

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, January 06, 2025 – 9:30 AM

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, Voting Member Jackie Butler, Voting Member David Stout, Voting Member Iliana Holguin, Voting Member Sergio Coronado

Absent: 0 –

1. OPEN MEETING

THE COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING WAS CONVENED AT 9:39 A.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. INVOCATION

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECEIVED AN INVOCATION FROM PASTOR ANTHONY BEDOYA FROM CALVARY CHAPEL SUN CITY.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of December 16, 2024, and the special meeting of December 19, 2024.
Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600
- B. Approve the reappointment of Bill Mayberry, Deanne Rankins, and Amanda Anaya to the Emergency Services District No. 1 Board for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2025, and ending December 31, 2026.
Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600
- C. Approve the reappointment of Judge Anna Perez to the Emergence Health Network Board of trustees for a two-year term ending December 31, 2026.
Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600

PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

Motion APPROVE

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Iliana Holguin Voting Member

SECONDER: David Stout Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

- 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.
Barbara Parker, County Auditor, County Auditor's Office, 915-273-3262
- E. Approve budget amendment No. 55 to the El Paso County's 2023-2024 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Special Revenue by \$1,118.00, thus increasing the overall budget of \$688,435,104.16 to \$688,436,222.16.
Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-546-2162
- F. Approve budget amendment No. 10 to the El Paso County's 2024-2025 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Grants by \$57,014.11, thus increasing the overall budget of \$599,828,958.02 to \$599,885,972.13.
Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-546-2162
- G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) Plan Agreement for Plan Year 2025. (Contract No. 2024-1049)
Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-546-2162
- H. Ratify the amended 2024 Prevailing Wage rate schedules as approved by the Commissioners Court on December 9, 2024.
Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-546-2162

- I. 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, 915-273-3349

Motion APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA. ITEM #4C WAS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]
MOVER: Iliana Holguin Voting Member
SECONDER: Jackie Butler Voting Member
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado
NAYS: None

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

ELIZABETH CRAWFORD, CONCERNED CITIZEN, ADDRESSED THE COMMISSIONERS COURT REGARDING PLANS FOR AN ABORTION CLINIC TO BE BUILT IN THE SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO AREA, AND READ SCRIPTURE.

PEDRO SERA, CONCERNED CITIZEN, ADDRESSED THE COMMISSIONERS COURT REGARDING HIS PENDING CASE WITH EMERGENCE HEALTH NETWORK, AND ASKED THE MEMBERS OF THE COURT TO HELP HIM GET RESOLUTION TO HIS CASE THIS YEAR.

COMMISSIONER SERGIO CORONADO WELCOMED COMMISSIONER JACKIE BUTLER TO THE COMMISSIONERS COURT, AND THANKED FORMER COMMISSIONER CARLOS LEON FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE EL PASO COMMUNITY.

6. PRESENTATION

- A. Receive a presentation regarding the El Paso County Shining Stars award, naming the four Shining Stars for the first quarter of FY25.
Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600

PRESENTATION RECEIVED

7. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Receive a presentation and have a discussion regarding road and speed safety issues associated with vehicle pursuits in El Paso County.
Christina Sanchez, County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247

**COMMISSIONERS COURT RECESSED AT 10:51 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED AT 11:36 A.M.**

PRESENTATION RECEIVED

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECESSED AT 12:04 P.M.

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED AT 1:12 P.M.

8. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

- A. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding appointments of members of Commissioners Court, or designees, to various boards and committees.

Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600

Motion **APPROVE THE FOLLOWING BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

Board Name	Member
Bail Bond Board	Commissioner Sergio Coronado
Border Trade Advisory Committee - TXDOT	Commissioner Iliana Holguin
El Paso Area Transit Service Loc. Govt. Corp. - Chair Appt.	Commissioner Jackie Butler
Far West Texas Water Development Board	Commissioner Jackie Butler
FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter Program	Irene Gutierrez / Cty. Judge Proxy
Justice Leadership Council - Seat 1	Commissioner Sergio Coronado
Justice Leadership Council - Seat 2	Judge Ricardo Samaniego
Juvenile Justice Board	Commissioner Jackie Butler
Purchasing Board - Seat 1	Judge Ricardo Samaniego
Purchasing Board - Seat 2	Commissioner Jackie Butler
Rio Grande Council of Governments - Seat 1	Commissioner Jackie Butler
Rio Grande Council of Governments - Seat 2	Commissioner Iliana Holguin
Texas Border Coalition	Commissioner David Stout
West Texas Spaceport - Seat 1	Commissioner Iliana Holguin
West Texas Spaceport - Seat 2	Commissioner Sergio Coronado

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Iliana Holguin Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

- B. Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Sec. 372.009, conduct a public hearing regarding the El Paso County Commissioners Court's intent to consider assessments against parcels of real property in the Tierra del Este III Phase VI Public Improvement District – Phase II. (CC PCT#1)

Jose M. Landeros, Deputy County Administrator, Strategic Capital Development, 915-273-3592

Motion OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

JOSE LANDEROS, COMMISSIONER JACKIE BUTLER, DOUG SCHWARTZ, AND COMMISSIONER STOUT SPOKE IN THE PUBLIC HEARING.

