

STATE OF TEXAS            }  
COUNTY OF WILLACY       }

THE BOARD OF NAVIGATION AND CANAL COMMISSIONERS OF THE WILLACY COUNTY NAVIGATION DISTRICT met in Regular Session Wednesday, September 09, 2020 at 9:00 A.M., 400 W. Hidalgo, Ste., 200, Raymondville, TX with the following members present:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:	THOMAS RAINS JR.	CHAIRMAN
	STACEY REYES	SECRETARY
	MARK BROWN	MEMBER
	CHAD KINNEY	MEMBER
	ALBERTO TREVINO	MEMBER
ALSO PRESENT:	RON MILLS	PORT DIRECTOR
	FRANK VASQUEZ	PORT SUPERINTENDENT
	JERRY STAPLETON	ATTORNEY
ABSENT:	LETTY MARTINEZ	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Thomas Rains Jr., Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.; upon conclusion of roll call, it was ascertained that a quorum was present. Rains called for affidavits of conflict of interest, and there was one.

Item No. 1: REVIEW & CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING MINUTES: None were provided to staff extended absence for illness.

Item No. 2: PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

Item No. 3: REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON YOUTH HUNT FOR UPCOMING SEASON: Jim Beal provided a presentation on the next annual Youth Hunt. This years hunt has provisions for COVID and will be done over 5 weekends as before but broken into two separate 5 kid hunts per weekend. Same number of kids and equal harvest but no overnight stays and no more than 10 people involved with the hunts each day. Commissioner Trevino made a motion to allow hunt under State Youth Hunt safety provisions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 4: PRESENTATION AND ACTION ON 2020-2021 TAX RATES: Ron Mills, Port Director presented the annual tax rate proposal from Willacy County Tax Office. Director Mills recommended that the rate remain the same as \$0.0892 and not increase. Commissioner Brown made the motion to retain the current tax rate. The motion was seconded by Secretary Reyes and vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 5: PORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Port Director Ron Mills reported on the following:

- COVID-19: Port Director provided an update on employee infection rates of around 23 percent. Advised main office had been down to one staff and himself for 7 of last 8 weeks.
- Election Results and Cancellation: Mr. Kinney has applied for Member at Large Chairman's position with no opposition. Precinct 1 and 3 are both going to be vacant with no applicants. Mills advised that he had talked to Secretary of State and they advised that we would cancel elections suggest that we do so. Will make public notice on website that they are vacant and allow people to file through the office for presentation to the Board in December or January. Commissioner Trevino made the motion to cancel elections. The motion was seconded by Secretary Reyes and vote unanimously carried.
- Dredging Timeline Update: Dredging timeline is that award has been issued and project scheduled to start on October 01, 2020.
- Queuing Area Update from TXDOT: Queuing area for TXFOT Rider 38 is underway with survey work nearing completion.
- Status of Federal or State Assistance for HANNA: Federal assistance for HANNA is not likely. Some State aid may become available but has not met the threshold yet.

Item No.6: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF BUILDING AUTHORIZATIONS ISSUED FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2020: None have been issued since Hurricane Hanna.

Item No. 7: REVIEW & CONSIDERATION OF RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL LEASES, CANCELLATIONS, TRANSFERS AND BOAT STALLS: A motion was made authorized the Chairman and Secretary to sign the backlog of leases upon Mrs. Martinez return to the office sometime next week. The leases would be ratified during the next meeting. Commissioner Trevino made the motion and Secretary Reyes seconded the motion, the vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 8: REVIEW & CONSIDERATION OF CHECKS AND VOUCHERS: After discussion of the checks and vouchers, Commissioner Kinney made the motion to accept the issued checks and approve the transactions for payment of the Willacy County Navigation District and to accept the transactions dated July 09, 2020 through August 12, 2020. The motion was then seconded by Commissioner Trevino the vote unanimously carried.

Item No. 9: ADJOURN: at 10:56 a.m.