

**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>

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**COMMISSIONERS COURT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2021**

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

**MINUTES PREPARED BY JESSICA DOMINGUEZ, DEPUTY CLERK**

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**1. MEETING CONVENED**

Commissioners Court of El Paso County, Texas was called to order by the Deputy Clerk at 9:32 A.M.

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**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Aubrey Donohoe, 3rd Grade Student at Red Sands Elementary School, led the Commissioners Court in the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

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**3. INVOCATION**

A. Receive an invocation by Pastor Amy Wilson Feltz from St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of March 15, 2021 and the special meeting of March 18, 2021.  
County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- B. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Unimproved Property Contract for the sale of property located at 9967 Alameda Ave., Socorro, TX 79927, to Citiso Investments LLC., in the amount of \$80,000. Further, authorize the use of the sale proceeds and funds from GF-GADM-OPS CONTINGENCIES to settle all liens on the property. (Contract No. 2020-0820)  
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- C. Approve the reappointment of County Judge Ricardo Samaniego's appointee, Sharon Voelz, to the Civil Service Commission for a two-year term ending May 13, 2022.  
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- D. 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, CPA, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 546-2040
- E. Approve amendment No. 23 to the County of El Paso's 2020-2021 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will not increase or decrease the County of El Paso's 2019-2020 overall operating budget of \$496,770,942.57.  
Wallace Hardgrove, Executive Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262
- F. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Phase 38 Local Recipient Organization Certification and grant award from the United Way of El Paso County's Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) Phase 38 Local Board Plan- Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act funds in the amount of \$38,821, for rental and mortgage assistance from January 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2021-0215)  
Irene G. Valenzuela, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Release of Lien for Maria Asuncion Molina Vargas for a revolving loan under the Home Reconstruction Program funded through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. The obligation has been satisfied in full as described in the Security Agreement. (Contract No. 2021-0218)  
Irene G. Valenzuela, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- H. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Master Lease Schedule Agreement with Xerox Financial Services LLC for a copier for the District Clerk's Office, in the amount of \$439 per month or \$21,072 for 48 month term, from April 1, 2021, through March 31, 2025. Funding is available in GF-DISTCLK-RENT/LEASES. (Contract No. 2021-0207)  
Norma Favela Barceleau, District Clerk, District Clerk's Office (915) 546-2021
- I. **PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER LEON** - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Nationwide Retirement Solutions Inc. Deferred Compensation Application for Group Flexible Purchase Payment Deferred Fixed Indexed Annuity Contract. (OP 21-0342)  
Melissa M. Carrillo, PHR, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218
- J. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Second Amendment to the El Paso County Central Access and Security Control System, Equipment and Services Installation, Service and Maintenance Agreement with PyroCom Systems, Inc. to include the Employee Fitness and Wellness Center within the Courthouse as part of the location of services. Funding is available in IS-HEALTH-EQUIPMENT. (Contract No. 2021-0212)  
Melissa M. Carrillo, PHR, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218
- K. **DELETE PER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT** - Rescind the Commissioner Court Order of March 15, 2021, Item # 4H on the Consent Agenda to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Amendment to the Software License Agreement between the County of El Paso and SoftwareOne. Funding in the amount of \$79.07 is available in GF-AUDITOR-RENT/LEASES-SOFTWAR. (Contract No. 2021-0157)  
Alvaro Maldonado, Contract Analyst, Information Technology Department (915) 546-3555