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Iliana Holguin Voting Member

SECONDER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

Motion CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Jackie Butler Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

- C. Discuss and Consider Adoption of an Order of the Commissioners Court of El Paso County, Texas Regarding Tierra Del Este III - Phase VI Public Improvement District; Approving a 2024 Amended and Restated Service and Assessment Plan and an Updated Assessment Roll including Phase #2 of the District; Levying Assessments against Property within Phase #2 of the District to pay the Costs of the Phase #2 Improvements; Providing for Payment and Prepayment of Assessments; Fixing a Charge and Lien against Property within Phase #2 of the District and the Owners thereof; Providing for the manner and method of collecting Assessments; Providing Penalties for Delinquent Assessments; Making findings of special benefit to the Property within Phase #2 of the District and the Owners thereof; Providing for Savings, Repealing and Severability Clauses; Providing an Effective Date; Adopting a Final Service and Assessment Plan; and Providing for Recordation upon final approval from the County Attorney's Office and Bond Counsel. (Contract No. 2024-1087) (CC PCT#1)

Jose M. Landeros, Deputy County Administrator, Strategic Capital Development, 915-273-3592

Motion **APPROVE AND ADOPT AN ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS REGARDING TIERRA DEL ESTE III - PHASE VI PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT; APPROVING A 2024 AMENDED AND RESTATED SERVICE AND ASSESSMENT PLAN AND AN UPDATED ASSESSMENT ROLL INCLUDING PHASE #2 OF THE DISTRICT; LEVYING ASSESSMENTS AGAINST PROPERTY WITHIN PHASE #2 OF THE DISTRICT TO PAY THE COSTS OF THE PHASE #2 IMPROVEMENTS; PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT AND PREPAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS; FIXING A CHARGE AND LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY WITHIN PHASE #2 OF THE DISTRICT AND THE OWNERS THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER AND METHOD OF COLLECTING ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS; MAKING FINDINGS OF SPECIAL BENEFIT TO THE PROPERTY WITHIN PHASE #2 OF THE DISTRICT AND THE OWNERS THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS, REPEALING AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; ADOPTING A FINAL SERVICE AND ASSESSMENT PLAN; AND PROVIDING FOR RECORDATION UPON FINAL APPROVAL FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND BOND COUNSEL. (CONTRACT NO. 2024-1087) (CC PCT#1)**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Iliana Holguin Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

- D. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the Tierra Del Este III - Phase VI Public Improvement District Phase II Reimbursement Agreement between El Paso County and Ranchos Real Land Holdings, LLC upon final approval from the County Attorney's Office and Bond Counsel. (Contract No. 2024-1082) (CC PCT#1)

Jose M. Landeros, Deputy County Administrator, Strategic Capital Development, 915-273-3592

Motion **APPROVE THE TIERRA DEL ESTE III - PHASE VI PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PHASE II REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN EL PASO COUNTY AND RANCHOS REAL LAND HOLDINGS, LLC UPON FINAL APPROVAL FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND BOND COUNSEL. (CONTRACT NO. 2024-1082) (CC PCT#1)**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Iliana Holguin Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECESSED AT 2:51 P.M.

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED AT 2:59 P.M.

Motion **RECONSIDER ITEM 8D.**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Jackie Butler Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

Motion **APPROVE THE TIERRA DEL ESTE III - PHASE VI PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PHASE II REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN EL PASO COUNTY AND RANCHOS REAL LAND HOLDINGS, LLC UPON FINAL APPROVAL FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND BOND COUNSEL, WITH UPDATED BACKUP. (CONTRACT NO. 2024-1082) (CC PCT#1)**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Iliana Holguin Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

9. 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 November 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**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: Jackie Butler Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

10. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- A. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the submission of a letter of intent to provide grant incentives to Verus Studios' production of the film Blue Bunny. (#6809-OP)
Jose M. Landeros, Deputy County Administrator, Strategic Capital Development, 915-546-2159

Motion **APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY JUDGE TO SIGN THE NON-BINDING LETTER OF INTENT, WITH EDITS AS PRESENTED BY STAFF AND SUBJECT TO FINAL LEGAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL, PROVIDING GRANT INCENTIVES TO VERUS STUDIOS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE FILM BLUE BUNNY, WHICH SHALL BE CONTINGENT ON THE EXECUTION OF A CORRESPONDING AGREEMENT.**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: David Stout Voting Member

SECONDER: Iliana Holguin Voting Member

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

11. RESOLUTIONS

- A. Approve and adopt a resolution commemorating the birthday of Martin Luther King, recognizing the work of the MLK Birthday Commemoration Service Committee and their event at Sunday, January 19, 2025, at 3:00 P.M. at Temple Mt. Sinai, 4408 N. Stanton, with the year's theme of "Mission Possible: Protecting Freedom, Justice, and Democracy in the Spirit of Nonviolence365."
David Stout, Commissioner, Precinct 2, 915-546-2111

Motion **APPROVE**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: David Stout Voting Member

SECONDER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

- B. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing El Paso Jazz Girls and the organization's mission to support female & gender-expansive youth to learn about jazz, write their own music, and build a support system.
David Stout, Commissioner, Precinct 2, 915-546-2111

Motion APPROVE

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: David Stout Voting Member

SECONDER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECESSED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:22 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. Discuss litigation styled Brigitte Ballou v. County of El Paso, Texas; Cause No. 2022DCV0480; County Attorney case number: 0032-22-LD, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.
Jed Untereker, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, 915-273-3247
- C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.0745, discuss the County's legal rights and responsibilities pertaining to the County's ESD2 Board Appointments.
Betsy C. Keller, Chief Administrator, County Administration, 915-273-3600
- D. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087, discuss financial information and economic development negotiations received regarding a Chapter 381 Agreement with Project Salsa, a private business prospect.
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development, 915-546-2177
- E. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087, discuss financial information and economic development negotiations received regarding a Chapter 381 Agreement with Project NoHo, a private business prospect.
Roberto Ransom, Director, Economic Development, 915-546-2177

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED AT 4:30 P.M.

ADJOURN

THE COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:35 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

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, January 06, 2025
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:35 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