

**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>

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**COMMISSIONERS COURT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023**

HON. RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO	COUNTY JUDGE, PRESIDING	PRESENT
CARLOS LEON	COMMISSIONER, PCT #1	VIDEOCONFERENCE
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, DEPUTY CLERK  
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 9:38 A.M.

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**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mission Early College High School Student Council members and Class Officers Vaeda Smith, Monica Vazquez, and Andrea Moreno led the Commissioners Court in the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

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**3. INVOCATION**

Receive an invocation from Pastor Artie Maxwell from Mt. Zion Baptist Church.



#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of August 7, 2023.  
County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- B. Approve and authorize payment to Horses Unlimited Rescue Center, Inc. in the amount of \$4,000 for the care of four additional horses at a cost of \$1,000 per horse, pursuant to Section 2.B. of the County's Service Agreement. Funds are available in GF-ANIMALWELF-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2022-0624)  
Lauralei Combs, Executive Director, Animal Welfare Department (915) 330-9752
- C. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 81.032, approve and authorize the Animal Welfare Department to accept monetary donations and/or donations of items needed to assist with the welfare of local animals during Fiscal Year 2024.  
Lauralei Combs, Executive Director, Animal Welfare Department (915) 330-9752
- D. Approve and authorize the budget transfer of \$8,500 from GF-CNTYADMIN-CONTR SVC-GEN to GF-CNTYADMIN-EMPLOY RELATIONS for County employee recognition efforts.  
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215
- E. 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
- F. Approve amendment No.37 to the County of El Paso's 2022-2023 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Enterprise by \$8,991, thus increasing the overall budget of \$729,509,688.80 to \$729,518,679.80.  
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262
- G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the 2023-2024 UTEP Community Work-Study Mentorship and Internship Program with the University of Texas at El Paso Center for Community Engagement for a placement of two part time students in the Community Services Department from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. (Contract No. 2023-0621)  
Irene G. Valenzuela, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- H. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Lexis Plus Amendment for State/Local Government with LexisNexis, for legal research for the Council of Judges from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2026. Funding is available in GF-COUNCIL-BOOKS&SUBSCRIPT. (Contract No. 2023-0576)  
Naomi A. Garcia, Office Manager, Council of Judges Administration (915) 546-2143
- I. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amendment to the Aliviane SAMHSA Services Agreement with Aliviane Inc., to provide substance abuse counseling services for participants of the DWI Intervention and Treatment Program from October 1, 2022, through October 1, 2023, in the annual amount of \$269,210. Funding is available in SG-SAMHSA23-OPERATING EXPENSES. (Contract 2023-0564)  
Judge Robert S. Anchondo, County Criminal Court at Law No. 2 (915) 834-8232
- J. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Memorandum of Understanding regarding Pretrial Risk Assessment Data Sharing with the University of Texas at El Paso for an extension to El Paso County's agreement with UTEP to complete the quantitative evaluation and validation of the El Paso Pretrial Research Assessment - Revised (EPPRA-R) effective upon the date of signature by both parties from July 1, 2022, through June 1, 2024, in the amount of \$134,707. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-OPERATING EX. (Contract No. 2023-0537)  
Joel Bishop, Executive Director, Criminal Justice and Community Services (915) 546-2215
- K. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Drug Testing Services Operations Agreement between the County of El Paso and Recovery Monitoring Solutions, LLC for Drug Testing Services for the Criminal Justice Coordination Department for a three year term beginning August 14, 2023, in the amount of \$95,372. Funding is available in GF-CRMJUSTCOORD-MEDICAL-GEN. (Contract No. 2023-0566)  
Catherine Jones, Director, Criminal Justice Coordination Department (915) 546-2292
- L. Pursuant to Texas Election Code 3.003, and in conjunction with direction given by the Texas Secretary of State, authorize a local order for a Countywide Election on November 7, 2023, for the purpose of adopting or rejecting the fourteen Constitutional Amendments proposed by fourteen joint resolutions as submitted by the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas.  
Lisa Wise, Elections Administrator, Elections Department (915) 546-2154



