



BOARD OF ALDERMEN

REGULAR MEETING

November 8, 2011

6:00 P.M.



3301 CARMEN AVE, 78575

Phone **956-350-4093**

Fax **956-350-4156**

TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

6:00 P.M.

NOTICE is hereby given of a REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF ALDERMEN of the TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS, to be held on NOVEMBER 8, 2011 at 6:00 P.M., in the TOWN MUNICIPAL OFFICE, 3301 CARMEN AVENUE, RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS to consider the following items:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Invocation and Pledge
4. Public Comment
5. Approval of Minutes - October 11, 2011
6. Recognize Annual Christmas Drive - Good Neighbor Settlement House Day - December 10, 2011
7. Consideration/Action on Resolution to Vote on Ballot of Representative for Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors - Position Nine
8. Consideration/Action on a Resolution Adopting the Lower Rio Grande Valley Regional Interoperability Communication Plan/Standard Operating Procedures
9. Consideration/Approval to Declare One 1999 Nissan Altima and One 2000 Mazda MPV Sport Van (Seized Vehicles that are Asset Forfeiture) Surplus Property to be Sold and Authorize the Police Chief/Mayor to Accept the Highest Offer

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10. Update on Town of Rancho Viejo Alert Network

11. Public Comment

12. Adjourn


Cheryl J. Kretz
Town Administrator

#1 Call to Order by Mayor Medrano

#2 Roll Call

by Isabel Perales

Alderwoman Hager

Alderwoman Hinojosa

Alderman Lackner

Alderman Rafac

Alderwoman Truan

Legal Counsel, Daniel Rentfro, Jr.

Town Administrator, Cheryl J.
Kretz.

#3 Invocation and Pledge:

The pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag:

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

And the pledge of allegiance to the Texas State Flag is,

“Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.”

#4 Public Comment

#5: Approval of Minutes- Regular Meeting October 11, 2011

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO
OCTOBER 11, 2011

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas was held on October 11, 2011, at the Town Municipal Office, 3301 Carmen Avenue, Rancho Viejo, Texas, the same being open to the public. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Roberto Medrano at 6:04 P.M. Roll call was made by Isabel Perales, Assistant Town Secretary. Members present at the meeting were:

Mrs. Jean Hager
Mrs. Maria Hinojosa
Mr. Joe Rafac
Mrs. Bitty Truan

Aldermen absent:

Mr. Robert Lackner

A quorum was present at the meeting.

Mr. Daniel Rentfro, Jr., legal counsel, was present. Town Administrator Cheryl J. Kretz was also present at the meeting.

Those present in the audience were:

Chief M. Cruz, Jr.	Richard P. Lewis
Liz Ormes	Mack Sterling
Marilyn Lindeman	Dick Lindeman
Eric Schwab	Lourdes G. Medrano

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:

Alderman Rafac led the group in the invocation and pledge of allegiance to the American and Texas flags.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Liz Ormes commented on the reflective gear ordinance. Alderman Rafac gave information about the Los Fresnos CISD election that would affect their tax rate. Alderwoman Hinojosa announced the first annual Children's Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 29th. Mayor Medrano noted the timeline on the enforcement of the new reflective gear ordinance, stating that residents would be informed of the ordinance during October and November with written warnings starting on December 1 and citations beginning January 1.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Alderwoman Hager, seconded by Alderman Rafac, and unanimously carried, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 13, 2011 be approved as written.

CONSIDERATION/ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 620 REAPPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE:

Motion was made by Alderwoman Hinojosa, seconded by Alderwoman Truan, and unanimously carried, to approve Ordinance No. 62Q - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 620 REAPPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATE.

CONSIDERATION/ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE SOUTH TEXAS EMERGENCY CARE FOUNDATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

On the recommendation of Mayor Medrano, motion was made by Alderwoman Hager, seconded by Alderman Rafac, and unanimously carried, to appoint Alderwoman Hinojosa to the South Texas Emergency Care Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors.

CONSIDERATION/ACTION ON EMPLOYMENT OF RESERVE POLICE OFFICER:

Motion was made by Alderwoman Hinojosa, seconded by Alderman Rafac, and unanimously carried, to table this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Alderwoman Hinojosa, seconded by Alderman Rafac, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 P.M.

