

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014 AT 5:00 P.M.
118 SOUTH CAGE 2ND FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Thursday, September 11, 2014 and following is the record of attendance.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Leopoldo Palacios Jr.
Mayor Pro-Tem Adan Farias
Comm. Arturo Cortez
Comm. Roberto Carrillo
Comm. Edmund Maldonado, Jr.
Comm. Aquiles Garza

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Comm. Oscar Elizondo, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT: Fred Sandoval, City Manager
David Garza, Asst. City Mgr./Utilities Dir.
Hilda Pedraza, City Clerk
Jaime Guzman, Fire Chief
Roy Garcia, Public Works Director
Edward Wylie, Pharr Dev. Services Dir.
Rogelio S. Garcia, Pharr Events Center
Sergio Contreras, External Affairs Dir.

CITY ATTORNEY Michael Pruneda, City Attorney
CITY ENGINEER Bill Ueckert, City Engineer

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER:

There being a quorum established, Mayor Palacios dispensed with the formalities and called the meeting to order at 12:21 p.m.

**A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY
ABSENT MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

Comm. Cortez moved to excuse Comm. Elizondo for being absent. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**ITEM 2 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SUGAR ROAD AND EGLY
STREET DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and explained the meeting was called due to post-construction issues on Egly Street and Sugar Road. He stated he has been working with staff and the Pharr Housing Authority on some proposals concerning these issues and called upon David Garza, Roy Garcia, and Bill Ueckert for a report.

David Garza, Assistant City Manager, stated staff had met with the affected property owner and one of the concerns was the purchase of the property. He stated the property owner does not want the property to be purchased; instead she requested that the flooding situation be corrected. He further stated staff had been working with the Pharr Housing Authority to acquire land from them to place a detention pond behind their property and reroute the water as opposed to fixing the problem which would cost the city approximately \$3.5 million dollars.

David Garza, Assistant City Manager, further stated a permanent concrete retaining wall would be built along Mrs. Espinoza's property to prevent flood waters entering her property by passing motorists. Another option to alleviate the problem would be to install a 48" to 54" pipe along Sugar Road and do an inverted siphon which would cost approximately \$300,000. Mr. Garza mentioned he had spoken with a FEMA

representative and with Hollis Rutledge for the possibility of obtaining FEMA monies to help the property owner rebuild her home and had advised her to re-file a claim with TML. Nevertheless, the best option would be to create the detention pond.

Comm. Cortez asked since the detention pond would be the best option, could the situation wait a couple of months until it was built and eliminate the installation of the pipe on Sugar Road saving the city \$300,000.

Comm. Carrillo asked if the property owners' house could be either moved further back in the property or demolished and re-constructed to the back of the property and create a detention pond in the front of the property eliminating water from entering the home.

David Garza, City Manager, stated there were some personal circumstances concerning any type of purchase of the house that could negatively affect the property owner.

At this time Mayor Palacios stated the Board would go into closed session. There was no objection.

ITEM 4 CLOSED SESSION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOV'T. CODE, THE PHARR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY GIVES NOTICE THAT IT WILL MEET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA, INCLUDING ITEMS 2 – 3

Mayor Palacios stated the time being 12:39 pm; the Board of Commissioners would be entering a closed session in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Govt. Code to discuss agenda items listed in the public portion of the agenda and Pursuant to Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.084 and 551.087.

ITEM 5 RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION, AND CONSIDER ACTION, IF NECESSARY ON ANY ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Palacios stated the time being 1:20 pm; the board had completed its closed session and would be resuming the open meeting.

At this time Comm. Maldonado left the meeting, the time being 1:20 p.m.

ITEM 2 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SUGAR ROAD AND EGLY STREET DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, re-introduced the item and stated no action would be taken at this time.

ITEM 3 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH PHARR HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A REGIONAL DETENTION FACILITY

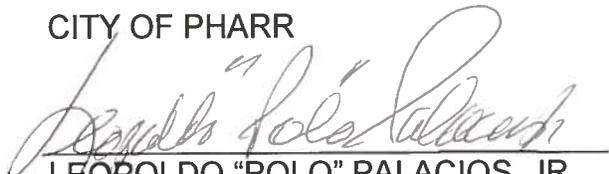
Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Cortez moved to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 6 ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Cortez moved to adjourn. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR


LEOPOLDO "POLO" PALACIOS, JR.
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

ON THIS THE 11TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2014 the Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas convened in a **SPECIAL CALLED MEETING** at the Commissioner's Room located at 118 S. Cage, 2nd Floor, Pharr, Texas. The meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, place, subject, hereof, having been posted in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Act) and there being present a quorum, I, **HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK**, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:


HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: October 7, 2014