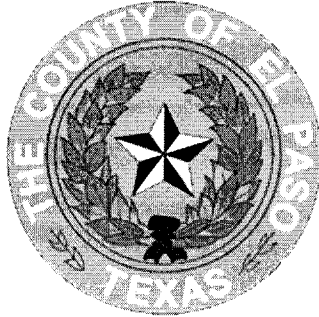


**EL PASO COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

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, AUGUST 21, 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 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 9:39 A.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. David M. Arteaga's 5th grade Class at Robert R. Rojas Elementary School led the Commissioners Court in the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

3. INVOCATION

Receive an invocation from Pastor Anthony Bedoya from Calvary Chapel Sun City.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of August 14, 2023.
County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

B. Approve and authorize the 384th Adult Drug Court mid-year position request for the transfer of a grant funded Counselor PS12 full-time position to the general fund. Funding for fiscal year 2023 is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. If approved, the position would continue to be funded in future years in the GF-384thDC salary and fringe accounts.
Judge Francisco Dominguez, 205th District Court (915) 546- 2117

C. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Subscription Agreement and Terms and Conditions with Thomson Reuters/West Publishing for CLEAR Proflex online investigation research software for the County Attorney's Office from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2026, in the amount of \$29,987.40. Funding is available in GF-CNTYATTY-BOOKS&SUBSCRIPT. (Contract No. 2023-0597)
Eddie Sosa, First Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

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, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 546-2040

E. Approve and authorize the transfer of \$3,200 from AUDITOR-OPS EQUIPMENT to AUDITOR- MAIN/REP-SOFTWARE for Tyler Software Payroll with Employee Access Migration. This software will help to resolve the issues with the Employee Self-Serve.
Edward A. Dion, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 546-2040

F. Approve amendment No. 38 to the County of El Paso's 2022-2023 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Special Revenue by \$3,021, thus increasing the overall budget of \$729,518,679.80 to \$729,521,700.80.
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amendment to the Ferguson Group Consulting Agreement with The Ferguson Group, LLC (TFG), effective March 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$225,000. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-OPERATING EX (Contract No. 2023-0572) (Project ID 1500)
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

H. Approve and authorize the use of County general funds to temporarily pay for grant-funded personnel and operating expenses in the amount of \$343,547 from September 1, 2023, through October 31, 2023, or until pending State grant awards are received and accepted. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH.
Jessica C. Garza, Interim Director, Budget and Fiscal Policy Department (915) 546-2262

I. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Judicial Systems, Inc. Technical Support and Software Maintenance Agreement for the JURY2023 Plus Jury Administration System for an 18 month term in the amount of \$26,440. Funding available in GF-COUNCIL-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE. (Contract No. 2023-0646)
Naomi A. Garcia, Office Manager, Council of Judges Administration (915) 546-2143

J. **CORRECTION PER BUDGET AND FISCAL POLICY DEPARTMENT** – Approve and authorize the County Clerk's Office to charge a \$10 fee to recover the costs of obtaining criminal history record information in guardianship cases where the clerk is asked to obtain fingerprint-based criminal history record information of a proposed guardian, pursuant to Government Code 411.1386(h) (as amended by HB 4123). Fees will be deposited in **GF-CNTYCLK-BACKGROUND CHECKS**, and monthly invoices from the Texas Department of Safety will be paid from this account.
Delia Briones, County Clerk, County Clerk's Office (915) 546-2071

K. **PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER STOUT** - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a letter of support for the TxDot Downtown10 Project. The Downtown Interstate 10 (I-10) Project application will be submitted by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in conjunction with the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization under the National Infrastructure Project Assistance (Mega) program and the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program. This project will improve an approximately 6.1-mile corridor along I-10 between Executive Center Boulevard and Loop 478 (Copia Street) in El Paso, Texas.
Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, Commissioners Court (915) 546-2098