BY: _____
Cheryl J. Kretz, Town Secretary

APPROVED: _____
Roberto Medrano, Mayor

DATE: _____

#6: Recognize Annual Christmas
Drive - Good Neighbor Settlement
House Day - December 10, 2011

2011 Good Neighbor Settlement House Drive

The 2011 Good Neighbor Settlement House Drive is scheduled for Saturday, December 10, 2011. Abel and Maria Hinojosa will be the coordinators for the event. Items will be collected on Saturday morning between the hours of 9:00 AM and Noon. Please drop off your donations at 4 Pizarro Ave. We will have plenty of helpers in our driveway to assist in unloading your donations. If you are unable to drop off your donations, please call 372-9674 and we will make arrangements to come to your home and pick up your items. There is always a need for clothing, coats, blankets, furniture, appliances, towels, toys, kitchen items, games and non-perishable food items. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. Checks should be made payable to Good Neighbor Settlement House. All donations are tax deductible and donation receipts are available for your records. If you have any questions, please call 372-9674. Thank you so much for your support and generosity.

#7: Consideration/Action on a Resolution to Vote on Ballot of Representative for Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors – Position Nine

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas along with thirteen (13) other cities in Cameron County is represented by one (1) board member sitting as position Nine (9) on the Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors, and

WHEREAS, each of the fourteen (14) cities represented by this director shall have the opportunity to vote for the representative for the period commencing January, 2012; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas that they cast their vote for Joseph E. Rafac for Position Nine (9) of the Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 8th day of November, 2011.

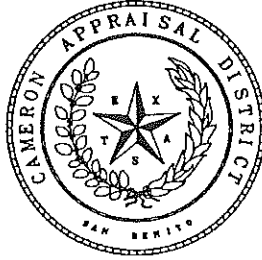
Roberto Medrano
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cheryl J. Kretz
Town Secretary

CAMERON APPRAISAL DISTRICT

Frutoso M. Gomez, Jr., Chief Appraiser
P.O. Box 1010, 2021 Amistad Dr.
San Benito, TX 78586-1010
www.cameroncad.org
(956) 399-9322
(956) 541-3365
(956) 428-8020
Fax (956) 399-6969



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
Jose Noe Diaz, Sr., Chairman
Janice A. Cassidy, Vice-Chairperson
Jesse Villarreal, Secretary
Carlos H. Cascos
Enrique Escobedo, Jr.
Roberto Garcia
Joey Treviño
Vicente Mendez
Robert Pinkerton, Jr.
Tony Yzaguirre, Jr.

October 24, 2011

Mr. Roberto Medrano
Mayor
Town of Rancho Viejo
3301 Carmen Avenue
Rancho Viejo, TX 78575

Dear Mr. Medrano:

The enclosed ballot has been prepared listing all nominees submitted by the fourteen (14) jurisdictions (cities/towns) represented by Position 9 on the Cameron Appraisal District Board of Directors. The governing body of each taxing unit entitled to vote shall determine its vote by resolution. **Mark your ballot and return the ballot to the appraisal district before December 15, 2011.** Once the votes have been tabulated, you will be notified of the results.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frutoso M. Gomez, Jr.', written in a cursive style.

Frutoso M. Gomez, Jr.
Chief Appraiser

FMGJr/ljs

cc: Cheryl Kretz, City Secretary

CAMERON APPRAISAL DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VOTING BALLOT

LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THE _____
Taxing Unit

DOES HEREBY CAST ITS VOTE AS INDICATED IN THE BALLOT BELOW:

CANDIDATES FOR POSITION NINE

- Janice Cassidy
- Eddie Lucio, III
- Ricardo Morado
- Joseph E. Rafac

EACH JURISDICTION IS ALLOWED ONLY ONE VOTE
BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED TO CAMERON APPRAISAL DISTRICT BEFORE
DECEMBER 15, 2011

BY: _____
Mayor

City Secretary

**#8: Consideration/Action on a
Resolution Adopting the Lower
Rio Grande Valley Regional
Interoperability Communication
Plan/Standard Operating
Procedures**

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY
REGIONAL INTEROPERABILITY COMMUNICATION PLAN/STANDARD
OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOP)

WHEREAS, the Town of Rancho Viejo is working with local governments and other in equipment standardization; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of public safety in the Lower Rio Grande Valley is threatened by a variety of natural and technological hazards including terrorism; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security and the State of Texas, in coordination with Council of Governments in Texas seek to address regional standardization of training, equipment, and exercise; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Rancho Viejo is the appropriate agency of local governments to coordinate the aforementioned assistance with guidance and leadership from the Regional Communications Committee and the State of Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas that:

Section 1. The Lower Rio Grande Valley Regional Interoperability Communication Plan / Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) proposed by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council be endorsed as submitted by the Regional Communications Committee.

