

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 14, 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>
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**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 9:40 A.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND THE TEXAS PLEDGE WERE LED BY ERICK ALVIDREZ, JUNIOR AT TORNILLO HIGH SCHOOL AND PART OF THE UTEP UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM.

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 April 7, 2025, and the special meetings of April 8, 2025 and April 9, 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. (Postponed 04/07/25) Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign and submit the County's Notice of Termination of Federal Emergency Management Agency Shelter & Services Program (SSP) Grant Number EMW-2023-SP-05054 in the amount of \$15,759,143.00, SSP Grant Number EMW-2024-SP-05077 in the amount of \$4,542,014.00 and SSP Grant Number EMW 2024-SP-05153 in the amount of \$16,690,172.00. (#7807-OP)
Irene Gutierrez, Executive Director, Community Services, 915-273-3485
- E. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Agreement between the El Paso County and Kypher, LLC. for LanSweeper Asset Management Software. Funding in the amount of \$13,899 is available in GF-ITD-MAINT/REP-SOFTWARE. (Contract No. 2025-0245)
Art Nevarez, Director, Information Technology Department, 915-273-3301
- F. Approve budget amendment No.21 to the El Paso County's 2024-2025 operating budget. This budgetary amendment will increase Grants by \$2,164,189.14, thus increasing the overall budget of \$609,000,731.24 to \$611,164,920.38.
Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-273-3582
- G. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the second amendment to the Agreement for the Donation of Property with Pellicano Commerce Land, LLC to correct the acreage of the park, pond expansion, and property being dedicated to the County to match the information on the final subdivision plat. (Contract No. 2025-0285) (Precinct 3)
Michael McElroy, Director, Planning and Development, 915-273-3330
- H. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Release of Obligation for improvements located in Garden Park at Mission Ridge Unit Four subdivision (Instrument No. 800091325). Further, accept the identified improvements into the County of El Paso Road System for maintenance.
Michael McElroy, Director, Planning and Development, 915-273-3330

- I. 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
- J. Approve and authorize a County sponsorship for the El Paso Inc. Best Pet Pawty Event at a Silver-Pawty Host level on April 26, 2025, and further authorize the waiver of parking fees for the duration of the event.
Norma Rivera-Palacios, Deputy County Administrator, Public Works Department, 915-273-3330
- K. Approve and authorize the purchase of Fabens Airport Hangar Improvements for El Paso County, Texas using Buy Board Job Order Contract (JOC) 728-24 awarded to Basic IDIQ Inc of Austin, TX for a total cost of \$303,890. Purchasing approved on April 3, 2025. Funding is available in CP-TCO23B-FABPROPACQUISIT-LAND.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- L. Approve and authorize the purchase of Ammunition (12504023) for El Paso County, Texas Sheriff's Department using Buy Board Contract 698-23 awarded to GT Distributors, Inc. of Pflugerville, TX for a grand total \$66,251.30. Purchasing approved on April 7, 2025. Funding is available in GF-SOACADT-AMMUNITION.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- M. Approve and authorize the purchase of Refurnishing Administrative Offices for the El Paso County, Texas Sheriff's Headquarters using Region 19 Contract 24-7497 awarded to El Paso Office Products (El Paso Office Products, LLC) of El Paso, TX for total project cost \$57,480.12. Purchasing approved on April 7, 2025. Funding is available in SG-SHJUSTEQUISHAR-CAP OUTLAYS.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- N. Approve and authorize the purchase of As-Needed Countywide Vehicle Collision Repairs for the El Paso County, Texas using Region 19 Contract 25-7507 awarded to El Paso Body Works DBA Patriot Body Shop (Mayra I. Vasquez) of El Paso, TX. Approval is for individual purchase(s) not exceeding \$50k. Any purchase(s) that exceed \$50k will be presented to Commissioners Court on an individual basis. Purchasing approved April 7, 2025. Funding available in various accounts.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- O. Approve and authorize the purchase of As-Needed Towing Services using the City of El Paso Interlocal Agreement for the El Paso County, Texas awarded to AD Towing & Recovery/ AD Wrecker Service, Inc. of El Paso, Texas. Pricing as indicated in City's bid tabulation. Purchasing approved on April 7, 2025. Funding available in various accounts.
Karen Davidson, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, 915-273-3349
- P. 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