- L. **PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER HOLGUIN** - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Heritage Tourism Virtual Tour Production Services Contract, Phase 3 with Augment El Paso to aid the County in the general promotion and tourist advertising of the County as well as for the encouragement of historical preservation through an augmented reality and virtual tour production. Funding in the amount of \$20,000 is available in SR-TOURPROM-ADVERTISING. (Contract No. 2023-0512)
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177
- M. Approve and authorize the ratification of the letters of commitment to participate as a consortium member on the 1) Borderland Tech Hub for Smart, Secure, and Connected Supply-Chain Systems and 2) the Paso del Norte Innovation for Defense and Aerospace (IDEA) Tech Hub. (#2203-OP)
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177
- N. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a letter of support for the City of Socorro Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ). (2243-OP)
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177
- O. Approve and authorize the updated Early Voting Stations and Election Day Vote Centers for the November 7, 2023 Uniform & Special Election.
Lisa Wise, Elections Administrator, Elections Department (915) 546-2154
- P. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Master Agreement and Absence Management Service Agreement with the Standard Insurance Company for administration of the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for County Employees. Funds are available in GF-HR-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2023-0317)
Minnie Holguin, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218
- Q. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Option to Renew Professional Services Agreement between the County of El Paso and Public Sector Personnel Consultants (PSPC), Inc. for Classification and Compensation Studies from August 25, 2023, through August 24, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000. Funding is available in GF-HR-CONTR SVC-GEN & GF-GADM-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2023-0557)
Minnie Holguin, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218
- R. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the master services agreement between the County of El Paso and Sun City Communications, LLC. Funding is available through various County accounts on an as-needed basis. (Contract No. 2023-0547)
Art Nevarez, Interim Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (915) 255-0748
- S. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement between the County of El Paso and Pivot Technology Services Corp (dba Computacenter). Funding in the amount of \$29,541.61 is available in GF-ITD-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2023-0585)
Art Nevarez, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (915) 546-2041
- T. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement between the County of El Paso and Baycom, Inc. Funding in the amount of \$178,760 is available in CIP23-ITD-EQ NONCAP. (Contract No. 2023-0634)
Art Nevarez, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (915) 546-2041
- U. 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
- V. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Confidentiality Agreement with Bioremedies (a subconsultant to Alegro Engineering, LP) to allow the County to share record drawings of the Juvenile Justice Facility. (Contract No. 2023-0571)
Norma R. Palacios, Executive Director, Public Works Department (915) 546-2015
- W. Approve the purchase of Network Components for Animal Welfare Department (12308146) using Texas DIR Contract DIR-TSO-4167 awarded to Cisco Systems Inc., with Pivot Technology Services Corp. dba Computacenter of El Paso, Texas as the authorized distributor, dealer, or reseller relative to the equipment, products, or services offered under DIR-TSO-4167, for grand total \$80,188.34. Purchasing approved August 7, 2023. Funding available in GF-ANIMLCLINIC-OPS EQUIPMENT.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 546-2048

X. Approve the purchase of Downtown Detention Facility Uninterrupted Power Supply System Replacement using TIPS contract 230105 awarded to Gruber Power Services of Phoenix, AZ in the amount of \$99,137. Funding is available in CIP23-FAC-SODETENMAINT-ITEQUIP.

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

Y. Approve the purchase of Water Damage Repairs to Elevators #2, and #5 of the Downtown Detention Facility for the County of El Paso using Omnia Partners Contract R200502 awarded to TK Elevator Corporation of Houston, Texas in the amount of \$99,459.16. Funding is available in CP-TN22-SODETELEVA-RENOVATIONS.

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

Z. Approve the purchase of N-able N-Central for Remote Network Monitoring Software through Information Technology Department using TIPS Contract 210101 awarded to SoftwareOne of Milwaukee, WI for a grand total of \$316,550. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE.

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

AA. CORRECTION PER PURCHASING DEPARTMENT AND PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER HOLGUIN - Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to reject all responses and close out solicitation RFP 23-022 Design/Build for the Construction of Off-Highway Vehicle Trails located at San Felipe Count Park in Far East El Paso County; with permission to resolicit at the discretion of the **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**.

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

AB. 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

AC. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the FY2024 Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot) Traffic Safety Grant on behalf of the District Attorney's Office for the DWI Deterrent with Alternate Transportation Project (2024-ElPasoDA-G-1YG-0088) from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$49,600 with a required County match of \$15,538.01 that will be met with an existing salary, for a total of \$65,138.01. (Contract No. 2023-0629)

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

AD. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign Amendment Five to the Contract for Access and Visitation Grant between the Office of the Attorney General and El Paso County from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$63,408, with a grant match of \$6,850. (Contract No. 2023-0630)

Brian Stanley, Executive Director, Domestic Relation Office (915) 834-8200

AE. Approve the purchase of an Upgrade to Increase Bandwidth for Information Technology Department (12307902) using GSA (U.S. General Services Administration) Contract 47QTCA20D0077 awarded to Lumen Technologies Government Solutions, Inc. of Arlington, VA as indicated on the tabulation. Funding is available in GF-ITD-COMMUNIC-DATA.