Section 2. This resolution will also serve as the official review and adoption by the local government as requested by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council.

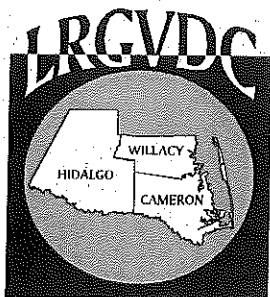
Section 3. This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas on this 8th day of November, 2011.

Roberto Medrano
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cheryl J. Kretz
Town Secretary



Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

Mayor Pro-Tem Eddy Gonzalez, EdcouchPresident
Hon. Norma G. Garcia, Member-at-Large1st Vice-President
Mayor Steve Brewer, La Feria2nd Vice-President
Mayor Tony Martinez, BrownsvilleSecretary
Mayor Pro-Tem Alvin Samano, Member-at-LargeTreasurer
Mayor Chris Boswell, HarlingenImmediate Past President

BOARD MEMBERS

Sofia Benavides
Commissioner, Cameron County

Hector "Tito" Palacios
Commissioner, Hidalgo County

John F. Gonzales
Judge, Willacy County

Roel Landa
Commissioner, Alamo

David S. Simmons
Mayor, Donna

Gus Garcia
Council Member, Edinburg

Jim Darling
Commissioner, McAllen

Henry Hinojosa
Mayor, Mercedes

Norie Gonzalez Garza
Council Member, Mission

Leo "Polo" Palacios, Jr.
Mayor, Pharr

Orlando Correa
Mayor, Raymondville

Celeste Sanchez
Commissioner, San Benito

Armando Garza
Mayor Pro-tem, San Juan

Robert J. Garza
Commissioner, Weslaco

Dr. Cesar Maldonado
TSTC, Harlingen

Roberto Loreda
Donna I.S.D.

Gale Armstrong
El Jardin Water Supply

J. Shane Cameron
Willacy Navigation District

Don Medina
Member-at-Large

Arturo Ramirez
Grassroots Organizations

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Kenneth N. Jones, Jr.

October 14, 2011

Honorable Roberto Medrano
Mayor of Rancho Viejo
3301 Carmen Ave.
Rancho Viejo, TX 78575

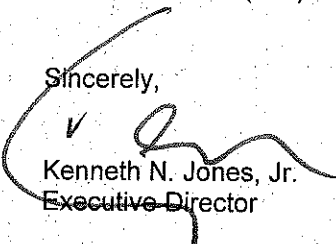
Dear Mayor Roberto Medrano,

As you are aware, during an incident or disaster whether natural or man-made, first responder agencies must establish reliable lines of radio communication regardless of radio brand or frequency. For this reason, achieving radio interoperability communications and most importantly the standardization of current radio communication systems has been a top priority for federal, state, and local agencies.

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) which is comprised of local Police, Fire and EMC representatives have worked cooperatively to develop the attached Lower Rio Grande Valley Regional Interoperability Systems -Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP) document for all cities within the counties of Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy to adopt and practice. The purpose of this SOP and RICP is to delineate the authority, roles, and procedures for city and county agency supervisory personnel to use the inter-jurisdictional Texas Interoperability Channel Plan. Rest assured, this new SOP and RICP is not meant to replace or supersede any existing policies and procedures that your jurisdiction currently has in place.

At the request of the LRGVDC-HSAC, please review and consider the adoption of the attached SOP and RICP no later than December 31, 2011. For your convenience, I have attached a sample of a resolution and the SOP and RICP in electronic format and also a hard copy for your next regularly scheduled City Commission meeting to review and adopt. Please provide a copy of the adopted signed resolution for our records and if you have any questions please feel free to contact or me at (956) 682-3481.

