

**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, APRIL 22, 2024**

HON. RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO	COUNTY JUDGE	ABSENT
CARLOS LEON	COMM., PCT #1, PRESIDING	PRESENT
DAVID S. STOUT	COMMISSIONER, PCT #2	PRESENT
ILIANA HOLGUIN	COMMISSIONER, PCT #3	PRESENT
SERGIO CORONADO	COMMISSIONER, PCT #4	PRESENT

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

1. MEETING CONVENED

Commissioners Court of El Paso County, Texas was called to order by the Deputy Clerk at 9:38 A.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Sandra Chavez's 4th Grade Class at Capistrano Elementary School led the Commissioners Court in the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

3. INVOCATION

Receive an invocation from Pastor Roberto Garcia from Grace Christian Center.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of April 15, 2024.
County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

B. Approve and authorize the solicitation and acceptance of donations from Rio Vista and El Paso Behavioral Health System for the 2024 County Attorney Mental Health Conference which will be held May 17, 2024, pursuant to Texas Local Government Coded 81.032.
JoAnne Bernal, County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

C. Pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code, Section 115.021, audit and settle all accounts against the County shown on the attached listing and direct the payment of those accounts.
Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office, - (915) 273-3262

D. In accordance with LGC 130.902(d) approve and authorize a change to the County Clerk Department change fund as recommended by the County Auditor.
Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 273-3262

E. Approve amendment No. 23 to the County of El Paso's 2023-2024 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Grants by \$60,102.95, thus increasing the overall budget of \$618,294,786.57 to \$618,354,889.52.
John Sarah, Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

F. Approve and authorize the Capital Improvement Interim Request for the replacement of the Council of Judge's Jury Management Software. Funding is available in CP-IMPROV01-CONTINGENCIES. Further, approve the re-allocation of funding in an estimated amount of \$300,000 from the CP-IMPROV01-CONTINGENCIES to CIP24-COUNCIL-CAP-IT SOFTWARE-CTY.
John Sarah, Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

G. Approve and authorize the additional funding needed for the Fiber Backbone Infrastructure Upgrade project at the Sheriff's Department Downtown Detention Facility. Further, approve the re-allocation of funding in the amount of \$93,812.90 from CP-IMPROV01-CONTINGENCIES to CIP24-ITD-CAPOUT-IT EQUIP.
John Sarah, Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

H. Approve the 2023-2027 Colonia Self-Help Center (CSHC) Program Guidelines, and further authorize the El Paso County Community Services Department to modify the guidelines on a case-by-case basis, to address urgent or unforeseen issues that will facilitate or assist in carrying out the Program's overall objectives. (OP-3745)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

I. Approve and authorize the transfer of funds in the amount of \$3,414 from GF-CC6-OPS EQUIPMENT to GF-CC6-OFFICE EXPENSE for office supplies and a replacement bailiffs uniform.
Amy Lechuga, County Court Administrator, County Court Administration (915) 546-2093

J. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amended Contract Service Agreements between the County of El Paso and the following service providers participating in the Border Prosecution Unit (BPU) initiative (Grant #2283712) from September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2025: Tom Krampitz (2024-0308) and Kathleen Braddock, d/b/a/ KAB Legal Consulting (2024-0309). No County match is required.
Bill D. Hicks, District Attorney, District Attorney's Office (915) 546-2059 x4077

K. Approve and authorize the updated Election Day Vote Centers Supplemental List for the May 2024 Primary Runoff Election.
Lisa Wise, Elections Administrator, Elections Department (915) 546-2154

L. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Software Maintenance Renewal Agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) for geographic information systems database management in the amount of \$18,517.92. Funding is available in GF-PWADMIN-CONTR SVC-GENERAL. (Contract No. 2024-0203)
Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 273-3330

M. Approve and authorize the Planning & Development Department to establish a dedicated phone line for ADA Paratransit Customer Service. Funding is available in GRURALS23.
Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 546-2015