- Q. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the Service Agreement with Family Endeavors, Inc., dba Endeavors, for individual and group therapy and counseling to all first responders at the El Paso County Sheriff's Office who witness immediate violent crime scenes or over the long-term been exposed to traumatic incidents from April 7, 2025, through September 30, 2025, in the amount of \$150 per session for no more than 100 sessions through the term. Funds are available in SG-G1RESMH24-OPERATING EXP. (Contract No. 2025-0315)
Oscar Ugarte, Sheriff, EPCSO, 915-273-3800
- R. Rescind the Commissioners Court Orders of October 28, 2024, Items 4-Z and 4-AA on the Consent Agenda to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Dealer Deputy Agreement with Ai Auto Exchange (P162302) authorizing them to act as a Dealer Deputy of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the processing of title/registration applications/motor vehicle sales tax receipts. (Contract No. 2024-0806); and approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Dealer Deputy Agreement with Ai Auto Exchange (P147035) authorizing them to act as a Dealer Deputy of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the processing of title/registration applications/motor vehicle sales tax receipts. (Contract No. 2024-0807)
Ruben Gonzalez, Tax Assessor - Collector, County Tax Office, 915-273-3430
- S. Rescind the Commissioners Court Order of October 28, 2024, Item No. 4AD on the Consent Agenda to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Dealer Contract Deputy Agreement with CarMax-El Paso West (P170778) authorizing them to act as a Dealer Deputy of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the processing of title/registration applications/motor vehicle sales tax receipts for a one-year term with successive one-year terms until terminated by either party. (Contract No. 2024-0810)
Ruben Gonzalez, Tax Assessor - Collector, County Tax Office, 915-273-3430
- T. Rescind the Commissioners Court Order of March 3, 2025, Item No. 4V on the Consent agenda to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Dealer Deputy Agreement with Finn's Discount Auto (P106049) authorizing them to act as a Dealer Deputy of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the processing of title/registration applications/motor vehicle sales tax receipts. (Contract No. 2024-1012)
Ruben Gonzalez, Tax Assessor - Collector, County Tax Office, 915-273-3430
- U. Rescind the Commissioners Court Order of March 3, 2025, Item No. 4W on the Consent agenda to approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Dealer Deputy Agreement with Central West Express Inc. (P160528) authorizing them to act as a Dealer Deputy of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the processing of title/registration applications/motor vehicle sales tax receipts. (Contract No. 2024-1014)
Ruben Gonzalez, Tax Assessor - Collector, County Tax Office, 915-273-3430
- V. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Dealer Contract with Bencomo Motors (P164798) authorizing them to act as a Dealer Deputy of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the processing of title/registration applications/motor vehicle sales tax receipts. (Contract No. 2025-0200)
Ruben Gonzalez, Tax Assessor - Collector, County Tax Office, 915-273-3430

- W. Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Dealer Contract with Moto El Paso (P138102) authorizing them to act as a Dealer Deputy of the Tax Assessor-Collector in the processing of title/registration applications/motor vehicle sales tax receipts. (Contract No. 2025-0201)
Ruben Gonzalez, Tax Assessor - Collector, County Tax Office, 915-273-3430
- X. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the FY25 El Paso County Attorney's Office - Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) Grant Program Vendor Agreement with the Texas Council on Family Violence from April 1, 2025, to August 31, 2025, in the amount of \$50,000. No County match is required. (Contract No. 2025-0324)
Aaron Setliff, Assistant County Attorney, County Attorney's Office, (915) 273-3238
- Y. GRANT MODIFICATION - Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign and submit the updated Designation of Subrecipient Agent Forms required by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) for the Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program on behalf of the El Paso County Hospital District. (Contract No. 2025-0304)
Melissa Carrillo, Deputy County Administrator, County Operations, 915-273-3582
- Z. GRANT AWARD - Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the Department of Homeland Security FY24 Operation Stonegarden grant award, on behalf of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, in the amount of \$1,193,528.67 from March 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026. No County match required. (Contract No. 2025-0319)
Oscar Ugarte, Sheriff, EPCSO, 915-273-3800

Motion **APPROVE ALL OF THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

RESULT: Pass [4 TO 0]
MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
SECONDER: Iliana Holguin Commissioner, Pct. 3
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Coronado

5. RESOLUTIONS

- A. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing April 13-19, 2025, as Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, in El Paso County, Texas.
Jackie Butler, Commissioner, Precinct 1, 915-273-3594

Motion **APPROVE**

RESULT: Pass [4 TO 0]
MOVER: Jackie Butler Commissioner, Pct. 1
SECONDER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge
AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Coronado

- B. Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing and celebrating the Americas High School

Motion APPROVE

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

- C. (Postponed 04/07/25) Approve and adopt a resolution recognizing Roger Argenis for his outstanding contributions to the local music community.