Sincerely,


Kenneth N. Jones, Jr.
Executive Director

cc: Cheryl Kretz, Town Secretary
Police Chief, Fire Chief, EMC

Please contact the Town Office to read the entire Lower Rio Grande Valley Regional Interoperability Systems-Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP)

#9: Consideration/Approval to Declare One 1999 Nissan Altima and One 2000 Mazda MPV Sport Van (Seized Vehicles that are Asset Forfeiture) Surplus Property to be Sold and Authorize the Police Chief/Mayor to Accept the Highest Offer

The 1999 Nissan Altima and the 2000 Mazda Sport Van are seized vehicles that were awarded to the Rancho Viejo Police Department after the owners used these vehicles for transporting narcotics and were convicted of narcotics trafficking in federal court.

Said vehicles are now the property of the Rancho Viejo Police Department and can be sold with the money to be deposited in the Police Asset Forfeiture Account.

The sale of these two vehicles will be advertised in the Bargain Book and on Craig's list. The asking price on the Altima will be \$2,000.00 with \$2,500.00 on the Sport Van or best offer. After ten days, the Mayor and Police Chief will review the offers and accept the highest one and execute the sale of the vehicles.

This procedure is being used to expedite the sale in an effort not to lose the buyer.

MEMO

TO: Mayor Roberto Medrano

FROM: Cheryl J. Kretz

DATE: November 2, 2011

SUBJECT: Surplus Vehicles

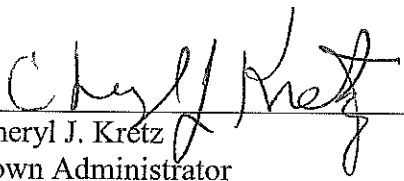
I recommend that the following vehicles be designated as surplus:

One 1999 Nissan Altima
One 2000 Mazda MPV Sport Van

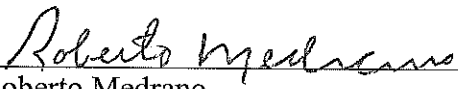

Cheryl J. Kretz
Town Administrator

We declare the following vehicles be surplus:

One 1999 Nissan Altima
One 2000 Mazda VPV Sport Van



Cheryl J. Kretz
Town Administrator
November 2, 2011



Roberto Medrano
Mayor
November 2, 2011

#10: Update on Town of Rancho Viejo Alert Network

Town of Rancho Viejo

Alert Network Overview



Instantaneous and proactive communication from the Town Hall and local law enforcement to you

The **Alert Network** allows the Town of Rancho Viejo to instantly update you about town meetings, crimes, emergencies and other important information.

All Alerts are delivered via **e-mail** and are also available via **text message** on your cell phone.

- **Citizen Alerts** inform all registered users of Town information and public safety concerns in your area. The Alerts contain information about meetings, crime trends, description of suspects, missing persons, as well as advice on personal safety, and how to safeguard property.
- **Business Alerts** are targeted to specific business types, so your business will receive information about issues that are pertinent to your business type.
- **Case Alerts** allow law enforcement to automatically disseminate information about open cases to all registered Citizen Observer users.
- **Watch Group Alerts** allow the Town Hall to send targeted alerts to specific neighborhoods with information concerning their immediate area.

Communication between the public and local law enforcement

Possibly the biggest benefit of the Alert Network is the way it makes possible communication between law enforcement and the public.

- The Town Hall and Police Department can **update citizens** on situations that require their attention.
- As the public learns about **fugitives, missing persons and unsolved cases**, you can provide tips directly to the Police Department.

*Police Dept. 24/7 Non-Emergency # (956)350-9000
For Emergencies dial 911*

Sign Up Today

Help create a stronger community by signing up to receive Citizen, Business, and Neighborhood alerts. You'll get information directly from Town Hall and the local law enforcement agency that impacts your community.

It's easy!!

1. **Go to the Town of Rancho Viejo website www.ranchoviejotexas.com and click on the "Sign Up for Alerts" link.**
2. **Fill out the form and you're done ... then spread the word and invite your neighbors to join.**
3. **Please note that CitizenObserver is a secure website and protects your privacy. For more details, please review the CitizenObserver privacy policy.**

#11: Public Comment

#12: Adjourn