M. Approve and authorize the creation of the El Paso County's Pilot Paid Internship Program Policy and Procedures and the creation of seven (7) new Paid Intern Temp Pool positions for departments utilizing this program. Funding in the amount of \$300,000 is available in GF-GADM-CONTINGENCY-PERSONNEL, and if approved will be transferred to each respective department. (#1868-OP)  
Minnie Holguin, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218

N. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Contract Between Owner and Contractor with El Paso J.A.G Inc. for replacement of the Ascarate Park Pro Shop Roof for the County of El Paso in the amount of \$61,731.32. Funds are available in CIP22-PARKS&REC-GOLFCSE-RENOV. (Contract 2023-0362)  
Veronica Myers, Director, Parks and Recreation Department (915) 771-2380

O. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Release of Obligation for improvements located in Peyton Estates Unit 7 subdivision (Instrument No. LICX1210460). Further, accept the identified improvements into the County of El Paso Road System for maintenance.  
Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015

P. 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) 546-2015

Q. 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

**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. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing August 16, 2023, as "David L. Carrasco Job Corps Graduation Day", in El Paso County, Texas.  
Carlos Leon, Commissioner, Pct. 1 (915) 546-2014

**MOTION: APPROVE**

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

B. Approve and adopt a resolution honoring the life of Mike Dipp and offering condolences from El Paso County to his family.  
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

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Elizabeth Crawford, concerned citizen, regarding topics of concern such as euthanasia and abortion, and read scripture to the Court.

Barron E. White, CEO of ESL International and Executive Director of the Language Acquisition Research Foundation, introduced himself to the Court and spoke about the lack of data available as it relates to career technology education in Hispanic youth with limited English proficiency, and their development in Information Technology fields.

Daniel Cole Barlow, Director of Technology for the Language Acquisition Research Foundation, introduced himself to the members of the Court and spoke about the need to develop the apprenticeship training model within organizations and provide pathways to careers in technology to diversify the workforce.



## COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

7. Discuss and consider adoption of a resolution of El Paso County, Texas determining the costs of certain authorized improvements to be financed by the Tierra del Este III – Phase VI Public Improvement District; approving a Preliminary Service and Assessment Plan, including proposed assessment rolls; calling a meeting and noticing a public hearing for August 28, 2023, to consider an order levying assessments on property located within the District; directing the filing of the proposed assessment rolls with the County Clerk to make available for public inspection; directing County staff to publish and mail notice of said public hearing; and resolving other matters incident and related thereto. (Contract No. 2023-0626) (CC Pct. #1)

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

**MOTION: APPROVE AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS DETERMINING THE COSTS OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED IMPROVEMENTS TO BE FINANCED BY THE TIERRA DEL ESTE III – PHASE VI PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT; APPROVING A PRELIMINARY SERVICE AND ASSESSMENT PLAN, INCLUDING PROPOSED ASSESSMENT ROLLS; CALLING A MEETING AND NOTICING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR AUGUST 28, 2023, TO CONSIDER AN ORDER LEVYING ASSESSMENTS ON PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE DISTRICT; DIRECTING THE FILING OF THE PROPOSED ASSESSMENT ROLLS WITH THE COUNTY CLERK TO MAKE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION; DIRECTING COUNTY STAFF TO PUBLISH AND MAIL NOTICE OF SAID PUBLIC HEARING; AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED THERETO.**

Motion by Commissioner Holguin

Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

Seconded by County Judge Samaniego

Members Voting Nay: None

## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

8. (ARP Project No. 1170 & 1171) Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Agreement with Workforce Solutions Borderplex for Childcare Industry Support beginning August 7, 2023. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-WSB WORKFORCE TRAINING, SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-WSB CHILDCARE (Contract No. 2023-0413). Further, approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Agreement with Workforce Solutions Borderplex for Small Business Support beginning August 7, 2023. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-INDUSTRY SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT (Contract No. 2023-0550)

Jose M. Landeros, Director of Strategic Development, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

