

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF KINGSVILLE CITY COMMISSION WAS HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026, IN THE HELEN KLEBERG GROVES COMMUNITY ROOM, 400 WEST KING AVENUE, KINGSVILLE, TEXAS, AT 5:00 P.M.

CITY COMMISSION PRESENT:

Sam R. Fugate, Mayor
Edna Lopez, Commissioner
Norma Alvarez, Commissioner
Hector Hinojosa, Commissioner
Leo Alarcon, Commissioner

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Charlie Sosa, City Manager
Mary Valenzuela, City Secretary
Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney
Derek Williams, Systems Administrator
Kyle Benson, IT Director
Leticia Salinas, Accounting Manager
Susan Ivy, Parks Director
Charlie Cardena, Engineer
Emilio Garcia, Health Director
John Blair, Police Chief
Bill Donnell, Public Works Director
J. J. Adame, Fire Chief
Monika Donnell, Municipal Court Supervisor
Rebecca Duke, Interim Tourism Director
Alicia Tijerina, Downtown Manager/Special Events Coordinator
Richard Salinas, Jr. Tourism

I. Preliminary Proceedings.

OPEN MEETING

Mayor Fugate opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with all five commission members present.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – (Mayor Fugate)

The invocation was delivered by Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

Regular Meeting – February 9, 2026

Regular Meeting – February 23, 2026

Regular Meeting – March 9, 2026

Regular Meeting – March 23, 2026

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the minutes of February 9, 2026, March 9, 2026, and March 23, 2026 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR".

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the minutes of February 23, 2026 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR". Hinojosa "ABSTAINED".

II. Public Hearing - (Required by Law).¹

None.

III. Reports from Commission & Staff.²

"At this time, the City Commission and Staff will report/update on all committee assignments which may include but is not limited to the following: Planning & Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustments, Historical Board, Housing Authority Board, Library Board, Health Board, Tourism, Chamber of Commerce, Coastal Bend Council of Governments, Conner Museum, Keep Kingsville Beautiful, and Texas Municipal League. Staff reports include the following: Building & Development, Code Enforcement, Proposed Development Report; Accounting & Finance – Financial Services - Information, Investment Report, Quarterly Budget Report, Monthly Financial Reports; Police & Fire Department – Grant Update, Police & Fire Reports; Street Updates; Public Works-Building Maintenance, Construction Updates; Park Services - grant(s) update, miscellaneous park projects, Administration –Workshop Schedule, Interlocal Agreements, Public Information, Hotel Occupancy Report, Quiet Zone, Proclamations, Health Plan Update, Tax Increment Zone Presentation, Main Street Downtown, Chapter 59 project, Financial Advisor, Water And Wastewater Rate Study Presentation. No formal action can be taken on these items at this time."

Mr. Charlie Sosa, City Manager, reported on the Trash Off event that occurred this past weekend. He stated that the event was very successful and thanked all who donated their time to assist with it. Sosa further gave a brief report on city street projects. Mr. Sosa further mentioned upcoming events in Kingsville, Wings Over South Texas Air Show on April 18 & 19, 2026; Loteria Weekend on April 25, 2026.

Ms. Courtney Alvarez, City Attorney, reported that the next city commission meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2026.

Commissioner Alvarez thanked everyone who assisted with the Trash Off event this past weekend.

Commissioner Lopez reported that it is National Public Telecommunicators Week and Animal Control Week. Lopez thanked all those in the profession for their hard work.

Mayor Fugate read and presented a Proclamation for First South Texas AI Symposium. Fugate also presented Mr. Emilio Garcia, Health Director with an anniversary gift for his year of being with the City of Kingsville.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items.³

1. Comments on all agenda and non-agenda items.

Joel Saenz, 307 W. Ailsie commented that he read something in the paper about possible lawsuits coming out of not knowing the charter or not reading the charter. He further commented that he would like the commission to know that there are also the possibilities of EEOC violations of 1964, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. This is something to look at. He also commented that some of the people that are up here have been named in open letters request. He commented that he hopes it doesn't get to that but there is in his past that he knows of there are at least three complaints that have been filed. EEOC policy.