- L. Approve the transfer of \$3,780 from GF-JP2-OPS EQUIPMENT to GF-JP2-EXPENSES GEN for the refurbishing of chairs in the jury section of the courtroom with new materials.  
Judge Brian J. Haggerty, Justice Court Pct. 2 (915) 751-7575
- M. Approve and authorize the use of funds from the JP Technology Fund (Special Revenue Fund 6043) for the purchase and installation of 3 Ethernet ports in the Justice Court Pct. 6, Pl. 2, in the amount of \$1,694. Specifications have been provided by ITD, and the Purchasing process will be followed. Funding is available in SR-JPTECH-OPS CONTINGENCIES. Further, approve the reallocation of funds from SR-JPTECH-OPS CONTINGENCIES to SR-JPTECH-MAINT/REP- GENERAL.  
Judge Enedina Serna, Justice Court, Pct. 6, Pl. 2 (915) 855-3062
- N. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Services Agreement by and between the El Paso County Juvenile Probation Department and Confidential Drug Testing for drug and alcohol screenings to referred juveniles beginning April 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, in an estimated amount of \$31,500. Funding is available in SG-COVID19-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2021-0176)  
Roger Martinez, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Juvenile Probation Department (915) 849-2500
- O. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Second Amendment to Contract for Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan Services with Halff Associates, Inc., extending the term of services through June 30, 2021. (Contract No. 2021-0223)  
Veronica Myers, Director, Parks and Recreation Department (915) 771-2380
- P. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Special Warranty Deed Contract with Socorro Independent School District (SISD), for right-of-way property needed for the widening and reconstruction of Pellicano Drive. No County funds are required. (Contract No. 2020-0270)  
Jose M. Landeros, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- Q. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Interlocal Agreement between El Paso County Texas and Socorro Independent School District Related to the Extension of Bob Hope Drive and Provision of Storm Water Facilities Project (CSJ# 0924-06-637) for engineering design services and storm water facilities with the Socorro Independent School District. No County funds are required. (Contract No. 2021-0107)  
Jose M. Landeros, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- R. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) For Surface Transportation Program Metropolitan Mobility Reconstruction Project Off-System, and the accompanying Resolution with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for engineering design of the Bob Hope Extension (CSJ. No. 0924-06-637) in the amount of \$8,636. Funding is available in GF-EPCMP-PROF SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2021-0121)  
Jose M. Landeros, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- S. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Third Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement VRF Project Development Agreement for the Eastlake Boulevard, Phase 1 Roadway Improvement Project, with the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority. No County funds are required. (Contract No. 2021-0181)  
Jose M. Landeros, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- T. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Second Amendment to Transportation Agreement with Project Amistad to designate the contractor as a CARES Act Subrecipient for the purposes of providing transportation services throughout the community to further mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 virus in an amount not to exceed \$250,000. Funding is available in GCOVID2020-TRANSPORT. Further, authorize the transfer of necessary funds from GCOVID2020-EMERGENCY ALLOCATIONS to GCOVID2020-TRANSPORT. (Contract No. 2021-0217)  
Jose M. Landeros, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- U. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Property Access Agreement between El Paso Downtown Management District and El Paso County granting the District and their contractor, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., to conduct Brownfield Site Assessments at the County owned-properties located at 6295, 6315 and 6345 Alameda Avenue. No County funds are required. (Contract No. 2021-0220)  
Jose M. Landeros, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015
- V. Approve the Certificates of Plat Compliance (under Texas Local Government Code Section 232.028(a), as provided on the attached listing.  
Norma R. Palacios, Executive Director, Public Works Department (915) 546-2015

W. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Right-of-Entry Agreement between the County of El Paso and El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU) to use EPWU property, located at 1002 Tiffany Drive for purposes of conducting Community Clean-ups in the Westway area. (Contract No. 2021-0167)

Norma R. Palacios, Executive Director, Public Works Department (915) 546-2015

X. 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.

Debra Carrejo-Trull, CPPO, CPPB, 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

**5. RESOLUTIONS**

A. Approve and adopt a resolution declaring the month of March as "National Red Cross Month" in El Paso County, Texas.

Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, Commissioners Court (915) 546-2098

**MOTION: APPROVE**

Motion by County Judge Samaniego  
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Beau Bagley, Vice President of Sports Tourism and Events for El Paso Sports Commission, addressed the Commissioners Court regarding current sporting and entertainment events occurring in El Paso County.

**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

**MOTION: APPROVE THE ALLOCATION OF UP TO \$36,000 OF CARES ACT FUNDING FOR THE EL PASOANS FIGHTING HUNGER FOOD BANK TO CONTINUE HOME DELIVERED BOXES FOR FAMILIES IMPACTED BY COVID-19 FOR UP TO AN ADDITIONAL 10 WEEKS.**

Motion by County Judge Samaniego  
Seconded by Commissioner Robinson

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

**MOTION: APPROVE AN ALLOCATION UP TO \$1.33 MILLION FOR CONSTABLE COVID EFFORTS AS DESCRIBED, SUBJECT TO COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND GRANTS DEPARTMENT REVIEW TO ENSURE IT IS APPROPRIATE FUNDING UNDER THE CARES ACT.**

Motion by Commissioner Leon  
Seconded by County Judge Samaniego

Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Holguin, Robinson  
Members Voting Nay: Stout

**MOTION: APPROVE THE REOPENING OF COUNTY PARKS AND AMENITIES ON APRIL 1, 2021 FOLLOWING SPECIFIC GUIDELINES AS DISCUSSED**

Motion by County Judge Samaniego  
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

**7. PRESENTATION**

A. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the 87th Texas Legislative Session, to include presenting information for the Court's consideration, removing or including bills on the County's state legislative agenda and supporting or opposing filed legislation, and take any action necessary on aforementioned items.

