

**EL PASO COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

CARLOS LEON
Commissioner, Pct. 1

ILIANA HOLGUIN
Commissioner, Pct. 3



DAVID STOUT
Commissioner, Pct. 2

SERGIO CORONADO
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, DECEMBER 18, 2023**

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
SERGIO CORONADO	COMMISSIONER, PCT #4	PRESENT

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

1. MEETING CONVENED

Commissioners Court of El Paso County, Texas was called to order by the Deputy Clerk at 9:39 A.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. INVOCATION

Receive an invocation from Andrea Dominguez Kramer, a member of 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 December 11, 2023.
County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- B. Approve the reappointment of Jose Berumen and Jefferey Booth to the Emergency Services District No. 1 Board for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2025.
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- C. Approve the reappointment of Michael Diaz, Adrian Santana, and Ricardo Avalos to the Emergency Services District No. 2 Board for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2025.
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- D. Approve the reappointment of Commissioner Precinct 2 David Stout's appointee, Alexis McCray, to the Veterans Advisory Board for the term beginning December 1, 2023, and ending November 30, 2025.
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- E. Approve and authorize the reappointment of County Judge Ricardo Samaniego's appointee, Ben Williams, to the Veterans Advisory Board for the term beginning December 1, 2023, and ending November 30, 2025.
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- F. Approve and authorize the County Judge to execute the Purchase and Sales Agreement for a real property acquisition of Lot 7, Block 1 of the Fabens Flyer Private Subdivision in Fabens, Texas; and authorize the County Judge to sign any additional documents necessary to close this transaction. Funding not to exceed \$4,984,840 is available in CP-TN23-FABPROPACQUISIT-LAND. Subject to final legal review and approval from the County Attorney's Office. (1541-OP)
Jose M. Landeros, Director of Strategic Development, County Administration Department (915) 546-2159
- G. 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.
Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 273-3262
- H. Approve amendment No. 10 to the County of El Paso's 2023-2024 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Capital Projects by \$125,965.00, increase Grants by \$552,952.00, thus increasing the overall budget of \$614,468,962.56 to \$615,147,879.56.
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262
- I. Approve amendment No. 53 to the County of El Paso's 2022-2023 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Grants by \$913.33, thus increasing the overall budget of \$777,535,883.17 to \$777,536,796.50.
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262
- J. Approve and authorize the Capital Improvement Interim Request for the repair of the elevators and lift chairs at the Jail Annex. Further, approve the re-allocation of funding in the amount of \$154,563.88 from the CP-IMPROV01-CONTINGENCIAS to CIP24-FACJAILANNX-MAIN/REP-GEN.
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262
- K. Approve the Capital sweep and reallocation of Capital Funds for FY23 Quarter 4.
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262
- L. **DELETE PER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION** - Approve and authorize reallocation of 2012 bond funds.
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262
- M. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the DWI Intervention and Treatment/Merit Program Interlocal Agreement between El Paso County, Texas and the El Paso County Community Supervision and Corrections Department to provide probation services to the Specialty Court from September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$55,675, subject final review and approval from the County Attorney's Office. Funds are available in SG-DWIRISE24.
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

- N. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 81.032, approve and authorize the County to accept monetary donations in support of the Healing Garden at Ascarate Park Mural.
Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, Commissioners Court (915) 546-2098
- O. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso United Family Resiliency Center Subrecipient Agreement with the United Way of El Paso County from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$829,933.48 to fund the El Paso United Family Resiliency Center (FRC) to continue to assist in community recovery efforts due to the August 3, 2019 mass shooting incident in El Paso, Texas, with funds from the Office of the Governor Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program (AEAP) grant. Funds are available in SG-CRELPRC23-OPERATING EX. (Contract No. 2023-0984)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- P. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Third Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the County of El Paso and the Opportunity Center for the Homeless extending their period of performance for the provision of sheltering support to individuals that have been encountered by the Department of Homeland Security from January 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024. Subject to FEMA funding award renewals. Funding is available in SG-GHUMANIT23-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2023-1006)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- Q. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the County of El Paso and World Victory Center extending their period of performance for the provision of sheltering support to individuals that have been encountered by the Department of Homeland Security from January 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024. Funding is available in SG-GHUMANIT23-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2023-1007)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- R. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Second Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the County of El Paso and the Salvation Army extending their period of performance for the provision of sheltering support to individuals that have been encountered by the Department of Homeland Security from January 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024. Funding is available in SG-GHUMANIT23-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2023-1009)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- S. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign Third Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the County of El Paso and Sacred Heart Church extending their period of performance for the provision of sheltering support to individuals that have been encountered by the Department of Homeland Security from January 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024. Funding is available in SG-GHUMANIT23-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2023-1011)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- T. Approve and authorize County Judge to accept the grant performance period extension from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) FY23 Emergency Food Shelter Program advanced humanitarian award, extending the spending and performance period end date from December 31, 2023, to April 30, 2024. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2023-1012)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- U. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Third Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the County of El Paso and the Rescue Mission of El Paso extending their period of performance for the provision of sheltering support to individuals that have been encountered by the Department of Homeland Security from January 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024. Funding is available in SG-GHUMANIT23-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2023-1010)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- V. Approve and authorize the Community Services Department, Office of New Americans to convert two (2) full-time temporary positions to full-time regular grant funded positions with overtime as allowed by grant, effective December 24, 2023, to September 2025 to oversee the operations of the Migrant Support Services Center and the non-profit and local government coordination for migrant response in our community. Funding is available in: SG-GHUMANIT23 –Personnel EXP and GF-COMMSVCS-SALARY-FT REGULAR.
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

W. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amendment to the agreement with Aegis Defense Services, LLC d/b/a GardaWorld Federal Services for the provision of local transport services to individuals encountered by the Department of Homeland Security in an amount not to exceed \$2,716,296.80 for an additional four (4) months for a total of ten (10) months from original start date July 1, 2023, through April 30, 2024. Funding is available in SG-GHUMANIT23-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2023-1008)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department, (915) 775-2708

X. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Subscription Agreement with Thomson Reuters / West Publishing Corporation for CLEAR Proflex investigation software for a 36 month term from October 2023 to October 2026 at a rate of \$1,789.04 per month with a 5% rate increase per year. Funds are available in GF-DA-BOOKS&SUBSCRIPT. 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. (Contract No. 2023-0742)
Bill D. Hicks, District Attorney, District Attorney's Office (915) 546-2059

Y. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Historic Site Tourist Promotion and Preservation Services Agreement with the Concordia Heritage Association, a Texas non-profit organization, for the operation and tourist promotion of the historic Concordia Cemetery from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024 in the amount of \$100,032. Funding is available in SR-TOURPROM-CONCORDIA CEMETERY. (Contract No. 2023-0965)
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-3182

Z. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Fifth Amendment to the Election System & Software Sales Order Agreement and General Terms with Election Systems & Software, LLC ("ES&S") from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. Funding is available in GF-ELECTIONS-ELECTIONS EXPENSE. (Contract No. 2023-1017)
Lisa Wise, Elections Administrator, Elections Department (915) 546-2154

AA. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Exercise of Option to Renew Interlocal Agreement between the County of El Paso and the El Paso County Community Supervision and Corrections Department for Human Resources services and employee benefits which will extend the term through December 31, 2024. Funds will be deposited in GF-HRADPROB-REIMB-SALARIES and GF-HRADPROB-REIMB-OPER. (Contract No. 2023-1013)
Sam Trujillo, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218

AB. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement between El Paso County and Microsoft Corporation for the purchase of as-needed Microsoft Unified Support Services for the Information Technology Department using Department of Information Resources Contract DIR-CPO-4911. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE for the total amount of \$311,449.00. (Contract No. 2023-0949)
Art Nevarez, Director, Information Technology Department (915) 255-0748

AC. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement between El Paso County and LUMEN Technologies Government Solutions for the purchase of a 100 Mbps Data Circuit for the Animal Welfare Department located at 1499 Celeste Dr. on behalf of the Information Technology Department using the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Contract GS-35F-0426R. Funding is available in GF-ANIMLCLINIC-OPS EXPENSE-GEN for the total amount of \$45,927 for the next thirty-six (36) months. (Contract No. 2023-0950)
Art Nevarez, Director, Information Technology Department (915) 255-0748

AD. **POSTPONE 3 WEEKS PER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT** - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement between El Paso County and CI Technologies Inc. to purchase the software used by the Sheriff's Department of Internal Affairs to manage case records. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE for the total amount of \$15,768.34 for the next three years. (Contract No. 2023-0951)
Art Nevarez, Director, Information Technology Department (915) 255-0748

AE. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement between El Paso County and SHI Government Solutions for the purchase SecureLink Enterprise Access for the Information Technology Department using the Omnia Partners - IT Solutions Contract #2018011-02. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE for the total amount of \$36,442. (Contract No. 2023-0972)
Art Nevarez, Director, Information Technology Department (915) 255-0748

AF. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amendment to the Agreement with Redwood Toxicology Laboratory, Inc., for drug testing supplies and laboratory services on behalf of the El Paso County Juvenile Probation Department from January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Funds are available in GF-JPD-PROF SVC-MED JAIL, SR-JPDSUP-PHARMACEUTICAL, and the JUVENILE DRUG COURT PROGRAM 2024 grant. (Contract No. 2023-0997)

Rosie Medina, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Juvenile Probation Department (915) 849-2500

AG. 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.

Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 273-3330

AH. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Lease Agreement between Canutillo Independent School District and El Paso County, Texas for the premises consisting of approximately 6.46 acres of land out of Tract 2E 1 Block 171 Upper Valley Surveys situated at 7361 Bosque Road for a 40 year term beginning February 1, 2024, through August 31, 2064. Funds are available in GF-COUNTYPARKS-RENT/LEASES. (Contract No. 2021-0292)

Norma Palacios, Director, Public Works Department (915) 273-3330

AI. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Supplemental Contract between Owner and Contractor with Keystone GC, LLC d/b/a Keystone Contractors and Engineers for the construction of a project identified as ADA Restroom Renovations for Three (3) El Paso County Sheriff Office Sites, to include SO Headquarters, Motor Pool, and Montana Substation in the amount of \$192,426.80. Funds are available in CIP23-SOHQMAINT-PWHQ3-RENOV-, CIP23-SOHQMAINT-PWHQ2-RENOV, and CIP23-SOHQMAINT-PWHQ1-RENOV. (Contract No. 2023-0828)

Robin Sully, Facilities Director, Facilities Maintenance Department (915) 546-2009

AJ. Approve the Purchase of One (1) 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 3500 Crew Cab Work Truck and One (1) 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe LS for the El Paso County, Texas using Region 19 Cooperative Contract 20-7355 awarded to Rudolph Chevrolet, LLC of El Paso, TX for a Grand Total \$115,727 (Administrative fee \$400). Purchasing approved December 11, 2023. Funding available in SR-R&B CAP OUT-VEHICLES and SG-ONDCP2022-CAP OUTLAYS.

Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 546-2048

AK. Approve the purchase of As Needed Microsoft Unified Support Services for the Information Technology Department using Department of Information Resources Contract DIR-CPO-4911 awarded to Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, WA pricing as indicated on contract. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE.

Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349

AL. Approve the purchase of As-Needed Sierra Wireless Products and Related Services for the County of El Paso using Omnia Partners Contract 23-6692-03 awarded to Insight Public Sector, Inc. of Chandler, AZ pricing as indicated on contract. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE.

Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349

AM. Approve the Purchase of As-Needed Furniture: Cafeteria, Chapel, Dormitory and Household for the El Paso County using Texas Smart Buy Contract 420-A1 awarded to TCI-TDCJ Texas Correctional Industries of Huntsville, TX. Pricing as indicated on the Texas Smart Buy Contract. Funding is available through various County department accounts. Purchasing approved on December 13, 2023.

Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349

AN. 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) 273-3349

AO. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Master Service Agreement with LexiPol, LLC for the Cordico Shield Law Enforcement Wellness App for a 12 month term in the amount of \$40,000. Funds are available in SG-G1RESMH24-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2023-1000)

Sheriff Richard D. Wiles, El Paso County Sheriff's Office (915) 546-2217

AP. **PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER CORONADO - GRANT AWARD** - Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the Texas Office of the Governor (OOG) Criminal Justice Division (CJD) FY24 Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant Program award on behalf of the District Attorney's Office Victim Assistance Program from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$270,553.50. A County match in the amount of \$264,618.50 is needed and available in GF-VICTIMWIT-XFEROUT-GRTMTCH. (Contract No. 2023-1004)

Bill D. Hicks, District Attorney, District Attorney's Office (915) 546-2059 x4077

AQ. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Texas Department of Transportation FY2024 Rural Area Federal Formula Program Discretionary Project Grant Agreement (PGA) from December 18, 2023, through August 31, 2024, in the amount of \$339,342. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2023-0995)

Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015

AR. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Texas Department of Transportation FY2024 Rural Area Federal Formula Program Discretionary Project Grant Agreement (PGA) (Additional) from December 18, 2023, through August 31, 2024, in the amount of \$60,658. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2023-0996)

Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015

AS. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the Bureau of Justice Assistance FY23 State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) grant award in the amount of \$27,948, on behalf of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office for the period of July 1, 2021, through June, 30, 2022. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2023-1019)

Sheriff Richard D. Wiles, El Paso County Sheriff's Office (915) 546-2217

AT. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 262.024 (a)(4), approve and authorize the use of Professional Service Exemption to purchasing procedures to select a qualified firm to provide investigative services, legal analysis, and training as requested by the Human Resources Department on behalf of the County of El Paso and authorize Scott Hulse P.C., to commence services. Funding is available in GF-HR-CONTR SVC-GEN.

Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349

AU. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Professional Services Agreement between El Paso County and Scott Hulse, P.C., for employment-related investigative services, legal analysis, and training as requested by the Human Resources Department. Funds are available in account: GF-HR-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2023-0530)

Sam Trujillo, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218

MOTION: APPROVE

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

5. RESOLUTIONS

A. **CORRECTION PER COMMISSIONER PCT 2** - Approve and adopt a resolution in support of University Medical Center of El Paso's efforts to establish a **GERIATRIC EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AND SPECIALTY CLINIC** to serve El Paso County's growing older adult population.

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

MOTION: APPROVE

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

B. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing Tamales Lupita for their continued dedication and service to El Paso County, Texas.

Sergio Coronado, Commissioner, Pct. 4 (915) 546-2044

MOTION: APPROVE

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

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

County Judge Samaniego expressed his condolences on behalf of the Commissioners Court and County Family for Danny Ruiz, County employee with the Information Technology Department, and asked for a moment of silence in remembrance.

Perdro Sera, concerned citizen, expressed his dissatisfaction with the manner in which his plea for help to the Commissioners Court and Emergence Health Network has gone unheard. He requested help in getting treatment for his mental health concerns as the holidays approach.

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

4AP. **PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER CORONADO - GRANT AWARD** - Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the Texas Office of the Governor (OOG) Criminal Justice Division (CJD) FY24 Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant Program award on behalf of the District Attorney's Office Victim Assistance Program from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$270,553.50. A County match in the amount of \$264,618.50 is needed and available in GF-VICTIMWIT-XFEROUT-GRTMTCH. (Contract No. 2023-1004) Bill D. Hicks, District Attorney, District Attorney's Office (915) 546-2059 x4077

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Coronado
Seconded by County Judge Samaniego

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

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Receive a quarterly report from R. Jacob Cintron, President and Chief Executive Officer of the El Paso County Hospital District, and take appropriate action.

R. Jacob Cintron, President & CEO, Hospital District/University Medical Center (915) 521-7600

MOTION: ACCEPT

Motion by Commissioner Coronado
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

8. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the El Paso County's Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) vacancy through the Rio Grande Council of Governments. Approve and appoint Norma Rivera Palacios as the appointee for the El Paso County's Solid Waste Advisory Committee for a two-year term (FY 2024-2025). Iliana Holguin, Commissioner, Pct. 3 (915) 546-2144

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

9. Approve and authorize the appointments of Jessica Garza, Interim Budget Executive Director as the Court's appointment for a two-year, staggered term, and Angela Brinkley, Chief Deputy Tax-Assessor Collector, as the County Judge's appointment for a four-year, staggered term, to the City's Tax Advisory Committee, effective immediately.

Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

10. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding Senate Bill 2, the Property Tax Relief Act, which requires the election of three members of an appraisal district's board of directors in Texas counties with a population of 75,000 or more, including El Paso County.

Lisa Wise, Elections Administrator, Elections Department (915) 546-2154

NO ACTION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

17. (ARP Project No. 1160) Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the request for funding from UpTogether for a universal income project as part of the Economic Development Recovery Program.

Jose M. Landeros, Director of Strategic Development, County Administration (915) 546-2159

MOTION: DIRECT STAFF TO DEVELOP AND NEGOTIATE AN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN AGREEMENT WITH UPTOGETHER, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000, TO DEPLOY A UNIVERSAL INCOME PROJECT FOR EL PASO COUNTY RESIDENTS, INCLUDING TERMS, METRICS AND CONCEPTS AS DISCUSSED BY STAFF.

Motion by Commissioner Stout
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

11. Receive a presentation and discuss the proposed Carrolton Estates Regional Park partnership from JNC Development, Inc.

Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

NO ACTION

MEETING RECESSED AT 12:10 P.M.

MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:15 P.M.