**MOTION: APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN THE EL PASO COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS BORDERPLEX FOR CHILDCARE INDUSTRY SUPPORT BEGINNING AUGUST 7, 2023. FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-WSB WORKFORCE TRAINING, SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-WSB CHILDCARE (CONTRACT NO. 2023-0413). FURTHER, APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN THE EL PASO COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS BORDERPLEX FOR SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT BEGINNING AUGUST 7, 2023. FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-INDUSTRY SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT (CONTRACT NO. 2023-0550)**

Motion by County Judge Samaniego

Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

Seconded by Commissioner Stout

Members Voting Nay: None

## AUDITOR

9. Rescind the Commissioners Court Order of July 31, 2023; Item 4G on the Consent Agenda, 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

### MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Coronado

Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

Members Voting Nay: None

10. 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

### MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego

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

Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

Members Abstained: Coronado

Members Voting Nay: None



## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

11. Pursuant to Section V.A.ii.a of the County Hotel Occupancy Tax Policy, discuss and take appropriate action regarding the proposed FY23-FY25 agreement with Brightside LLC, Series 1. Funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available in SR-TOURPROM-ADVERTISING, subject to final legal review and approval from the County Attorney's Office. (Contract No. 2023-0590)  
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177

### **MOTION: APPROVE**

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

## **17. INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:58 A.M.**

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

B. Discuss legal rights and responsibilities related to the Chapter 381 Economic Development Program Agreement, Financial Assistance for Safety, Technology, and Economic Resilience (FASTER), as amended, between LiftFund Inc. and El Paso County, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.  
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177

C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, receive legal advice and consultation regarding HR investigations.  
Jo Anne Bernal, County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2081

D. **CORRECTION PER COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE** - Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 **AND 551.072**, discuss legal rights and responsibilities regarding the County's response to the lifting of Title 42.  
Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

## **REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED AT 11:56 A.M.**

18. Discuss and take appropriate action to enter into engagement agreements with certain outside counsel on HR investigations.  
Jo Anne Bernal, County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2081

### **MOTION: APPROVE**

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

19. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the County's ongoing response to the lifting of Title 42.  
Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

## **NO ACTION**

## **MEETING RECESSED AT 12:05 P.M.**

## **MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:07 P.M.**

## **BUDGET AND FINANCE**

12. Receive a presentation and discuss and take appropriate action on the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budgets and property tax rates for Emergency Service Districts #1 and #2.  
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

## **NO ACTION**



13. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the El Paso County Hospital District FY2024 Proposed Operating and Capital Budget and proposed tax rate.

Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

**MOTION: DELETE**

Motion by County Judge Samaniego  
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

14. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding a presentation on unfunded mandates and actions staff has taken to publicly advertise this information.

Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

**NO ACTION**

15. Discuss and take appropriate action on the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget for El Paso County.

Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

**MOTION: INCLUDE IN THE FINAL BUDGET THE MEDICAL PLAN DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN YEAR 2024.**

Motion by Commissioner Coronado  
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

**MOTION: INCLUDE IN THE FINAL BUDGET THE PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INSURANCE PREMIUMS, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion by Commissioner Stout  
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

**MOTION: INCLUDE IN THE FINAL BUDGET A 1% INCREASE, FLAT RATE, FOR RETIREES.**

Motion by Commissioner Stout  
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

**MOTION: INCLUDE IN THE FINAL BUDGET AN ADJUSTMENT FOR COMMISSIONERS COURT TO BE ON PAY PARITY WITH THE COUNTY CLERK, DISTRICT CLERK, AND TAX ASSESSOR, AND FOR THE COUNTY JUDGE TO BE ADJUSTED PRO-RATA.**

Motion by Commissioner Coronado  
Seconded by Commissioner Stout

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

**MOTION: INCLUDE IN THE FINAL BUDGET 4.75% COLA ACROSS PAY SCALES FOR AGRILIFE, ATTORNEY, EXECUTIVE, GENERAL, AND PROFESSIONAL SCALES; WE WILL BE BRINGING BACK AN ITEM FOR DEPUTY CONSTABLE SCALES.**

