THE STATE OF TEXAS \* COMMISSIONERS COURT

COUNTY OF KENEDY \* OF KENEDY COUNTY, TEXAS

On the 22nd day of August, 2022, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., a special meeting of the Commissioners Court of Kenedy County, Texas, was held in the Kenedy County Courthouse.

**Commissioners present:**

Charles E. Burns, Jr., County Judge

Joe Recio, Commissioner, Precinct 1

Israel Vela, Jr., Commissioner, Precinct 2

Sarita Armstrong-Hixon, Commissioner, Precinct 3

Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales, Commissioner, Precinct 4

Allison Strauss, County Attorney

Cynthia Salinas, County Treasurer

Irma Longoria, Tax Assessor/Collector

Elizabeth Ramirez

JP Cecilia Schulz

JP Patti Fain

JP Jana Norrell

Mitch Thomas

Tom Denney, Chief Appraiser

Andy Garza, Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District

Grace Salinas, Administrative Secretary

Sandra Guzman, Sheriff’s Office

Norma Zavala, Tax Office

**Absent:**

Veronica Vela, County Clerk

Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant

Brian Birdwell, Elections Administrator

JP Jerry Miller

Sheriff Ramon Salinas

1. **Judge Burns Called the Meeting to Order at 1:30 p.m., Quorum Present**.

Judge Charles E. Burns called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**.

Judge Charles E. Burns, Jr. led the Commissioners Court in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Receive Public Comments**.

No public comments were made.

**4. Receive Report from Allison Strauss and Act on Part-Time Position for the County Attorney’s Office and Full-Time Position for the District & County Clerk’s Office**.

Allison Strauss, County Attorney, presented the Commissioners Court with a proposed order regarding the hiring of a part-time employee for the County Attorney’s office and a full-time employee for the District & County Clerk’s Office.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that this item be tabled.

**5. Discuss & Act on the ADT Fire Alarm Proposal and Sales Agreement for Sheriff’s Office**.

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners Court that the ADT Fire Alarm proposal and Sales Agreement for the Sheriff’s Office should be considered and paid from the Maintenance Department budget.

Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales moved and Commissioner Joe Recio seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the ADT Fire Alarm proposal and Sales Agreement for the Sheriff’s Office be accepted as presented and the expense be paid from the Maintenance Department budget.

**6. Discuss & Act on 2023 Proposed Budget**.

Judge Charles E. Burns, the Commissioners Court and Department Heads reviewed and addressed budget line items and amounts being proposed regarding the 2023 Budget.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the budget calculation of $7,222,103.46 which includes with an 8% cost of living increase across the board be approved and that a Public Hearing on the proposed 2023 Budget be scheduled for September 6, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**7.** **Discuss & Act on 2022 Proposed Tax Rate**.

Judge Charles E. Burns and the Commissioners Court discussed that the proposed 2022 Tax Rate be the Voter Approval Rate of $.556376.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the proposed 2022 Tax Rate be the Voter Approval Rate of $.556376 and that a Public Hearing on the proposed 2022 Tax Rate be scheduled for September 6, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**8.** **Discuss & Act on Payment of Bills**.

Judge Charles E. Burns informed the Commissioners’ Court of the need to pay the bills.

Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Israel Vela, Jr. seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the bills be paid as presented.

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, 551.071, 551,072, 551.073, 551.074 – PERSONNEL**.

No Executive Session was needed.

**10.** **Open Session: Discuss & Act on Items Addressed in Executive Session**.

No Executive Session having been held, this item was not needed.

**11.** **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners Court, Commissioner Sarita Armstrong-Hixon moved and Commissioner Gumecinda “Cindy” Gonzales seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously passed that the meeting be adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

/s/ Charles E. Burns

Charles E. Burns, Jr., County Judge

ATTESTED BY:

/s/ Veronica Vela

Veronica Vela, County Clerk