Lance Hamm, 912 S. Creek commented that he would like to get things on the record and he does not know if the City Attorney will put on the record or when you will put on the record. He commented that he had sent an email to all, primarily referring to violations to the Open Meetings Act. Talking about city business in an open forum without notice to the public, which has happened multiple occasions. As it was stated on the email, it would have been nice for the city attorney to have her ducks in a row when it happened on the 23rd of March where she simply could have said Subsection 551.001 4(b) reaches gatherings of a quorum of a governmental body, even when the members of the quorum do not participate in deliberations among themselves or with third parties. Instead of saying that which was directly read from the Open Meetings Act, saying something like you are not discussing it, you are making a statement, which is absolutely, in his opinion, unacceptable for a city attorney to give counsel to this commission on such a layman's term. This commission should ask her, put her on the spot and say where are you getting that information from, give it to me, read it to us. She would have read that you can't talk about city business without notice to the public. Hamm further commented that as he finishes his comments here today, you don't go back and post on Facebook that Lance Hamm is a bully, bullying the city attorney for not doing this or that. He stated that TML had ruled in 2016, and this is there ruling, it is essentially impossible for a Facebook post, Tweet, or SnapChat message to meet the open meetings act notice requirements. He further commented that basically it is an open meeting on Facebook or social media if you are talking about city business and you're a commissioner or if you are subject to the open meetings act. He commented to please clean up the illegal behavior. Right not is the time to talk about city business, open meeting, everybody is here, everybody has the notice. After this meeting, zip it. Wait until the next meeting to talk about city business. That is what the open meetings act is all about. You let us know what you are going to talk about and we show up and we listen and we can expect what you are going to talk about on the agenda and it's an open meeting. There is a law relating to that, so please let's stick to the law.

Ali 225 Golf Course Road commented that he is writing a book on AI and would like to propose welcoming AI Data Center to Kingsville and the Robstown refinery that is coming up, if you significantly improve the quality of your schools then a lot of those people will come and live in Kingsville. They will go wherever the best schools are. If you want to attract a lot of those people then you want to upgrade the schools. He further commented that Kingsville has a problem with transportation for the university students. They can't find anyway to get around. You should change your loss to encourage the arrival of Robotaxi's like Waymo and Amazonzook and Tesla Robotaxi.

Elizabeth Ramos, 615 Elizabeth, commented that she is going to utilize this open meetings space and comment to respond to Lance Hamm's comments. As someone who sat on committees in the past and sat on the Board of Trustees at KISD and spoken to attorney's about this, someone who is adamant about having interaction in a public space to hear your constituents that was one of the one things that I wanted to make sure that she knew while she was a Trustee. She has been to plenty continuing education courses on this matter and have spoken with attorney's as well and she has never read anything where an

elected official cannot go online and post what they think about the city or ask people what they think about the city. Whether it be specific on a certain subject happening in the city, ect.. We were actually encouraged to do those things on social media because as it is a new avenue to reach your constituents. There was issue such as talking about personnel, which is not allowed, and another issue is when other elected official within the same body were commenting on the post and liking on the post, that was considered against the law against Texas Open Meetings Act. As far as someone putting on about how do you feel about summer school or eight weeks instead of four, that is ok. It is perfectly fine to communicate with your constituents. There is nothing against the law on it, doesn't need an agenda. As far as Texas Open Meetings Act there are laws when you hold a meeting inside of an open meeting, that is completely different. Ramos further commented that she just wanted to point this out as she has never heard of it or never seen a law and she was encouraged to do those things which she's seen online.

V.

Consent Agenda

Notice to the Public

The following items are of a routine or administrative nature. The Commission has been furnished with background and support material on each item, and/or it has been discussed at a previous meeting. All items will be acted upon by one vote without being discussed separately unless requested by a Commission Member in which event the item or items will immediately be withdrawn for individual consideration in its normal sequence after the items not requiring separate discussion have been acted upon. The remaining items will be adopted by one vote.

CONSENT MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES AND ORDINANCES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

(At this point the Commission will vote on all motions, resolutions, and ordinances not removed for individual consideration)

None.