- N. Pursuant to Texas Local Government code §232.023, approve and authorize the acceptance, filing and recording of the Peyton Estates Unit Four Amending subdivision plat.
Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 273-3330
- O. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §232.023, approve and authorize the acceptance, filing and recording of the Sky View Estates Unit V Subdivision plat.
Michael McElroy, Director, Planning & Development Department (915) 273-3330
- 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) 273-3330
- Q. Approve the purchase for the El Paso County Sheriff Department Vehicle Toughbooks (12404744) using Sourcewell Contract 090122-PNA awarded to Panasonic Corp./Baycom, Inc., of Green Bay, WI 54302 in the amount of \$456,560.00. Funding is available in CP-REPLACE24-MCT-NONCAP EQUIP.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349
- R. Approve and authorize the As-Needed Purchase of Automotive Parts and Supplies for the El Paso County, Texas using Sourcewell Contract 101520-FMC awarded to Ford Motor Company of Dearborn, MI. Purchasing approved on 03/18/2024. Funding is available through various County accounts.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349
- S. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit proposals for Technical Assistance for Small Businesses at the Mission Trail for El Paso County, TX. In accordance with Local Government Code 262.030, the Purchasing Agent has reviewed use of the Requested for Proposal (RFP) process.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349
- T. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit proposals for Marketing Support for Small Businesses Along the Mission Trail for the County of El Paso, TX for the Economic Development Department. In accordance with Local Government Code 262.030, the Purchasing Agent has reviewed use of the Requested for Proposal (RFP) process.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349
- U. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit proposals for Coffee Shop Services at the El Paso County Enrique Moreno Courthouse. In accordance with Local Government Code 262.030, the Purchasing Agent has reviewed use of the Requested for Proposal (RFP) process.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349
- V. Approve and authorize the transfer and removal of surplus assets from the respective departments to the Purchasing Department in compliance with Texas Local Government Code Section 262.011(j). See attachment.
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349
- W. GRANT AGREEMENT - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Grant Agreement between the El Paso Community Foundation and El Paso County, Texas to fund the position of Migrant Services Coordinator to improve communication and coordination with the interior receiving communities from May 1, 2024, through April 30, 2026, in the amount of \$252,000. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2024-0333)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- X. GRANT MODIFICATION - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign additional forms as part of the grant application for the appropriation of 2023 Colonia Self Help Center (CSHC) Program funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA)-Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Colonia Self Help Center Program in the amount of \$700,000 for the 2023-2027 funding cycle. There is no match requirement for this grant. (OP-3745)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708
- Y. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the FEMA Shelter Services Program funding award allocation (SSP-A) in the amount of \$4,542,014 to support regional humanitarian response efforts during the eligible spending periods of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2026. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2024-0338)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

Z. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the District Attorney's Office to apply for the FY25 Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant Program; Victim Assistance, Mass Casualty Response funded by the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, in the amount of \$125,000 with a 20% match in the amount of \$31,250 for a total project of \$156,250. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the accompanying Resolution. (Contract No. 2024-0330)

Bill D. Hicks, District Attorney, District Attorney's Office (915) 546-2059 x3473

AA. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the District Attorney's Office to apply for the Office of the Governor, Homeland Security Grants Division, FY24 Region 1-Border Prosecution Unit Supplemental Funding from September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2025, in the amount of \$1,170,000. No County match is required. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the accompanying Resolution. (Contract No. 2024-0331)

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

AB. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign and accept the Texas Bar Foundation Grant Award for the Self-Represented Litigant Assistance Program for the Domestic Relations Office from April 12, 2024, to April 11, 2024, in the amount of \$28,000 with no cash match required. (Contract No. 2024-0336)

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

AC. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Texas Political Subdivision Safety Grant program application in the amount of \$15,000 for the purpose of obtaining safety related equipment. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2024-0299)

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

AD. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the Public Defender's Office to submit a fourth year grant renewal application to the Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC) FY2025 Indigent Defense Improvement Grant Program for the Padilla Immigration Counseling and Advice Program from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, in the amount of \$87,811 with a County grant match in the amount of \$204,892. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the Resolution and Internet Submission Form. (Contract No. 2024-0313)

Kelli Childress, Chief Public Defender, Public Defender's Office (915) 546-8185

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Leon
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

5. RESOLUTIONS

A. Approve and adopt a resolution declaring April 2024 as "National County Government Month" in El Paso County, Texas.

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

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Leon
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

B. Approve and adopt a resolution declaring April 27, 2024, as "Global Youth Service Day" in El Paso County, Texas.

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

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Stout
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

C. Approve and adopt a resolution celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Opportunity Center for the Homeless. Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, County Judges Office, - (915)546-2098

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Leon
Seconded by Commissioner Stout

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

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Crawford, concerned citizen, addressed the Commissioners Court and spoke in regard to Passover and the war in Israel and conflict with Iran and shared a story personal story highlighting people of different faiths coming together.