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

AF. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the service order form and amendment between the County of El Paso and CenturyLink Communications, LLC d/b/a Lumen Technologies Group (and its affiliated entities) to upgrade the County's distributed denial of service (DDoS). Funding is available in GF-ITD-COMMUNIC-DATA . (Contract No. 2023-0499)

Art Nevarez, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (915) 546-2041

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Stout

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

5. RESOLUTIONS

A. Approve and adopt a resolution honoring our employee Veterans as El Paso County hosts our 2023 County Employee Veteran Conference for their continued service and commitment to our Country and Community this August 24, 2023.

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

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

B. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing District Court Administrator Crystal Lozano for her completion in the Institute for Court Management Fellows Program at the United States Supreme Court.

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

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Stout

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

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Crawford, concerned citizen, addressed the Commissioners Court in opposition to the Green New Deal and the Global Climate Agenda and how those policies are not good at their core.

Pedro Sera, concerned citizen, addressed the Commissioners Court regarding his need for assistance with problems with Emergence Health Network and his request to have his services restored.

7. PRESENTATION

A. Receive presentation of a shadowbox displaying the preservation and restoration of El Paso County Commissioners Court Minutes to the County Judge and Commissioners.

Delia Briones, County Clerk, County Clerk's Office (915) 546-2071

PRESENTATION RECEIVED

COMMISSIONERS COURT

8. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the initiation of a Gun Buyback Program in El Paso County. (#2258-OP)

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

MOTION: APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$300,000 FROM ARP-1530 OPERATING CONTINGENCIES TO ESTABLISH THE ARP-4030 GUN BUYBACK PROGRAM. FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN GARPLAN21-CONTINGENCY.

Motion by Commissioner Leon
Seconded by County Judge Samaniego

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

9. Discuss and take appropriate action to adopt the El Paso County Strategic Plan for FY 2024-2028.

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

MOTION: APPROVE AND ADOPT THE EL PASO COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2028.

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

4K. PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER STOUT - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a letter of support for the TxDot Downtown10 Project. The Downtown Interstate 10 (I-10) Project application will be submitted by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in conjunction with the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization under the National Infrastructure Project Assistance (Mega) program and the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program. This project will improve an approximately 6.1-mile corridor along I-10 between Executive Center Boulevard and Loop 478 (Copia Street) in El Paso, Texas.

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

MOTION: DELETE

Motion by Commissioner Stout

Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

Members Voting Aye: Stout, Holguin

Members Voting Nay: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Coronado

MOTION FAILS

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Coronado

Seconded by County Judge Samaniego

Members Voting Aye: Judge Samaniego, Leon, Coronado

Members Voting Nay: Stout, Holguin

4L. PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER HOLGUIN - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Heritage Tourism Virtual Tour Production Services Contract, Phase 3 with Augment El Paso to aid the County in the general promotion and tourist advertising of the County as well as for the encouragement of historical preservation through an augmented reality and virtual tour production. Funding in the amount of \$20,000 is available in SR-TOURPROM-ADVERTISING. (Contract No. 2023-0512)

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

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Holguin

Seconded by County Judge Samaniego

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

Members Voting Nay: None

MEETING RECESSED AT 12:34 P.M.

MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:48 P.M.

PURCHASING

10. (ARP-1150) Approve the purchase of Cotton Valley Connect Broadband Project for the County of El Paso using Equalis Group Purchasing Program-Region 10 Education Service Center Proposal EQ-013120-01, awarded to Insight Public Sector, Inc. of Tempe, Arizona in the amount of \$2,798,761.26. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-OPERATING EX.

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

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Holguin

Seconded by County Judge Samaniego

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

Members Voting Nay: None

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

4AA. CORRECTION PER PURCHASING DEPARTMENT AND PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONER HOLGUIN - Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to reject all responses and close out solicitation RFP 23-022 Design/Build for the Construction of Off-Highway Vehicle Trails located at San Felipe Count Park in Far East El Paso County; with permission to resolicit at the discretion of the **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**.