Daniel Collins, Governmental Affairs Manager, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

**MOTION: APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE 2021 LEGISLATIVE VALUES DOCUMENT AS PRESENTED AND DIRECT STAFF TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES.**

Motion by County Judge Samaniego  
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

B. Receive a presentation and discuss and take appropriate action regarding FY2022 Federal appropriations.

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

**MOTION: APPROVE THE COUNTY'S PRIORITIES FOR FY22 FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE ORDER AS FOLLOWS: BROADBAND EXPANSION/ENHANCEMENT, COMMUNITY POLICING. CIT PROGRAM EXPANSION, WATER/WASTEWATER/ STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS, RE-ENTRY PROGRAM AND ALAMEDA PROPERTY, AND FABENS AIRPORT INVESTMENT.**

Motion by Commissioner Holguin  
Seconded by Commissioner Stout

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

C. Receive a presentation regarding the new El Paso County EPIC Shining Stars award naming the four Shining Stars for the third quarter of FY21.

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

**PRESENTATION RECEIVED**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

8. Approve and authorize the El Paso County Hospital District to execute an amendment to the contract with Guidehouse, LLP, for consulting services related to expenses related to the District's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

**MOTION: APPROVE**

Motion by Commissioner Leon  
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

**ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**4I. PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER LEON** - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Nationwide Retirement Solutions Inc. Deferred Compensation Application for Group Flexible Purchase Payment Deferred Fixed Indexed Annuity Contract. (OP 21-0342)

Melissa M. Carrillo, PHR, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218

**MOTION: APPROVE**

Motion by Commissioner Leon  
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**

9. Receive a report and discuss the CARES Act Grant and the Coronavirus Response and Relief, Supplemental Appropriations Act 2021.

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

**NO ACTION**

**AUDITOR**

11. Pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code § 114.023, 114.024, 114.025 and 114.026, please accept the attached presentation and the interim financial report for the month ended February 28, 2021. The interim financial report is located on the intranet at:

<http://www.epcounty.com/auditor/publications/monthlyreports.htm>.

Edward A. Dion, CPA, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 546-2040

**MOTION: ACCEPT**

Motion by Commissioner Stout  
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

**MEETING RECESSED AT 12:23 P.M.**

**MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:18 P.M.**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

12. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Agreement for Professional Services to Develop an Event and Venue Feasibility Study for the El Paso County Coliseum and Potential Amphitheater, with Hunden Strategic Partners in the amount of \$90,000. Funding is available in GF-GADM-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2020-1003)

Michael Hernandez, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177

**MOTION: APPROVE**

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

13B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.0725, and Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and remedies and contract negotiations with El Paso Sports Commission for operation and management services of the El Paso County Coliseum.

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

**MOTION: (1.) COMMISSIONERS COURT VOTES UNANIMOUSLY THAT DELIBERATION IN AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE POSITION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH A THIRD PARTY; (2.) THE ATTORNEY ADVISING THE COMMISSIONERS COURT ISSUES A WRITTEN DETERMINATION THAT DELIBERATION IN AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE POSITION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH A THIRD PARTY; AND (3.) A RECORDING OF THE PROCEEDINGS IN CLOSED SESSION IS MADE REGARDING THE DISCUSSION OF LEGAL RIGHTS AND REMEDIES AND CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH EL PASO SPORTS COMMISSION FOR OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES OF THE EL PASO COUNTY COLISEUM.**

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

**13. INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 1:29 P.M.**

A. Discuss findings regarding persons necessary in Executive Session.

County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.0725, and Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and remedies and contract negotiations with El Paso Sports Commission for operation and management services of the El Paso County Coliseum.

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

**REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED AT 2:47 P.M.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:49 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

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**COMMISSIONERS COURT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2021**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:49 P.M.**

ATTEST:

DELIA BRIONES, COUNTY CLERK  
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

\_\_\_\_\_  
JESSICA DOMINGUEZ, DEPUTY CLERK

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY ME THIS

\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY JUDGE RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO, PRESIDING