Motion by Commissioner Holguin  
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

**MOTION: INCLUDE IN THE FINAL BUDGET A 4.75% COLA TO THE ELEGIBLE ELECTED OFFICIALS THAT ARE IDENTIFIED ON SLIDE 28 OF THE PRESENTATION.**

Motion by Commissioner Stout  
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

**MOTION: INCLUDE IN THE FINAL BUDGET A CIP ALLOCATION OF \$1,616,455 EARNED FROM INTEREST FOR URGENT CAPITAL NEEDS.**

Motion by Commissioner Holguin  
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

**MOTION: INCLUDE IN THE FINAL BUDGET, IF YEAR END RESERVE IS PROJECTED TO BE 8% A FY24 CIP ALLOCATION (UP TO \$12M); FUNDING FOR TIER 1A-1C NEW POSITION STAFFING; AND STEP ADJUSTMENTS. A DATE WILL BE DETERMINED ONCE RESERVE POSITION IS EVALUATED, THESE ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT BACK FOR FINAL ADOPTION.**

Motion by Commissioner Stout  
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

16. Pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code, § 152.013 (b), discuss and take action on the proposed annual salaries, expenses or allowances for elected County and precinct officers for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023. Any proposed salary or allowance increases will be published in a local newspaper of general circulation. These salaries and any proposed increases would take effect on October 1, 2023, and upon the adoption of the County Budget.

Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

**NO ACTION**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:31 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  
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**COMMISSIONERS COURT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:31 P.M.**

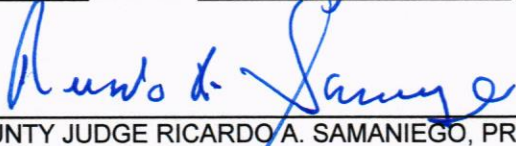
ATTEST:

DELIA BRIONES, COUNTY CLERK  
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

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

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY ME THIS

21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF August, 2023

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



2023 AUG 11 AM 8:48

## EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

DELIA BRIONES  
COUNTY CLERK  
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

**CARLOS LEON**  
Commissioner, Pct.1



**DAVID STOUT**  
Commissioner, Pct.2

**ILIANA HOLGUIN**  
Commissioner, Pct.3

**SERGIO CORONADO**  
Commissioner, Pct.4

**RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO**  
County Judge

This meeting may include one or more Commissioners that will participate by videoconference, and El Paso County employees that will participate by videoconference, which is allowed pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127. A quorum of the Commissioners Court will be physically present at the El Paso County Courthouse, Commissioners Court Chambers, 500 East San Antonio Room 303 El Paso, Texas 79901. A member of the Commissioners Court who is presiding over the meeting will also be physically present at the location listed above. The meeting is open to the public during the open portions of the meeting, and the Commissioner participating by video conference shall be visible and audible to the public for as long as the Commissioner is able to participate.

Members of the public will be entitled to participate and address the governmental body during any telephonic or videoconference meeting.

To watch the meeting, please visit: <https://www.epcounty.com/video/or>  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-2RxYOS6Y6VkDlp5eM0OLA>

To participate in public comment, please call: 888-835-7276 or 888-8 EL PASO.

Members of the public may also participate via videoconference by visiting:  
<https://www.epcounty.com/public-comment.htm>. Agendas will continue to be posted online  
at: <https://elpaso.novusagenda.com/AgendaPublic/>

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact us at (915) 546-2215

Commissioners Court Chambers, El Paso County Courthouse  
500 East San Antonio Room 303 El Paso, Texas 79901  
Website address: <http://www.epcounty.com>  
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**Please place all electronic devices on silent mode to reduce disruption of the meeting.**

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# AGENDA

Regular Meeting, August 14, 2023 - 9:30 AM

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Strategic Plan  
Priority

1. OPEN MEETING
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. INVOCATION

A. Receive an invocation.

## 4. CONSENT AGENDA

### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda will be considered by the Commissioners Court to be routine and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Court or persons in the audience request that specific items be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda for discussion prior to the time the Commissioners Court votes on the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda.