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

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Holguin

Seconded by County Judge Samaniego

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

Members Voting Nay: None

BUDGET AND FINANCE

11. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 775.305, discuss and take appropriate action to approve or deny the recommended FY 2024 budgets and tax rates for Emergency Services District No. 1 and Emergency Services District No. 2.

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

MOTION: APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED FY 2024 BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1 WHICH IS COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING:

TAX RATE: \$0.100000

I&S TAX RATE: \$0.047326

M&O TAX RATE: \$0.052674

FOR A TOTAL BUDGET OF: \$12,316,055.09

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

MOTION: APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED FY 2024 BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 WHICH IS COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING:

TAX RATE: \$0.086457

I&S TAX RATE: \$0.033414

M&O TAX RATE: \$0.053043

FOR A TOTAL BUDGET OF: \$10,176,815.80

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

12. BUDGET HEARING: 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: POSTPONE ONE WEEK.

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

13. INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:13 P.M.

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

B. **CORRECTION PER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT** - Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 551.074, discuss selection process and candidates for the **EL PASO COUNTY VETERANS' ASSISTANCE OFFICE VA PROGRAM MANAGER** position.

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

C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 & 551.072, discuss legal rights and responsibilities regarding the County's response to the lifting of Title 42 and the corresponding deliberations about Real Property.
Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

D. Discuss the pending litigation regarding Krystal Mijares and Melissa Alvarado v. County of El Paso, cause number: EP-12-CV-00325-FM; County Attorney number LD-12-053, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.

Michael Gomez, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

E. Discuss financial information and economic development negotiations received regarding a Chapter 381 Agreement with Project Calm Winds, a private business prospect, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087.

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

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED AT 3:51 P.M.

14. **CORRECTION PER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT** - Discuss and take appropriate action on the process and candidates for the **EL PASO COUNTY VETERANS' ASSISTANCE OFFICE VA PROGRAM MANAGER** position.

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

NO ACTION

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

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

NO ACTION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

13D. Discuss the pending litigation regarding Krystal Mijares and Melissa Alvarado v. County of El Paso, cause number: EP-12-CV-00325-FM; County Attorney number LD-12-053, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.

Michael Gomez, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

MOTION: DELETE

Motion by County Judge Samaniego
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:53 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, AUGUST 21, 2023

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:53 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

28th DAY OF August, 2023

COUNTY JUDGE RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO, PRESIDING

2023 AUG 18 AM 8:43

DELIA BRIONES
COUNTY CLERK
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

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-2RxYOS6Y6VkdIp5eM0OLA>

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>
View live video webcast: <http://epcounty.com/video>

Please place all electronic devices on silent mode to reduce disruption of the meeting.

AGENDA

Regular Meeting, August 21, 2023 - 9:30 AM

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 14, 2023.

County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

B. Approve and authorize the 384th Adult Drug Court mid-year position request for the transfer of a grant funded Counselor PS12 full-time position to the general fund. Funding for fiscal year 2023 is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. If approved, the position would continue to be funded in future years in the GF-384thDC salary and fringe accounts.

Judge Francisco Dominguez, 205th District Court (915) 546- 2117

C. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Subscription Agreement and Terms and Conditions with Thomson Reuters/West Publishing for CLEAR Proflex online investigation research software for the County Attorney's Office from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2026, in the amount of \$29,987.40. Funding is available in GF-CNTYATTY-BOOKS&SUBSCRIPT. (Contract No. 2023-0597)

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

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, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 546-2040

- E. Approve and authorize the transfer of \$3,200 from AUDITOR-OPS EQUIPMENT to AUDITOR- MAIN/REP-SOFTWARE for Tyler Software Payroll with Employee Access Migration. This software will help to resolve the issues with the Employee Self-Serve.

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

- F. Approve amendment No. 38 to the County of El Paso's 2022-2023 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Special Revenue by \$3,021, thus increasing the overall budget of \$729,518,679.80 to \$729,521,700.80.

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

- G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amendment to the Ferguson Group Consulting Agreement with The Ferguson Group, LLC (TFG), effective March 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$225,000. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-OPERATING EX (Contract No. 2023-0572) (Project ID 1500)

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

- H. Approve and authorize the use of County general funds to temporarily pay for grant-funded personnel and operating expenses in the amount of \$343,547 from September 1, 2023, through October 31, 2023, or until pending State grant awards are received and accepted. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH.