REGULAR AGENDA

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDINANCES:

VI. Items for consideration by Commissioners.⁴

1. Discuss and consider accepting donation of an oak tree from the Kingsville Noon Lions Club and location of same. (Commissioner Lopez).

Commissioner Lopez stated that the Lions Club had approached her about the donation of an oak tree. She further stated that the oak tree would be planted in the area next city hall.

Motion made by Commissioner Alarcon to approve the donation of an oak tree from the Kingsville Noon Lions Club and location of same, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR".

2. Discuss and consider the renewal of Windstorm & Hail Insurance, including named storms, through Victor Insurance Managers LLC as per staff recommendation. (continue with TWIA for proposed renewal premium of \$18,075 for May 1, 2026 - May 1, 2027). (Human Resources Director).

Mr. Sosa stated that this item authorizes the City of Kingsville to enter into a renewal contract with Victor Insurance Managers LLC, of Dallas, TX, for Windstorm & Hail Coverage, including named storms for May 1, 2026, through May 1, 2027. Victor Insurance Managers LLC reached out for windstorm renewal proposals on behalf of the city. The city currently has six carriers providing windstorm coverage policies. One of the policies is with Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA) that insures \$4,214,000 of the city's buildings and/or structures for an annual premium of \$18075. This is only a portion of the city's buildings and/or structures. TWIA has issued a final proposal with no increase in premiums for May 1, 2026, through May 1, 2027, and it is presented to you for consideration. The remainder of the building and/or structures will be presented separately. TWIA requires receipt of payment prior to issuing policies. It is necessary to bring this partial windstorm coverage item before the commission for consideration to allow time for city departments to process payments, if approved. There is no proposed increase for TWIA to continue coverage. Windstorm insurance premiums are budgeted in the prepaid liability account and subsequently charged to specific line items in the different funds. It is staffs recommendation to continue with TWIA and the proposed renewal premium of \$18,075 for May 1, 2026, through May 1, 2027.

Motion made by Commissioner Hinojosa to approve the renewal of Windstorm & Hail Insurance, including named storms, through Victor Insurance Managers LLC as per staff recommendation. (continue with TWIA for proposed renewal premium of \$18,075 for May 1, 2026 - May 1, 2027), seconded by Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

3. Discuss and consider accepting award of Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (LEOSE) funds from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts for the Kingsville Police Department. (Police Chief).

Mr. John Blair, Chief of Police, stated that the police department is requesting approval for acceptance of funds from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and a budget amendment to place the funds in Fund 009 for training. The Comptroller is directed by the Occupations Code, Section 1701.157 to make an annual allocation from the LEOSE account to qualified law enforcement agencies for expenses related to continuing education of persons licensed under Chapter 1701, Occupation Code. Of the account, 20% is allocated equally among the qualified agencies. The remaining 80% is allocated on the basis of the number of eligible law enforcement positions each agency has as of January 1st of the preceding calendar year. A total of \$6,631.25 was received for training use by the City of Kingsville Police Department.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the acceptance of an award of Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (LEOSE) funds from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts for the Kingsville Police Department, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

4. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget to accept and expend LEOSE funds for Police Officer training. (Police Chief).

Introduction item.

5. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget to appropriate funding for golf cart repairs at L.E. Ramey Golf Course. (Parks Director).

Mrs. Susan Ivy, Parks Director, stated that this is a budget amendment to provide funding in the amount of \$13,943.26 to pay for repairs for golf carts. The first bill lists 12 carts that all have similar issues such as steering alignment and repairs, shock absorbers, and assembly issues. Most of these issues are a combination of misuse of carts by patrons driving on the course and a couple of places on the cart path that need repairs. This bill will total to \$11,234.88. The second bill is for \$2,718.38 is, the result of a young golfer who was working temporarily at the course, not looking where he was going, and ran the cart into a tree. Staff have filed all of these as claims to the city's insurance and are working with the HR Specialist for the resolution of any opportunities that can assist with reimbursement. An additional \$13,943.26 would be added to the Golf Course budget to fund the repair of these carts. Funding would be moved from line item 001-5-1030-86000 city special budget amendment reserve and placed into 001-5-4502-71200, Golf Course Equipment Maintenance.