Commissioner Segio Coronado addressed the Court regarding Senior signups at the Canutillo Community center for technology courses in Coordination with EPCC, Humana Insurance and members of the Community Services Department and also acknowledged Commissioner Leon and Sherrill Eisenhower and her volunteer team and numerous others for participating in the Gallegos Park Spring Cleanup Event in celebration of Earth Day.

PUBLIC WORKS

12. **CORRECTION PER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION** - Pursuant to Texas Local Government **CODE** 81.032, approve and authorize the Public Works department to accept a donation from Novipax to purchase and install a park name sign for the County Sparks Park in the amount of \$14,492.70.
Norma Rivera-Palacios, Director, Public Works Department (915) 273-3330

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Holguin
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

13. Receive a presentation from the Lower Valley Water District regarding their proposed projects for the May 4, 2024 Bond Election.
Norma Palacios, Director, Public Works Department (915) 273-3330

PRESENTATION RECEIVED

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Receive an overview and accept the El Paso Central Appraisal District FY 2024/2025 Board Proposed Budget.
John Sarah, Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

MOTION: DELETE

Motion by Commissioner Holguin
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

8. Approve the appointment of Celena Arreola, Commissioner Carlos Leon's appointee, to the El Paso County Bond Advisory Committee who shall serve a single term, ending no later than July 31, 2024.
Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Leon
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

PURCHASING

9. **CORRECTION PER STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT - (ARP PROJECT NO. 1320)** Approve the award of RFP 24-014 Enhancing Justice Involved Programming and Transitional Sheltering in El Paso County, Texas to three (3) firms El Paso Alliance, Inc. dba Recovery Alliance, of El Paso, TX; Opportunity Center for the Homeless of El Paso, TX and Rescue Mission of El Paso, Texas. Purchasing approved on April 8, 2024. Funds are available in **SG-ARPLAN21-PROF SERVICES- GEN**
Karen L. Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department (915) 273-3349

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Stout
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

10. Approve the purchase of Astro P25 Radio Communication System Maintenance Agreement for Sheriff's Department for El Paso County, Texas (12401367) using the Texas DIR Contract DIR-TSO-4101 awarded to Motorola Solutions, Inc. of Chicago, IL for a grand total of \$2,131,923.41. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-HARDWARE.

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

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Leon
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

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 March 31, 2024. The interim financial report is located on the internet at: <http://www.epcountytexas.gov/auditor/publications/monthlyreports.htm>.

Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 273-3262

MOTION: ACCEPT

Motion by Commissioner Leon
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

PUBLIC WORKS

14. Receive an update from the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority regarding the Pellicano Widening Project. (TxDOT CSJ 0924-06-534)

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

MOTION: MOVE THE DISCUSSION OF ITEM #14 INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.071.

Motion by Commissioner Leon
Seconded by Commissioner Holguin

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

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Approve the submission of County grant applications as listed and described. If awarded, all grant award agreements will be brought back to the Commissioners Court for final acceptance and approval.

15. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the Criminal Justice Coordination Department to apply for the BJA FY24 Second Chance Act Pay for Success Grant from October 1, 2024, to March 31, 2029, in the amount of \$1,000,000 with cash match of \$10,924. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. (Contract No. 2024-0310)

Catherine Jones, Director, Criminal Justice Coordination Department (915) 273-3353

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Coronado
Seconded by Commissioner Stout

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

16. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the Criminal Justice Coordination Department to submit the BJA FY24 Improving Adult and Youth Crisis Stabilization and Community Re-entry Program application on behalf of Criminal Justice Coordination Department from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2027, in the amount of \$825,000 with no County cash match. (Contract No. 2024-0311)

Catherine Jones, Director, Criminal Justice Coordination Department (915) 273-3353

MOTION: APPROVE

Motion by Commissioner Stout
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

17B. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the pending vacancy for County Attorney JoAnne Bernal. Betsy C. Keller, CM, Chief Administrator, County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

MOTION: DELETE

Motion by Commissioner Holguin
Seconded by Commissioner Leon

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

17F. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 and 551.0725, discuss and receive legal advice concerning the Energy and Construction Services contract negotiations between El Paso County and Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc.
Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3238

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 ADVICE CONCERNING THE ENERGY AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN EL PASO COUNTY AND SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC BUILDINGS AMERICAS, INC.

Motion by Commissioner Stout
Seconded by Commissioner Coronado

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

MEETING RECESSED AT 11:59 A.M.

MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:06 P.M.

17. INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 1:07 P.M.

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

C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and responsibilities regarding litigation styled United States v. Texas, No. 24-50149, County Attorney's File No. 0165-23-PL.
Bernardo R. Cruz, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

D. Discuss legal rights and responsibilities concerning a new fire at a business located in the Montana Vista area of El Paso County, County Attorney's File No. 0055-24-AA, Pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section 551.071
Bernardo R. Cruz, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

E. Discuss litigation styled Lorenzo Juarez v. El Paso County, Texas; Cause No. 2022DCV1835; County Attorney case number 0082-22-LD, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.
Michael Gomez, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

F. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 and 551.0725, discuss and receive legal advice concerning the Energy and Construction Services contract negotiations between El Paso County and Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc.
Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3238

G. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087, discuss financial information and economic development negotiations received regarding a Chapter 381 Agreement with Project Dry Goods, a private business prospect.
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department (915) 546-2177

14. Receive an update from the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority regarding the Pellicano Widening Project, **PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.071**. (TxDOT CSJ 0924-06-534)
Norma Palacios, Director, Public Works Department (915) 273-3330

MEETING RECONVENED AT 2:57 P.M.

PUBLIC WORKS

14. Receive an update from the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority regarding the Pellicano Widening Project.
(TxDOT CSJ 0924-06-534)
Norma Palacios, Director, Public Works Department (915) 273-3330

NO ACTION

REGULAR SESSION

18. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding legal rights and responsibilities regarding litigation styled United States v. Texas, No. 24-50149, County Attorney's File No. 0165-23-PL.
Bernardo R. Cruz, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

NO ACTION

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:00 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, APRIL 22, 2024**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:00 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
29th DAY OF April, 2024



COUNTY JUDGE RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO, PRESIDING

2024 APR 19 AM 9:02

DELIA BRIONES
COUNTY CLERK
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

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

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, April 22, 2024 - 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 April 15, 2024.

County Administration Department (915) 546-2215

B. Approve and authorize the solicitation and acceptance of donations from Rio Vista and El Paso Behavioral Health System for the 2024 County Attorney Mental Health Conference which will be held May 17, 2024, pursuant to Texas Local Government Coded 81.032.

JoAnne Bernal, County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 546-2050

C. Pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code, Section 115.021, audit and settle all accounts against the County shown on the attached listing and direct the payment of those accounts.

Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office, - (915) 273-3262

D. In accordance with LGC 130.902(d) approve and authorize a change to the County Clerk Department change fund as recommended by the County Auditor.

Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 273-3262

E. Approve amendment No. 23 to the County of El Paso's 2023-2024 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Grants by \$60,102.95, thus increasing the overall budget of \$618,294,786.57 to \$618,354,889.52.

John Sarah, Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

- F. Approve and authorize the Capital Improvement Interim Request for the replacement of the Council of Judge's Jury Management Software. Funding is available in CP-IMPROV01-CONTINGENCIAS. Further, approve the re-allocation of funding in an estimated amount of \$300,000 from the CP-IMPROV01-CONTINGENCIAS to CIP24-COUNCIL-CAP-IT SOFTWARE-CTY.

John Sarah, Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

- G. Approve and authorize the additional funding needed for the Fiber Backbone Infrastructure Upgrade project at the Sheriff's Department Downtown Detention Facility. Further, approve the re-allocation of funding in the amount of \$93,812.90 from CP-IMPROV01-CONTINGENCIAS to CIP24-ITD-CAPOUT-IT EQUIP.

John Sarah, Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

- H. Approve the 2023-2027 Colonia Self-Help Center (CSHC) Program Guidelines, and further authorize the El Paso County Community Services Department to modify the guidelines on a case-by-case basis, to address urgent or unforeseen issues that will facilitate or assist in carrying out the Program's overall objectives. (OP-3745)

Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

- I. Approve and authorize the transfer of funds in the amount of \$3,414 from GF-CC6-OPS EQUIPMENT to GF-CC6-OFFICE EXPENSE for office supplies and a replacement bailiffs uniform.

Amy Lechuga, County Court Administrator, County Court Administration (915) 546-2093

- J. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amended Contract Service Agreements between the County of El Paso and the following service providers participating in the Border Prosecution Unit (BPU) initiative (Grant #2283712) from September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2025: Tom Krampitz (2024-0308) and Kathleen Braddock, d/b/a/ KAB Legal Consulting (2024-0309). No County match is required.

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

- K. Approve and authorize the updated Election Day Vote Centers Supplemental List for the May 2024 Primary Runoff Election.