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, Butler, Stout, Holguin
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Coronado

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

ELIZABETH CRAWFORD, CONCERNED CITIZEN, ADDRESSED THE COMMISSIONERS COURT AND RELATED THE STORY OF JESUS DYING ON THE CROSS AND HOW HE DIED FOR MAN'S SINS.

7. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Receive a Public Health update from Dr. Hector Ocarranza and discuss El Paso County's preparation and response for public health emergencies.

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

PRESENTATION RECEIVED

- B. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding an order authorizing the issuance of El Paso County Hospital District General Obligation Bonds in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$275,000,000.

R. Jacob Cintron, President & CEO, University Medical Center/EPCHD, 915-521-7600

Motion **APPROVE AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF EL PASO COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS IN AN AGGREGATE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$275,000,000.**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Ricardo Samaniego County Judge

SECONDER: David Stout Commissioner, Pct. 2

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

8. 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 THE FOLLOWING BILLS:**

- HB 3900 BY GUILLEN – RELATING TO INVESTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' MONEY IN BANKS LOCATED IN THIS STATE.
- HB 5270 BY CURRY – RELATING TO AUTHORIZED INVESTMENTS BY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.
- SB 2753 BY HALL – RELATING TO THE TIME, PLACE, AND MANNER OF VOTING, INCLUDING ABOLISHING EARLY AND ABSENTEE VOTING, PROVIDING FOR A VOTING PERIOD, AND ESTABLISHING VOTING CENTERS.
- HB 755 BY SPILLER – RESTRICTS LOCAL TAXPAYER-FUNDED LOBBYING TO CERTAIN QUALIFICATIONS, NAMELY IF THE CONTRACT IS NOT PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY AS A STANDALONE ITEM, AND REQUIRES THE PUBLISHING THE CONTRACT ON THE ENTITY'S WEBSITE, AMONG OTHER THINGS.
- SB 325 BY PERRY – RELATING TO COUNTY REGULATION OF SUBDIVISIONS AND APPROVAL OF SUBDIVISION PLANS OR PLATS.
- HB 2287 BY OLIVERSON – RELATING TO LIABILITY OF JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES FOR THE IMPROPER RELEASE ON PERSONAL BOND OF DEFENDANTS ACCUSED OF COMMITTING CERTAIN FELONY OFFENSES.
- HB 3680 BY GAMEZ – RELATING TO SUBDIVISION PLAT REQUIREMENTS IN CERTAIN COUNTIES.
- HB 3669 BY GUILLEN – RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF FIREARM FOR PURPOSES OF CERTAIN CRIMINAL OFFENSES.

SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING BILLS:

- SB 1540 BY BETTENCOURT – RELATING TO MAINTAINING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE PERSONAL INFORMATION OF ELECTION OFFICIALS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES.
- HB 4888 BY CANALES – RELATING TO THE PROVISION BY A REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS OF GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES LOCATED IN THE AREA OF THE AUTHORITY.

– HB 4108 BY GATES – RELATING TO THE BIDDING PROCESS IN A COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT.
– HB 5534 BY WILSON – PERMITTING A COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT TO POST THEIR AGENDAS ON DIGITAL SCREENS AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE.
– SB 1580 BY BLANCO – RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF A LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY.
– SCR 29 BY BLANCO – DESIGNATING EL PASO AS THE OFFICIAL BOOT CAPITAL OF TEXAS FOR A 10-YEAR PERIOD ENDING IN 2035.

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

- B. Approve, adopt and establish the Capital Improvement Bond Project Individual project accounts and budgets as listed and contained in the attached backup.

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

Motion **APPROVE, ADOPT AND ESTABLISH THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BOND PROJECT INDIVIDUAL PROJECT ACCOUNTS AND BUDGETS AS LISTED AND CONTAINED IN THE ATTACHED BACKUP.**

RESULT: Pass [5 TO 0]

MOVER: Iliana Holguin Commissioner, Pct. 3

SECONDER: Jackie Butler Commissioner, Pct. 1

AYES: Samaniego, Butler, Stout, Holguin, Coronado

NAYS: None

- C. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the designation of two members of the Commissioners Court to represent the County at the monthly Index Chihuahua Association meeting on April 24, 2025.

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

NO ACTION

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECESSED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 12:09 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

COMMISSIONERS COURT RECONVENED AT 12:53 P.M.

ADJOURN

THE COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:54 P.M.

EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT



JACKIE BUTLER
Commissioner, Pct.1

ILIANA HOLGUIN
Commissioner, Pct.3

DAVID STOUT
Commissioner, Pct.2

SERGIO CORONADO
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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

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

COMMISSIONERS COURT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Monday, April 14, 2025 MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:54 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