

EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT



JACKIE BUTLER
Commissioner, Pct.1

ILIANA HOLGUIN
Commissioner, Pct.3

DAVID STOUT
Commissioner, Pct.2

SERGIO CORONADO
Commissioner, Pct.4

RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO
County Judge

MINUTES

Regular Meeting, April 21, 2025 – 12:30 PM

Enrique Moreno County Courthouse
Judge Alicia R. Chacón County Commissioners Courtroom
500 East San Antonio Room 303 El Paso, Texas 79901

Website address: <http://www.epcounty.com>

Agendas are posted online at: <https://epcounty.primegov.com/public/portal>

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

Present: 5 – County Judge Ricardo Samaniego, Commissioner, Pct. 1 Jackie Butler, Commissioner, Pct. 2 David Stout, Commissioner, Pct. 3 Iliana Holguin, Commissioner, Pct. 4 Sergio Coronado

Absent: 0 –

1. OPEN MEETING

THE COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING WAS CONVENED AT 12:37 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND THE TEXAS PLEDGE WERE LED BY AMERICAS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS DANIELA MENDEZ AND ZURINA QUINTERO.

3. INVOCATION

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECEIVED AN INVOCATION FROM PASTOR ROBERTO GARCIA WITH GRACE CHRISTIAN CENTER.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of April 14, 2025, and the special meeting of April 17, 2025.
Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600
- B. 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
- C. Pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code, Section 114.024, receive a tabular report of the County's receipts and disbursements of funds, and the accounts of the County.
Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office, 915-273-3262
- D. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Second Amendment to the County Depository Contract with Vantage Bank of Texas for a two-year term beginning June 1, 2025. (Contract No. 2025-0326)
Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office, 915-273-3262
- E. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Letter of Support for El Paso Water's FY2026 Community Project Funding Application. (8008-OP)
Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, County Judge's Office, 915-273-3591
- F. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Letter of Support for the Rio Grande Colonias Regional Food Business Center's FY2026 Community Funding Project Application. (8008-OP)
Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, County Judge's Office, 915-273-3591
- G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign a Letter of Support for the Village of Vinton's FY2026 Community Project Funding Application. (8008-OP)
Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, County Judge's Office, 915-273-3591
- H. Rescind the Commissioners Court Order of January 27, 2025, Item No. 10C on the Regular Agenda to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between El Paso County and the Ysleta Community Learning Center to provide assistance to participants in the El Paso Promise Program. There is no fiscal impact. (Contract No. 2025-0032) Further, approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the revised Memorandum of Understanding between El Paso County and the Ysleta Community Learning Center to provide assistance to participants in the El Paso Promise Program. There is no fiscal impact. (Contract No. 2025-0032)
Catherine Jones, Director, Criminal Justice Coordination, 915-273-3353
- I. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 81.032, authorize the Criminal Justice Coordination Department acceptance of the 2025 Tyler Excellence Award for Operational Efficiency and related accommodations for attendance at the 2025 Tyler Connect conference in San Antonio, Texas, to receive the award.
Catherine Jones, Director, Criminal Justice Coordination, 915-273-3353

- J. Accept the quarterly report from the Office of Emergency Management.
Kevin Dieter, Emergency Management Coordinator/Deputy Chief, El Paso Fire Department, 915-838-3271
- K. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Administrative Services Agreement and supporting documents with Nationwide Retirement Solutions Inc. for 457 deferred compensation plan services. (Contract No. 2025-0320)
Sam Trujillo, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department, 915-273-3520
- L. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Addendum for Additional Products between El Paso County and Accurate Background, LLC to conduct pre-employment background checks on minors for the County. Funding is available in GF-HR-PROF SVC-RECRUITMENT. (Contract No. 2025-0334)
Sam Trujillo, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department, 915-273-3520
- M. Rescind the Commissioners Court Order of April 7, 2025, Item No. 4R on the Consent Agenda to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect, Construction Manager as Constructor with MNK Architects Inc. for the design of the new Medical Examiner Facility in the amount of \$811,689.10. Funding is available in CP-BD24ISSUEA-PROPB-PROF SVC. (Contract No. 2025-0276) Further, approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect, Construction Manager as Constructor and Work Order No. 001 – Medical Examiner Facility On-Call Architectural Services Contract with MNK Architects, Inc. for the design of the new Medical Examiner Facility in the amount of \$811,689.10. Funding is available in CP-BD24ISSUEA-PROPB-PROF SVC. (Contract No. 2025-0276)
Fernando Hernandez, Director, Infrastructure, 915-273-3330
- N. Accept the quarterly report from the Juvenile Probation Department.
Rosie Medina, Chief Officer, Juvenile Probation, 915-273-2036
- O. Approve budget amendment No. 22 to the El Paso County's 2024-2025 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Special Revenue by \$435,062.11, increase Grants by \$422,788.40, thus increasing the overall budget of \$611,164,920.38 to \$612,022,770.89.
Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-273-3582
- P. Approve and authorize the transfer of funds from GF-SWIMMINGOP-YMCA-CONTR SVC to GF-SWIMMING-OPS EXPENSES-GEN in the amount of \$10,000 to remove the slide at Fabens Veterans pool.
Timothy Fulton, Director, Parks and Recreation, 915-273-3501
- Q. 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 and Development, 915-273-3330

