

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
LA FERIA CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in Regular Session on **Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.** in the La City Commission Meeting Room, La Feria, Texas 78559. The purpose of said meeting was to consider and take action on those items of City Business as was duly posted by agenda in accordance with State Open Meetings Law. The following City Commission members were present at said meeting.

**3. DETERMINE QUORUM PRESENT AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER – MAYOR**

Mayor Pro-Tem Guevara declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order. The following staff members were present at said meeting:

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Olga H. Maldonado	Mayor	Present
Maricela Zuniga	Commissioner	Present
Michael Martinez	Commissioner	Present
Julian Guevara, Jr.	Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner	Present
Esmeralda Lozano	Commissioner	Present
Donato Garcia	Commissioner	Absent

- Mr. Frank Rios, City Manager
- Ms. Amanda Morales, City Secretary
- Mr. Alfonso Rodriguez, Public Works Director
- Mr. Cesar Diaz, Police Chief
- Ms. Sara Seeley, Library Director
- Ms. Allison Bastian-Rodriguez, City Attorney

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD JANUARY 23, 2024.**

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve the items under consent agenda as presented. The Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Guevara and passed unanimously.

**6. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT THE CITY MANAGER TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH TEXAS EMERGENT CARE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to appoint the City Manager to serve as a member of the South Texas Emergent Care Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to move out of order to Item 9. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously.

**9. PRESENTATION BY LIBRARY DIRECTOR REGARDING ONGOING PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.**

Library Director Sara Seeley informed the Commission of new programs and updates to the library including digitizing the library’s catalog and reading programs for children. Ms. Seeley noted that the library is not accredited through the Texas State Library and Archives. In order to have accreditation restored, the library will have to implement certain services. The lack of accreditation is preventing the library from qualifying for grant funding that could help improve services. Ms. Seeley informed the Commission that she is working to enroll the library in an e-book program to allow patrons access to digital books and periodicals. There was no action taken on this item.

7. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF LA FERIA AND THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY TPDES STORMWATER TASK FORCE PARTNERSHIP FOR REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT TO THE REGIONAL LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY TPDES STORMWATER TASK FORCE.**

Mr. Rios stated that public works director Alfonso Rodriguez nominated himself to be appointed to the position. The taskforce representative is appointed for a five-year term. Commissioner Lozano made a motion to appoint Alfonso Rodriguez to represent the City of La Feria on the Lower Rio Grande Valley TPDES Stormwater Taskforce. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously.

8. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE CITY OF LA FERIA AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (RFP) AND REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE 2024 TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

Mr. Rios explained that the grant amount is up to \$500,000 and would require a 15% match from the city. The grant funding can be used for sidewalks and lighting fixtures, but not for seating or landscaping. Mayor Pro-Tem Guevara made a motion to authorize issuing requests for proposals for administrative services and requests for qualifications for professional services for the 2024 Texas Community Development Block Grant program downtown revitalization program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously.

Mayor Maldonado called the meeting into closed session at 7:05 pm.

**CLOSED SESSION**

9. **CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO SEC. 551.074, TEX. GOV'T CODE, TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, AND DUTIES OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE: THE CITY PLANNING DIRECTOR.**

There was no action taken during closed session. Mayor Maldonado reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:45 pm.

10. **ADJOURN.**

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Lozano made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez, and it passed unanimously.

APPROVED:



Olga H. Maldonado, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amanda Morales, City Secretary