All matters listed on the Consent Agenda and Regular Agenda may be discussed in Executive Session at the discretion of the El Paso County Commissioners Court and following verbal announcement, if an appropriate exception to the open meeting requirement of the Texas Open Meetings Act is applicable.

#### A. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of August 7, 2023.

*County Administration Department (915) 546-2215*

#### B. Approve and authorize payment to Horses Unlimited Rescue Center, Inc. in the amount of \$4,000 for the care of four additional horses at a cost of \$1,000 per horse, pursuant to Section 2.B. of the County's Service Agreement. Funds are available in GF-ANIMALWELF-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2022-0624)

*Lauralei Combs, Executive Director, Animal Welfare Department (915) 330-9752*

#### C. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 81.032, approve and authorize the Animal Welfare Department to accept monetary donations and/or donations of items needed to assist with the welfare of local animals during Fiscal Year 2024.

*Lauralei Combs, Executive Director, Animal Welfare Department (915) 330-9752*

#### D. Approve and authorize the budget transfer of \$8,500 from GF-CNTYADMIN-CONTR SVC-GEN to GF-CNTYADMIN-EMPLOY RELATIONS for County employee recognition efforts.

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

#### E. 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*

- F. Approve amendment No.37 to the County of El Paso's 2022-2023 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Enterprise by \$8,991, thus increasing the overall budget of \$729,509,688.80 to \$729,518,679.80.

*Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262*

- G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the 2023-2024 UTEP Community Work-Study Mentorship and Internship Program with the University of Texas at El Paso Center for Community Engagement for a placement of two part time students in the Community Services Department from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. (Contract No. 2023-0621)

*Irene G. Valenzuela, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708*

- H. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Lexis Plus Amendment for State/Local Government with LexisNexis, for legal research for the Council of Judges from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2026. Funding is available in GF-COUNCIL-BOOKS&SUBSCRIPT. (Contract No. 2023-0576)

*Naomi A. Garcia, Office Manager, Council of Judges Administration (915) 546-2143*

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*Judge Robert S. Anchondo, County Criminal Court at Law No. 2 (915) 834-8232*

- J. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Memorandum of Understanding regarding Pretrial Risk Assessment Data Sharing with the University of Texas at El Paso for an extension to El Paso County's agreement with UTEP to complete the quantitative evaluation and validation of the El Paso Pretrial Research Assessment - Revised (EPPRA-R) effective upon the date of signature by both parties from July 1, 2022, through June 1, 2024, in the amount of \$134,707. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-OPERATING EX. (Contract No. 2023-0537)

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*Catherine Jones, Director, Criminal Justice Coordination Department (915) 546-2292*

- L. Pursuant to Texas Election Code 3.003, and in conjunction with direction given by the Texas Secretary of State, authorize a local order for a Countywide Election on November 7, 2023, for the purpose of

adopting or rejecting the fourteen Constitutional Amendments proposed by fourteen joint resolutions as submitted by the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas.

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

- M. Approve and authorize the creation of the El Paso County's Pilot Paid Internship Program Policy and Procedures and the creation of seven (7) new Paid Intern Temp Pool positions for departments utilizing this program. Funding in the amount of \$300,000 is available in GF-GADM-CONTINGENCY-PERSONNEL, and if approved will be transferred to each respective department. (#1868-OP)

*Minnie Holguin, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218*

- N. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Contract Between Owner and Contractor with El Paso J.A.G Inc. for replacement of the Ascarate Park Pro Shop Roof for the County of El Paso in the amount of \$61,731.32. Funds are available in CIP22-PARKS&REC-GOLFCSE-RENOV. (Contract 2023-0362)

*Veronica Myers, Director, Parks and Recreation Department (915) 771-2380*

- O. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Release of Obligation for improvements located in Peyton Estates Unit 7 subdivision (Instrument No. LICX1210460). Further, accept the identified improvements into the County of El Paso Road System for maintenance.

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

- P. 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) 546-2015*

- Q. 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*

## **5. RESOLUTIONS**

- A. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing August 16, 2023, as "David L. Carrasco Job Corps Graduation Day", in El Paso County, Texas.