- R. Approve and authorize the request for an exception to the travel policy to reimburse Probate Master Joseph Strelitz \$552.97 for travel from a Mental Health CLE attended more than 10 days prior to the request to the County Auditor.
Patricia Chew, Probate Judge, Probate Court 1, 915-273-3709
- S. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Amendment to the Thomson Reuters/ West Publishing Corporation CLEAR Proflex Agreement which adds an additional license for the Public Defender's Office in the monthly amount of \$194.46. Funding is available in account SG-GLONSTAR25- OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2025-0307)
Kelli Childress, Chief Public Defender, Public Defender's Office, 915-273-3536
- T. Approve and authorize the Purchase of Countywide Offsite Fuel (Unleaded and Diesel) for El Paso County, Texas using Ysleta Independent School District Contract 222007RFP-FUEL awarded to Flyers Energy LLC of Auburn, CA. Fees as indicated on tabulation. Purchasing approved March 20, 2025. Funding available in VEH OPS EXPENSE 600601- Account.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- U. Approve and authorize the purchase of Alicia Chacon Commissioners Courtroom Upgrades using Buy Board Job Order Contract (JOC) 728-24 awarded to Basic IDIQ Inc. of Austin, TX for a total project cost of \$88,668.65. Purchasing approved on April 8, 2025. Funding available in GF-ACHACONCRTROOM-CAP OUT-RENO.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- V. Approve and authorize the award of RFP 25-003 Compensation and Classification Study Services for El Paso County, Texas to the highest scoring firm, Public Sector Personnel Consultants, Inc. of Meza, AZ. Purchasing approved on April 9, 2025. Funds are available in GF-HR-CONTR SVC GEN and GF-GADM-CONTR SVC-GEN.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- W. 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 Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- X. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Conterra Networks Service Order (Quote #51123-Q-42145) for Premier Internet-1 Gb and Premier Internet service plan and Addendum 1 to Conterra Networks' General Terms and Conditions using the Region 19 ASC Allied States Cooperative (contract #25- 7511) for a 3-year term in the amount of \$35,244. There is no cost to the County. Funds are available in SG- ONDCP2024- OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2025-0337)
Marco Spalloni, ISC Manager, EPCSO West Texas HIDTA, 915-444-0930

- Y. GRANT APPLICATION – Approve and authorize the Transit Operations Department to apply to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) FY2024 Section 5339 Discretionary Bus and Bus Facilities Grant in the amount of \$2,535,404. A match requirement in the amount of \$507,081 will be met with TxDOT's State Grant Funds. No County match is required. Further, authorize the County Judge to sign the Obligation Certification. (Contract No. 2025-0331)
Xavier Banales, Interim Director, Transit Operations, 915-273-3838

Motion **APPROVE**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
SECONDER: Sergio Coronado Commissioner, Pct. 4
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

5. RESOLUTIONS

- A. Approve and adopt a resolution designating April 26, 2025, as" Global Youth Service Day"in El Paso County, Texas.
Iliana Holguin, Commissioner, Precinct 3, 915-273-3594

Motion **APPROVE**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Iliana Holguin Commissioner, Pct. 3
SECONDER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

- B. Approve and adopt a resolution dedicating April 26, 2025, as "Celebrate Trails Day" in El Paso County, Texas.
Sergio Coronado, Commissioner, Precinct 4, 915-273-3596

Motion **APPROVE**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Sergio Coronado Commissioner, Pct. 4
SECONDER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

- C. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing the Bowie & Jefferson Gala Committee in El Paso County, Texas.

Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge, County Judge's Office, 915-273-3591

Motion APPROVE

RESULT: Pass [4 TO 0]
MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
SECONDER: David Stout Commissioner, Pct. 2
AYES: Samaniego, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Butler

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

ELIZABETH CRAWFORD, CONCERNED CITIZEN, ADDRESSED THE COURT RECOGNIZING APRIL AS ARAB AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH AND READ SCRIPTURE.

LISBETH RAGONA, CONCERNED CITIZEN, ADDRESSED THE COURT REGARDING THE COUNTY BLOCKING AN EASEMENT ADJACENT TO HER PROPERTY TO THE MAIN ROAD IN THE EAST MONTANA AREA OF THE COUNTY.

7. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

- A. Receive a presentation, discuss and take appropriate action regarding El Paso County's 89th Texas Legislative Agenda and Values Statements and provide discussion and input regarding Federal legislative items for the 119th Congress.

Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-546-2162

Motion OPPOSE HB 19, HB 5447, HB 3199, HB 3394, SB 2703, HB 4260, HB 3990.

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
SECONDER: David Stout Commissioner, Pct. 2
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

Motion SUPPORT HB 5080, HB 2920, HB 2645, HB 5128, HB 4466, HB 1747, HB 2731, HB 4105, HB 3819, HB 4696, SB 2589, SB 2707

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Sergio Coronado Commissioner, Pct. 4
SECONDER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

- B. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the County's submissions to the Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding requests for Texas Congressional Districts 16 and 23.

