**The State of Texas §**

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**County of Edwards §**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on this 10th day of October, 2017, at 9:00 o’clock a.m. there came on and was held in the City of Rocksprings, Edwards County, Texas, at the Edwards County Courthouse therein, a Regular Open Meeting of the Commissioners’ Court of Edwards County, Texas. The Proposed Agenda for this Regular Open Meeting of the Commissioners’ Court of Edwards County, Texas was posted on October 6, 2017 at 9:27 o’clock a.m.

Present were:

Honorable William Epperson, Commissioner of Precinct One

Honorable Lee Sweeten, Commissioner of Precinct Two

Honorable Matt Fry, Commissioner of Precinct Three (not present for roll call)

Honorable Andrew Barnebey, Commissioner of Precinct Four

Honorable Souli Asa Shanklin, County Judge

Honorable Olga Lydia Reyes, County and District Clerk

1. **Determination of quorum; Call to Order.** The Open Meeting was called to order at 9:01 o’clock a.m. by Judge Shanklin. The roll was called by Clerk Reyes. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Court was led in an opening prayer by Commissioner Epperson. All Commissioners, with the exception of Matt Fry, were present. However, Commissioner Fry arrived at 9:10 a.m.

2. **Open Forum.** No one appeared to address the Court in Open Forum.

3. **Staff Reports.** Commissioner Barnebey mentioned that he noticed that there was an assault on a public official in the Sheriff’s report. Judge Shanklin responded that it was an assault on a sheriff’s deputy, and this is a second degree felony. There were no other questions or remarks about any other report.

4. **DELIBERATE, CONSIDER and/or TAKE ACTION ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

a. **Prior minutes.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the minutes from September 12, 2017; Commissioner Barnebey seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 4/0.

b. **Burn Ban.** The burn ban is not currently active at this time.

c. **Consider and/or act upon approving final subdivision plat for Falcon Ridge Ranch Subdivision located in Precinct 3. – Sam Poorman.** Mr. Poorman appeared to address the Court. It appears that all of the preliminary work to getting this plat approved has been done. Poorman reported that he had obtained his water availability study and that the results had been reported to Joel Pigg; his compliance checklist has been gone over with Mr. Moody, the County Attorney. Commissioner Barnebey asked if Commissioner Fry had reviewed this information and Poorman responded that he had. Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the final subdivision plat for Falcon Ridge Ranch Subdivision located in Precinct 3; Commissioner Barnebey seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 4/0.

d. **Discuss and/or approve Appraisal District 2017-2018 Budget. – Annie Mitchell.** Commissioner Barnebey made the motion to approve the Appraisal District 2017-2018 Budget; Commissioner Epperson seconded the motion. Commissioner Sweeten abstained since he is on the Appraisal Board. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0, with Commissioner Sweeten abstaining.

e. **Discuss and/or approve Appraisal District Board of Directors nomination(s). – Annie Mitchell.** Judge Shanklin addressed the Court. These names were sent out by the appraisal board as is required by law and each Commissioner received a copy. Judge Shanklin made the motion to approve the Appraisal District Board of Directors nominations. Commissioner Barnebey seconded the motion. Commissioner Sweeten abstained since he is on the Appraisal Board. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 3/0, with Commissioner Sweeten abstaining.

f. **Discuss and/or approve publishing Notice of Constitutional Amendment Election to be held November 7, 2017. – Olga Lydia Reyes.** Commissioner Barnebey made the motion to approve the publishing of the Notice of Constitutional Amendment Election to be held on November 7, 2017; Commissioner Sweeten seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 4/0.

**Commissioner Fry arrived to the meeting at 9:10 a.m.**

g. **Discuss and/or approve SWART Letter of Support for Veterans Transportation – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the SWART Letter of Support for Veterans Transportation; Commissioner Epperson seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

h. **Discuss Edwards County internet security. – Commissioner Barnebey.** Judge Shanklin addressed the Court on this topic. He stated that because Edwards County gets federal monies and state monies, we get continuously probed by North Korea and Russia. They look for any portals to get into the federal system. This happens daily. In our situation, the Judge’s computers were hacked and the FBI and state hit on it immediately when it happened. He knows we’re covered by the feds and by the State, but he doesn’t know how secure we are. Barnebey stated that this is a matter that needs to be considered since fraudulent emails are being sent into our community more and more often. He suggests that everyone think about what will occur if our information becomes compromised and how we could better protect our information. Commissioner Sweeten suggests that the Commissioners have one email address to be restricted for county business. He suggested that Barnebey look at this matter closer and then report back to the Court.

i. **Consider and act on contract from Ede and Associates to conduct FYE 2017 financial audit. – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the contract from Ede and Associates to conduct the County’s FYE 2017 financial audit; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

j. **Discuss and act on contract for Edwards County EMS. – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the contract for the Edwards County EMS, pending their completion of their requirements of sending us the information as required under that contract, and giving Judge Shanklin the authority to sign that contact when the information is received; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

k. **Discuss and act on contract for Edwards County Fire Department. – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the contract for the Edwards County Fire Department, pending their completion of their requirements of sending us the information as required under that contract, and giving Judge Shanklin the authority to sign that contact when the information is received; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

l. **Discuss and act on contract for Nutrition Center. – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the contract for the Nutrition Center, pending their completion of their requirements of sending us the information as required under that contract, and giving Judge Shanklin the authority to sign that contact when the information is received; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

m. **Discuss and act on contract for Nueces Canyon EMS. – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the contract for the Nueces Canyon EMS, pending their completion of their requirements of sending us the information as required under that contract, and giving Judge Shanklin the authority to sign that contact when the information is received; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

n. **Discuss and act on contract for Nueces Canyon Fire Department. – Judge Shanklin.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to approve the contract for the Nueces Canyon Fire Department, pending their completion of their requirements of sending us the information as required under that contract, and giving Judge Shanklin the authority to sign that contact when the information is received; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

o. **Consider and Act upon 2018 Edwards County Resolution for Indigent Defense Grant Program – Carl Esser.** Judge Shanklin addressed the Court He stated that $6000 goes into his office budget for indigent defense. Judge Shanklin made the motion to approve the 2018 Edwards County Resolution for Indigent Defense Grant Program; Commissioner Sweeten seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

5. **New Business.** Kari Cloudt, from the Rocksprings Historical Society, reminded the Court and those in attendance that she will be on the first floor of the Courthouse selling CDs from the Rocksprings Tornado Commemoration ceremony held in April of this year.

6. **Set time and date for next meeting.** The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Edwards County Commissioners Court will be on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 9:00 o’clock a.m.

7. **Pay bills.** Commissioner Sweeten made the motion to pay the bills; Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0.

8. **Adjourn.** Commissioner Barnebey made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Sweeten seconded the motion. No Commissioner noting any opposition, the motion carried 5/0. This meeting of the Edwards County Commissioners Court adjourned at 9:29 a.m.

 APPROVED:

 SOULI ASA SHANKLIN

 Edwards County Judge

Attest:

OLGA LYDIA REYES

Edwards County and District Clerk