*Carlos Leon, Commissioner, Pct. 1 (915) 546-2014*

- B. Approve and adopt a resolution honoring the life of Mike Dipp and offering condolences from El Paso County to his family.

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

## **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**

7. Discuss and consider adoption of a resolution of El Paso County, Texas determining the costs of certain authorized improvements to be financed by the Tierra del Este III – Phase VI Public Improvement



District; approving a Preliminary Service and Assessment Plan, including proposed assessment rolls; calling a meeting and noticing a public hearing for August 28, 2023, to consider an order levying assessments on property located within the District; directing the filing of the proposed assessment rolls with the County Clerk to make available for public inspection; directing County staff to publish and mail notice of said public hearing; and resolving other matters incident and related thereto. (Contract No. 2023-0626) (CC Pct. #1)

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

## **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**

8. (ARP Project No. 1170 & 1171) Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Agreement with Workforce Solutions Borderplex for Childcare Industry Support beginning August 7, 2023. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-WSB WORKFORCE TRAINING, SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-WSB CHILDCARE (Contract No. 2023-0413). Further, approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Agreement with Workforce Solutions Borderplex for Small Business Support beginning August 7, 2023. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-ECNIMP-INDUSTRY SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT (Contract No. 2023-0550)

*Jose M. Landeros, Director of Strategic Development, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215*

## **AUDITOR**

9. Rescind the Commissioners Court Order of July 31, 2023; Item 4G on the Consent Agenda, 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*

10. 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*

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

11. Pursuant to Section V.A.ii.a of the County Hotel Occupancy Tax Policy, discuss and take appropriate action regarding the proposed FY23-FY25 agreement with Brightside LLC, Series 1. Funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available in SR-TOURPROM-ADVERTISING, subject to final legal review and approval from the County Attorney's Office. (Contract No. 2023-0590)

*Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177*

## **BUDGET AND FINANCE**

12. Receive a presentation and discuss and take appropriate action on the

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budgets and property tax rates for Emergency Service Districts #1 and #2.

*Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262*

13. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the El Paso County Hospital District FY2024 Proposed Operating and Capital Budget and proposed tax rate.

*Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262*

14. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding a presentation on unfunded mandates and actions staff has taken to publicly advertise this information.

*Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262*

15. Discuss and take appropriate action on the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget for El Paso County.

*Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262*

16. Pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code, § 152.013 (b), discuss and take action on the proposed annual salaries, expenses or allowances for elected County and precinct officers for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023. Any proposed salary or allowance increases will be published in a local newspaper of general circulation. These salaries and any proposed increases would take effect on October 1, 2023, and upon the adoption of the County Budget.

*Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262*

## **17. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Only the members of the Commissioners Court have a right to attend an executive session, except that legal counsel must be present if the executive session is held pursuant to Government Code section 551.071. In addition to legal counsel, Commissioners Court may include in executive session certain officers and employees if it finds that (1) their participation is necessary to the matter under consideration; (2) their interests are not adverse to the county, and (3) their presence will not waive the attorney client privilege. Generally, the Chief Administrator, Budget Executive Director, County Clerk's representatives, and County Auditor's Office representatives attend the closed session items based on the enumerated criteria, and certain other persons may attend based on the above-listed criteria or as otherwise provided by law.

- A. Discuss findings regarding persons necessary in Executive Session.

*County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050*

- B. Discuss legal rights and responsibilities related to the Chapter 381 Economic Development Program Agreement, Financial Assistance for Safety, Technology, and Economic Resilience (FASTER), as amended, between LiftFund Inc. and El Paso County, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.

*Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177*

- C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, receive legal advice and consultation regarding HR investigations.

*Jo Anne Bernal, County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2081*

- D. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and responsibilities regarding the County's response to the lifting of Title 42.



## **REGULAR SESSION**

18. Discuss and take appropriate action to enter into engagement agreements with certain outside counsel on HR investigations.

*Jo Anne Bernal, County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2081*

19. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the County's ongoing response to the lifting of Title 42.

*Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050*