin Members Voting Nay: None

F. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing the week of June 20, 2022, as "El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame and El Paso Sports Commission Class of 2022 Hall of Fame Week".

Carl L. Robinson, Commissioner, Pct. 4 (915) 546-2044

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Robinson Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by County Judge Samaniego Members Voting Nay: None

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Pierre Andre Euzarraga, with the American Political Party, addressed the Commissioners Court regarding further decriminalization of cannabis to include not just first-time offenders but all offenders, include concentrates in the program, and allow law enforcement officers to cite individuals but not confiscate under four ounces in possession.

7. PRESENTATION

A. Recognize the Budget & Fiscal Policy Department staff for receiving the "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" for fiscal year 2022 and the "Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award" for fiscal year 2020 from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

Wallace Hardgrove, Executive Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

PRESENTATION RECEIVED

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

8. Discuss and take appropriate action on the creation of a County Women's Commission.
Melissa M. Carrillo, PHR, Executive Director, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

NO ACTION

9. Receive a presentation with updates regarding the sale, use and possession of fireworks for the 2022 July 4th holiday period and take appropriate action.
Elisa Tamayo, Governmental Affairs Manager, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

NO ACTION

MEETING RECESSED AT 11:57 A.M.

MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:10 P.M.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

10. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding El Paso County's preparation and response for COVID-19.
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

NO ACTION

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

11. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding implementation of the El Paso County American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Portfolio.
Jose M. Landeros, Director of Strategic Development, County Administration Department (915) 546-221

NO ACTION

PURCHASING

12. Authorize the Single Source award for the purchase of Bibliotheca Cloudlibrary Annual Subscription for the County of El Paso Community Services Department in the amount of \$180,000 with two (2) one-year renewal options. Funds are available in GF-DIGITALLIB-BOOKS&SUBSCRIP. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 262.024 (c), as a single source item, it is exempt from the provisions of the County Purchasing Act. Single Source will be re-evaluated as required to ensure compliance with statute.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 546-2048

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Members Voting Nay: None

13. Approve the Purchase of Three (3) Chevrolet Tahoe LT 4x4 Utility Vehicles for the County of El Paso Public Works and Planning Department using the Goodbuy Contract 22-22 8F000 awarded to Lake Country Chevrolet of Jasper, TX in the amount of \$165,855 (to include administrative fee of \$300). Purchasing approved on June 1, 2022. Funding is available in SG-GRURALF21-CAP OUTLAYS.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 546-2048

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Leon Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by County Judge Samaniego Members Voting Nay: None

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

4L. **PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER LEON** - Approve and authorize the Planning & Development Department to apply for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) 2022 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Rural Areas Public Transportation Grant from September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2023, in the amount of \$2,616,415. A County match is required in the amount of \$2,150,375. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the Obligation Certificate. (Contract No. 2022-0408)
Sal Alonzo, Associate Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Leon Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Robinson
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin Members Voting Nay: None

PUBLIC WORKS

14. Receive a presentation from the Planning & Development Department regarding El Paso County Transit.
Sal Alonzo, Associate Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015

PRESENTATION RECEIVED

15. INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:38 P.M.

A. Discuss findings regarding persons necessary in Executive Session.
County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074, discuss a personnel matter involving County Court at Law 3
Christina R. Sanchez, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, receive legal advice and consultation regarding personnel matter involving the Office of Constable Precinct 5.
Patsy Lopez, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

D. Discuss financial information and economic development negotiations received regarding a Chapter 381 Agreement with Project Tim, a private business prospect, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087.
Michael Hernandez, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-3182

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED AT 4:12 P.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:14 P.M.

**EL PASO COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

CARLOS LEON
Commissioner, Pct. 1

ILIANA HOLGUIN
Commissioner, Pct. 3



DAVID STOUT
Commissioner, Pct. 2

CARL L. ROBINSON
Commissioner, Pct. 4

RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO
County Judge

Commissioners Court Chambers, El Paso County Courthouse
500 East San Antonio Room 303 El Paso, Texas 79901
Website address: <http://www.epcounty.com>
View live video webcast: <http://epcounty.com/video>

**COMMISSIONERS COURT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:14 P.M.

ATTEST:

DELIA BRIONES, COUNTY CLERK
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

JESSICA DOMINGUEZ, DEPUTY CLERK

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY ME THIS

_____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

COUNTY JUDGE RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO, PRESIDING