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

- I. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Judicial Systems, Inc. Technical Support and Software Maintenance Agreement for the JURY2023 Plus Jury Administration System for an 18 month term in the amount of \$26,440. Funding available in GF-COUNCIL-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE. (Contract No. 2023-0646)

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

- J. Approve and authorize the County Clerk's Office to charge a \$10 fee to recover the costs of obtaining criminal history record information in guardianship cases where the clerk is asked to obtain fingerprint-based criminal history record information of a proposed guardian, pursuant to Government Code 411.1386(h) (as amended by HB 4123). Fees will be deposited in GF-CNTYCLK-OPS EXP-GEN, and monthly invoices from the Texas Department of Safety will be paid from this account.

Delia Briones, County Clerk, County Clerk's Office (915) 546-2071

- K. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a letter of support for the TxDot Downtown10 Project. The Downtown Interstate 10 (I-10) Project application will be submitted by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in conjunction with the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization under the National Infrastructure Project Assistance (Mega) program and the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program. This project will improve an approximately 6.1-mile corridor along I-10 between Executive Center Boulevard and Loop 478 (Copia Street) in El Paso, Texas.

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

- L. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Heritage Tourism

Virtual Tour Production Services Contract, Phase 3 with Augment El Paso to aid the County in the general promotion and tourist advertising of the County as well as for the encouragement of historical preservation through an augmented reality and virtual tour production. Funding in the amount of \$20,000 is available in SR-TOURPROM-ADVERTISING. (Contract No. 2023-0512)

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

- M. Approve and authorize the ratification of the letters of commitment to participate as a consortium member on the 1) Borderland Tech Hub for Smart, Secure, and Connected Supply-Chain Systems and 2) the Paso del Norte Innovation for Defense and Aerospace (IDEA) Tech Hub. (#2203-OP)

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

- N. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a letter of support for the City of Socorro Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ). (2243-OP)

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

- O. Approve and authorize the updated Early Voting Stations and Election Day Vote Centers for the November 7, 2023 Uniform & Special Election.

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

- P. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Master Agreement and Absence Management Service Agreement with the Standard Insurance Company for administration of the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for County Employees. Funds are available in GF-HR-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2023-0317)

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

- Q. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Option to Renew Professional Services Agreement between the County of El Paso and Public Sector Personnel Consultants (PSPC), Inc. for Classification and Compensation Studies from August 25, 2023, through August 24, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000. Funding is available in GF-HR-CONTR SVC-GEN & GF-GADM-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2023-0557)

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

- R. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the master services agreement between the County of El Paso and Sun City Communications, LLC. Funding is available through various County accounts on an as-needed basis. (Contract No. 2023-0547)

Art Nevarez, Interim Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (915) 255-0748

- S. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement between the County of El Paso and Pivot Technology Services Corp (dba Computacenter). Funding in the amount of \$29,541.61 is available in GF-ITD-CONTR SVC-GEN. (Contract No. 2023-0585)

Art Nevarez, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (915) 546-2041

- T. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the agreement

between the County of El Paso and Baycom, Inc. Funding in the amount of \$178,760 is available in CIP23-ITD-EQ NONCAP. (Contract No. 2023-0634)

Art Nevarez, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (915) 546-2041

- U. 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

- V. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Confidentiality Agreement with Bioremedies (a subconsultant to Alegro Engineering, LP) to allow the County to share record drawings of the Juvenile Justice Facility. (Contract No. 2023-0571)

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

- W. Approve the purchase of Network Components for Animal Welfare Department (12308146) using Texas DIR Contract DIR-TSO-4167 awarded to Cisco Systems Inc., with Pivot Technology Services Corp. dba Computacenter of El Paso, Texas as the authorized distributor, dealer, or reseller relative to the equipment, products, or services offered under DIR-TSO-4167, for grand total \$80,188.34. Purchasing approved August 7, 2023. Funding available in GF-ANIMLCLINIC-OPS EQUIPMENT.

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

- X. Approve the purchase of Downtown Detention Facility Uninterrupted Power Supply System Replacement using TIPS contract 230105 awarded to Gruber Power Services of Phoenix, AZ in the amount of \$99,137. Funding is available in CIP23-FAC-SODETENMAINT-ITEQUIP.