12. Receive a presentation, and discuss and take appropriate action on the 2024 Prevailing Wage rate survey and associated timeline. (#2812-OP)

Melissa M. Carrillo, PHR, Executive Director, County Operations Department (915) 546-2162

MOTION: APPROVE THE COUNTY OPERATIONS MANAGER TO INITIATE THE 2024 PREVAILING WAGE SURVEY PROCESS AS PRESENTED.

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

13. Approve and authorize the revisions made to the County's Professional Development Policy. (#2977-OP)

Melissa M. Carrillo, PHR, Executive Director, County Operations Department (915) 546-2162

MOTION: APPROVE

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

14. Approve and authorize the revisions made to the County's Travel Policies and Procedures. (#2976-OP)

Melissa M. Carrillo, PHR, Executive Director, County Operations (915) 546-2215

MOTION: APPROVE

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

15. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding El Paso County's preparation and response for public health emergencies.

Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

NO ACTION

PURCHASING

16. Approve the purchase of Security System Upgrade for the County of El Paso Juvenile Probation Department (12401490) using Region 19 Contract 21-7404 awarded to Pyrocom Systems, Inc. (PyroCom Systems, Inc.) of El Paso, TX for a total cost \$1,387,913.09. Purchasing approved December 11, 2023. Funding available in CP-TN23A-JPD-RENOV-SECURITYSYS.

Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349

MOTION: APPROVE

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

PUBLIC WORKS

18. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the Public Works Department to apply for the FY23 Environmental Protection Agency Community Projects Discretionary grant for the Sandhills Wastewater Collection System Project, in the amount of \$2,500,000 from May 1, 2024 through September 30, 2027. A waiver request was submitted for the cash match. (Contract No. 2023-0991)

Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 273-3330

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Holguin
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

19D. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, receive legal advice and consultation regarding the Pellicano Drive Widening Project, County Attorney's file number 0178-23-AA.

Jed Untereker, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

MOTION: DELETE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

19. INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 1:57 P.M.

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

B. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 551.074, discuss a personnel matter regarding the pending vacancy for Constable Precinct #1, Oscar Ugarte.

Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, receive legal advice and consultation regarding the Pellicano Drive Widening Project.

Eddie Sosa, First Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

E. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss and receive legal advice regarding a change in juvenile law.

Kevin McCary, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3238

F. Discuss legal rights and responsibilities concerning the recent fires at a business located in the Montana Vista area of El Paso County, County Attorney's File No. 0166-23-AA, Pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section 551.071.

Bernardo R. Cruz, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

G. **CORRECTION PER COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE** - Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and responsibilities regarding **SB 4** and other immigration and border enforcement actions by the State, County Attorney's File No. 0165-23-PL.

Bernardo R. Cruz, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

H. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074, conduct the annual evaluation for the Chief Administrator, Betsy C. Keller.

Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED AT 5:46 P.M.

20. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the pending vacancy for Constable Precinct # 1, Oscar Ugarte.
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

NO ACTION

21. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding our legal rights and responsibilities concerning the recent fires at a business located in the Montana Vista area of El Paso County, County Attorney's File No. 0166-23-AA. Bernardo R. Cruz, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

MOTION: AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

22. **CORRECTION PER COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE** - Discuss and take action regarding **SB 4** and other immigration and border enforcement actions by the State, County Attorney's File No. 0165-23-PL. Bernardo R. Cruz, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

MOTION: AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY OF EL PASO TO FILE A LAWSUIT CHALLENGING THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF SB 4, AND FURTHER APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN A CO-COUNSEL AGREEMENT WITH THE ACLU AS PART OF THE SB 4 LITIGATION.

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

23. Discuss and take appropriate action to enter into the record the annual evaluation for the Chief Administrator, Betsy C. Keller. Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

MOTION: ENTER INTO THE RECORD A POSITIVE PASSING ANNUAL EVALUATION FOR THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR BETSY KELLER.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:07 P.M.

**EL PASO COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

CARLOS LEON
Commissioner, Pct. 1

ILIANA HOLGUIN
Commissioner, Pct. 3



DAVID STOUT
Commissioner, Pct. 2

SERGIO CORONADO
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, DECEMBER 18, 2023**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:07 P.M.

ATTEST:

DELIA BRIONES, COUNTY CLERK
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

JESSICA DOMINGUEZ, DEPUTY CLERK
CESAR O. NAVA, DEPUTY CLERK

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY ME THIS

_____ DAY OF _____, 2023

COUNTY JUDGE RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO, PRESIDING