Motion **APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY'S SUBMISSIONS TO THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2026 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING REQUESTS FOR TEXAS CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS 16 AND 23 AS PRESENTED AND PRIORITIZED IN THE ATTACHED BACKUP AND AS AMENDED BY THE COURT TO INCLUDE SUBMISSIONS FOR THE MONTANA VISTA COMMUNITY CENTER AND FABENS T-HANGAR PROJECTS. FURTHER, APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN LETTERS OF SUPPORT ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY FOR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS SUBMITTING CPF REQUESTS IN LINE WITH THE COMMISSIONER COURT'S STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED OBJECTIVES, GOALS AND MILESTONES.**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Jackie Butler Commissioner, Pct. 1

SECONDER: David Stout Commissioner, Pct. 2

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

8. AUDITOR

- A. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code § 114.023, 114.024, 114.025 and 114.026, accept the attached presentation and the interim financial report for the month ended March 2025. The interim financial report is located on the internet at: HYPERLINK "http://www.epcountytexas.gov/auditor/publications/monthlyreports.htm" \h http://www.epcountytexas.gov/auditor/publications/monthlyreports.htm .
Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office, 915-273-3262

Motion **ACCEPT**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Sergio Coronado Commissioner, Pct. 4

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

9. BUDGET AND FINANCE

- A. Receive a presentation regarding the El Paso County FY26 budget register overview.
Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-273-3582

PRESENTATION RECEIVED

- 10D. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.0725, discuss legal rights and responsibilities pertaining to RFP 25-002: "Fixed Route, ADA Paratransit, and Dial-A-Ride Transit Services" and contract negotiations pertaining to a Sun Metro Interlocal proposal for Fixed-Route Services.
Erica Rosales-Nigaglioni, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247

Motion APPROVE (1.) COMMISSIONERS COURT VOTES UNANIMOUSLY THAT DELIBERATION IN AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE POSITION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH A THIRD PARTY; (2.) THE ATTORNEY ADVISING THE COMMISSIONERS COURT ISSUES A WRITTEN DETERMINATION THAT DELIBERATION IN AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE POSITION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH A THIRD PARTY; AND (3.) A RECORDING OF THE PROCEEDINGS IN CLOSED SESSION IS MADE REGARDING THE DISCUSSION OF LEGAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES PERTAINING TO RFP 25-002: "FIXED ROUTE, ADA PARATRANSIT, AND DIAL-A-RIDE TRANSIT SERVICES" AND CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS PERTAINING TO A SUN METRO INTERLOCAL PROPOSAL FOR FIXED-ROUTE SERVICES.

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
SECONDER: Jackie Butler Commissioner, Pct. 1
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

- 10E. Discuss a grievance regarding Briana Montes; County Attorney's case number 0006-25-GR, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.
Jed Untereker, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247

Motion DELETE EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEM #10E AND CORRESPONDING REGULAR SESSION ITEM #11B.

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
SECONDER: Iliana Holguin Commissioner, Pct. 3
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECESSED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:29 P.M.

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.
Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600
- B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and responsibilities pertaining to the El Paso County Housing Finance Corporation.
Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247
- C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, discuss legal rights and responsibilities regarding the Chapter 381 Agreement with Schnieder Electric USA, Inc. (Contract No. 2014-0365) #7037-OP
Evette Ugues, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, (915) 273-3238
- D. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.0725, discuss legal rights and responsibilities pertaining to RFP 25-002: "Fixed Route, ADA Paratransit, and Dial-A-Ride Transit Services" and contract negotiations pertaining to a Sun Metro Interlocal proposal for Fixed-Route Services.
Erica Rosales-Nigaglioni, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247
- E. Discuss a grievance regarding Briana Montes; County Attorney's case number 0006-25-GR, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.
Jed Untereker, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247

DELETED

- F. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087, discuss financial information and economic development negotiations received regarding a Chapter 381 Agreement with Project Bernese, a private business prospect.
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development Department, 915-273-3583

11. REGULAR SESSION

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED AT 4:03 P.M.

- A. Discuss and take appropriate action pertaining to the El Paso County Housing Finance Corporation's formation documents.

Ana Schumacher, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247

Motion **APPROVE AND RATIFY THE HOUSING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE BYLAWS, AS AMENDED.**

RESULT: Pass [4 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Sergio Coronado Commissioner, Pct. 4

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stout

- B. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the grievance of Briana Montes, County Attorney's case number 0006-25-GR.

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

DELETED

ADJOURN

THE COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:07 P.M.

EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

JACKIE BUTLER
Commissioner, Pct.1

ILIANA HOLGUIN
Commissioner, Pct.3



DAVID STOUT
Commissioner, Pct.2

SERGIO CORONADO
Commissioner, Pct.4

RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO
County Judge

Enrique Moreno County Courthouse
Judge Alicia R. Chacón County Commissioners Courtroom
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 21, 2025 MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:07 P.M.

ATTEST:

DELIA BRIONES, COUNTY CLERK
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

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

EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY ME THIS

_____ DAY OF _____, 2025

COUNTY JUDGE RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO, PRESIDING