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

- Y. Approve the purchase of Water Damage Repairs to Elevators #2, and #5 of the Downtown Detention Facility for the County of El Paso using Omnia Partners Contract R200502 awarded to TK Elevator Corporation of Houston, Texas in the amount of \$99,459.16. Funding is available in CP-TN22-SODETELEVA-RENOVATIONS.

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

- Z. Approve the purchase of N-able N-Central for Remote Network Monitoring Software through Information Technology Department using TIPS Contract 210101 awarded to SoftwareOne of Milwaukee, WI for a grand total of \$316,550. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE.

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

- AA Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to reject all responses and close out solicitation RFP 23-022 Design/Build for the Construction of Off-Highway Vehicle Trails located at San Felipe Count Park in Far East El Paso County; with permission to resolicit at the discretion of the Community Service Department.

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

ABApprove 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

ACGRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the FY2024 Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot) Traffic Safety Grant on behalf of the District Attorney's Office for the DWI Deterrent with Alternate Transportation Project (2024-EIPasoDA-G-1YG-0088) from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$49,600 with a required County match of \$15,538.01 that will be met with an existing salary, for a total of \$65,138.01. (Contract No. 2023-0629)

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

ADGRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign Amendment Five to the Contract for Access and Visitation Grant between the Office of the Attorney General and El Paso County from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$63,408, with a grant match of \$6,850. (Contract No. 2023-0630)

Brian Stanley, Executive Director, Domestic Relation Office (915) 834-8200

AEApprove the purchase of an Upgrade to Increase Bandwidth for Information Technology Department (12307902) using GSA (U.S. General Services Administration) Contract 47QTCA20D0077 awarded to Lumen Technologies Government Solutions, Inc. of Arlington, VA as indicated on the tabulation. Funding is available in GF-ITD-COMMUNIC-DATA.

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

AFApprove and authorize the County Judge to sign the service order form and amendment between the County of El Paso and CenturyLink Communications, LLC d/b/a Lumen Technologies Group (and its affiliated entities) to upgrade the County's distributed denial of service (DDoS). Funding is available in GF-ITD-COMMUNIC-DATA . (Contract No. 2023-0499)

Art Nevarez, Deputy Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Department (915) 546-2041

5. RESOLUTIONS

A. Approve and adopt a resolution honoring our employee Veterans as El Paso County hosts our 2023 County Employee Veteran Conference for their continued service and commitment to our Country and Community this August 24, 2023.

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

B. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing District Court Administrator Crystal Lozano for her completion in the Institute for Court Management Fellows Program at the United States Supreme Court.

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

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

7. PRESENTATION

- A. Receive presentation of a shadowbox displaying the preservation and restoration of El Paso County Commissioners Court Minutes to the County Judge and Commissioners.

Delia Briones, County Clerk, County Clerk's Office (915) 546-2071

COMMISSIONERS COURT

8. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the initiation of a Gun Buyback Program in El Paso County. (#2258-OP)

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

9. Discuss and take appropriate action to adopt the El Paso County Strategic Plan for FY 2024-2028.

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

PURCHASING

- 10.(ARP-1150) Approve the purchase of Cotton Valley Connect Broadband Project for the County of El Paso using Equalis Group Purchasing Program-Region 10 Education Service Center Proposal EQ-013120-01, awarded to Insight Public Sector, Inc. of Tempe, Arizona in the amount of \$2,798,761.26. Funding is available in SG-ARPLAN21-OPERATING EX.

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

BUDGET AND FINANCE

- 11.Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 775.305, discuss and take appropriate action to approve or deny the recommended FY 2024 budgets and tax rates for Emergency Services District No. 1 and Emergency Services District No. 2.

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

- 12.BUDGET HEARING: 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

13. 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. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 551.074, discuss

selection process and candidates for the El Paso County Veterans' Assistance Office Manager position.

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

- C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 & 551.072, discuss legal rights and responsibilities regarding the County's response to the lifting of Title 42 and the corresponding deliberations about Real Property.

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

- D. Discuss the pending litigation regarding Krystal Mijares and Melissa Alvarado v. County of El Paso, cause number: EP-12-CV-00325-FM; County Attorney number LD-12-053, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.

Michael Gomez, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

- E. Discuss financial information and economic development negotiations received regarding a Chapter 381 Agreement with Project Calm Winds, a private business prospect, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087.

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

REGULAR SESSION

14. Discuss and take appropriate action on the process and candidates for the El Paso County Veterans' Assistance Office Manager position.

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

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

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