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

- L. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Software Maintenance Renewal Agreement with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) for geographic information systems database management in the amount of \$18,517.92. Funding is available in GF-PWADMIN-CONTR SVC-GENERAL. (Contract No. 2024-0203)

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

- M. Approve and authorize the Planning & Development Department to establish a dedicated phone line for ADA Paratransit Customer Service. Funding is available in GRURALS23.

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

- N. Pursuant to Texas Local Government code §232.023, approve and authorize the acceptance, filing and recording of the Peyton Estates Unit Four Amending subdivision plat.

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

- O. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §232.023, approve and authorize the acceptance, filing and recording of the Sky View Estates Unit V Subdivision plat.

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

- 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) 273-3330

- Q. Approve the purchase for the El Paso County Sheriff Department Vehicle Toughbooks (12404744) using Sourcewell Contract 090122-PNA awarded to Panasonic Corp./Baycom, Inc., of Green Bay, WI 54302 in the amount of \$456,560.00. Funding is available in CP-REPLACE24-MCT-NONCAP EQUIP.

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

- R. Approve and authorize the As-Needed Purchase of Automotive Parts and Supplies for the El Paso County, Texas using Sourcewell Contract 101520-FMC awarded to Ford Motor Company of Dearborn, MI. Purchasing approved on 03/18/2024. Funding is available through various County accounts.

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

- S. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit proposals for Technical Assistance for Small Businesses at the Mission Trail for El Paso County, TX. In accordance with Local Government Code 262.030, the Purchasing Agent has reviewed use of the Requested for Proposal (RFP) process.

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

- T. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit proposals for Marketing Support for Small Businesses Along the Mission Trail for the County of El Paso, TX for the Economic Development Department. In accordance with Local Government Code 262.030, the Purchasing Agent has reviewed use of the Requested for Proposal (RFP) process.

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

- U. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to solicit proposals for Coffee Shop Services at the El Paso County Enrique Moreno Courthouse. In accordance with Local Government Code 262.030, the Purchasing Agent has reviewed use of the Requested for Proposal (RFP) process.

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

- V. Approve and authorize the transfer and removal of surplus assets from the respective departments to the Purchasing Department in compliance with Texas Local Government Code Section 262.011(j). See attachment.

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

- W. GRANT AGREEMENT - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Grant Agreement between the El Paso Community Foundation

and El Paso County, Texas to fund the position of Migrant Services Coordinator to improve communication and coordination with the interior receiving communities from May 1, 2024, through April 30, 2026, in the amount of \$252,000. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2024-0333)

Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

- X. GRANT MODIFICATION - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign additional forms as part of the grant application for the appropriation of 2023 Colonia Self Help Center (CSHC) Program funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA)-Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Colonia Self Help Center Program in the amount of \$700,000 for the 2023-2027 funding cycle. There is no match requirement for this grant. (OP-3745)

Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

- Y. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the FEMA Shelter Services Program funding award allocation (SSP-A) in the amount of \$4,542,014 to support regional humanitarian response efforts during the eligible spending periods of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2026. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2024-0338)

Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services Department (915) 775-2708

- Z. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the District Attorney's Office to apply for the FY25 Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant Program; Victim Assistance, Mass Casualty Response funded by the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, in the amount of \$125,000 with a 20% match in the amount of \$31,250 for a total project of \$156,250. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the accompanying Resolution. (Contract No. 2024-0330)

Bill D. Hicks, District Attorney, District Attorney's Office (915) 546-2059 x3473

- AAGRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the District Attorney's Office to apply for the Office of the Governor, Homeland Security Grants Division, FY24 Region 1-Border Prosecution Unit Supplemental Funding from September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2025, in the amount of \$1,170,000. No County match is required. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the accompanying Resolution. (Contract No. 2024-0331)

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

- ABGRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign and accept the Texas Bar Foundation Grant Award for the Self-Represented Litigant Assistance Program for the Domestic Relations Office from April 12, 2024, to April 11, 2024, in the amount of \$28,000 with no cash match required. (Contract No. 2024-0336)

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

- ACGRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Texas Political Subdivision Safety Grant program application in

the amount of \$15,000 for the purpose of obtaining safety related equipment. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2024-0299)
Sam Trujillo, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department (915) 546-2218

ADGRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the Public Defender's Office to submit a fourth year grant renewal application to the Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC) FY2025 Indigent Defense Improvement Grant Program for the Padilla Immigration Counseling and Advice Program from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, in the amount of \$87,811 with a County grant match in the amount of \$204,892. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the Resolution and Internet Submission Form. (Contract No. 2024-0313)

Kelli Childress, Chief Public Defender, Public Defender's Office (915) 546-8185

5. RESOLUTIONS

A. Approve and adopt a resolution declaring April 2024 as "National County Government Month" in El Paso County, Texas.

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

B. Approve and adopt a resolution declaring April 27, 2024, as "Global Youth Service Day" in El Paso County, Texas.

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

C. Approve and adopt a resolution celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Opportunity Center for the Homeless.

Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, County Judges Office, - (915)546-2098

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Receive an overview and accept the El Paso Central Appraisal District FY 2024/2025 Board Proposed Budget.

John Sarah, Director, Budget & Finance Department (915) 546-2262

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

8. Approve the appointment of Celena Arreola, Commissioner Carlos Leon's appointee, to the El Paso County Bond Advisory Committee who shall serve a single term, ending no later than July 31, 2024.

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

PURCHASING

9. Approve the award of RFP 24-014 Enhancing Justice Involved Programming and Transitional Sheltering in El Paso County, Texas to three (3) firms El Paso Alliance, Inc. dba Recovery Alliance, of El Paso, TX; Opportunity Center for the Homeless of El Paso, TX and Rescue Mission of El Paso, Texas. Purchasing approved on April 8, 2024. Funds are available in PROF SERVICES- GEN.

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

10. Approve the purchase of Astro P25 Radio Communication System Maintenance Agreement for Sheriff's Department for El Paso County, Texas (12401367) using the Texas DIR Contract DIR-TSO-4101 awarded to Motorola Solutions, Inc. of Chicago, IL for a grand total of \$2,131,923.41. Funding is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-HARDWARE.

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

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 March 31, 2024. The interim financial report is located on the internet at: <http://www.epcountytexas.gov/auditor/publications/monthlyreports.htm>.

Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office (915) 273-3262

PUBLIC WORKS

12. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Coded 81.032, approve and authorize the Public Works department to accept a donation from Novipax to purchase and install a park name sign for the County Sparks Park in the amount of \$14,492.70.

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

13. Receive a presentation from the Lower Valley Water District regarding their proposed projects for the May 4, 2024 Bond Election.

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

14. Receive an update from the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority regarding the Pellicano Widening Project. (TxDOT CSJ 0924-06-534)

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

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Approve the submission of County grant applications as listed and described. If awarded, all grant award agreements will be brought back to the Commissioners Court for final acceptance and approval.

15. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the Criminal Justice Coordination Department to apply for the BJA FY24 Second Chance Act Pay for Success Grant from October 1, 2024, to March 31, 2029, in the amount of \$1,000,000 with cash match of \$10,924. Funding is available in GF-GADM-XFER OUT-GRANT MATCH. (Contract No. 2024-0310)

Catherine Jones, Director, Criminal Justice Coordination Department (915) 273-3353

16. GRANT APPLICATION - Approve and authorize the Criminal Justice Coordination Department to submit the BJA FY24 Improving Adult and Youth Crisis Stabilization and Community Re-entry Program application on behalf of Criminal Justice Coordination Department from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2027, in the amount of \$825,000 with no County cash match. (Contract No. 2024-0311)

Catherine Jones, Director, Criminal Justice Coordination Department (915) 273-3353

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 and take appropriate action regarding the pending vacancy for County Attorney JoAnne Bernal.

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

C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and responsibilities regarding litigation styled United States v. Texas, No. 24-50149, County Attorney's File No. 0165-23-PL.

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

D. Discuss legal rights and responsibilities concerning a new fire at a business located in the Montana Vista area of El Paso County, County Attorney's File No. 0055-24-AA, Pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section 551.071

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

E. Discuss litigation styled Lorenzo Juarez v. El Paso County, Texas; Cause No. 2022DCV1835; County Attorney case number 0082-22-LD, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.

Michael Gomez, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3247

F. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 and 551.0725, discuss and receive legal advice concerning the Energy and Construction Services contract negotiations between El Paso County and Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc.

Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office (915) 273-3238

G. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087, discuss financial information and economic development negotiations received regarding a Chapter 381 Agreement with Project Dry Goods, a private business prospect.

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

REGULAR SESSION

18. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding legal rights and responsibilities regarding litigation styled United States v. Texas, No. 24-50149, County Attorney's File No. 0165-23-PL.

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