Commissioner Lopez asked if staff contacted Mrs. Benys regarding her golf tournament event to see how many golf carts would be needed for that event.

Mrs. Ivy responded that these carts should be back in service for her tournament. However, if all the carts are in service, the city does not have enough to service her tournament. Ivy further stated that Mrs. Benys brought in 25 carts, herself, from San Antonio. This is a discussion that will need to take place as to whether the city is going to take on that and charge the fees.

Commissioner Lopez asked for staff to make contact with Mrs. Benys as Mrs. Benys is worried about that and work with her and see what she needs.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if these carts were on a lease.

Mr. Sosa responded that they are on a lease, but this is our part we have to pay for and not part of the warranty.

Commissioner Hinojosa asked if the golf carts were electric. Mrs. Ivy responded yes.

Commissioner Lopez commented that staff may want to look into the fees for these golf carts in the event that something happens.

Ms. Alvarez commented that this is something that can be placed on a future agenda, if the commission wishes to do so, as the item listed tonight which is for repairs to the golf carts.

Introduction item.

6. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget to appropriate funding for the purchase of a zero turn Scag mower for the L.E. Ramey Golf Course. (Parks Director).

Mrs. Ivy stated that currently, outside our specific mowers, we only have a zero turn to cut roughs, surrounds, and outside of the tee boxes and certain fairways. While the fairway mover can cut most fairways because of the terrain, there are certain areas it can't get to. With only one zero-turn mower, it's a pretty hard ask to get everything done. It is being requested that an additional \$16,464 be added to the Golf Course budget to fund the purchase of this mower. Funding would be moved from the city's special budget amend reserve and placed into the golf course machinery and equipment.

Introduction item.

7. Discuss and consider accepting funds from Kleberg County for the joint ball field turf installation project at the ball fields at Dick Kleberg Park. (Parks Director).

Mrs. Ivy stated that this budget amendment would approve a budget amendment to record receipt of a \$10,500 check from Kleberg County for the turf installation on ball field at Dick Kleberg Park. The City of Kingsville, Kleberg County, and Kingsville Pony League each committed \$10,500 to fund the installation of turf home plates on three ball fields at Dick Kleberg Park. We have paid for two of the fields and Pony League has paid for one. This check from the county reimburses the city for the county's share of the project.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the acceptance of funds from Kleberg County for the joint ball field turf installation project at the ball fields at Dick Kleberg Park, seconded by Commissioner Alarcon. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Fugate voting "FOR".

8. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget to accept and expend funds from Kleberg County for the ball field turf installation project at Dick Kleberg Park. (Parks Director).

Introduction item.

9. Discuss and consider approving confirmation of Commissioner Lopez's nominee for the City of Kingsville Ethics Review Board. (City Attorney).

Ms. Alvarez stated that this is for confirmation of Commissioner Lopez's nominee Ms. Becky Trant, for the City of Kingsville Ethics Review Board.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the confirmation of Commissioner Lopez's nominee Ms. Rebecca Trant for the City of Kingsville Ethics Review Board, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Lopez, Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Fugate voting "FOR".

10. Discuss and consider approving sponsorship for the Wings Over South Texas Air Show at Naval Air Station Kingsville. (April 18-19, 2026). (Interim Tourism Director).

Ms. Rebecca Duke, Interim Tourism Director stated that this the City of Kingsville is a top sponsor for the Wings Over South Texas Airshow. The sponsorship is in the amount of \$35,000 to be funded by the Tourism Department's budget.

Motion made by Commissioner Alvarez to approve the sponsorship for the Wings Over South Texas Air Show at Naval Air Station Kingsville. (April 18-19, 2026), seconded by Commissioner Alarcon.

Commissioner Lopez asked Mr. Sosa why this item was being considered so late, being that the airshow is this upcoming weekend. Have funds been spent.

Mr. Sosa stated that no funds have been spent. The sponsorship check has not been sent out. There has been advertisement but as for the sponsorship check, that has not been given. He further stated that it was an oversight on his side with all that was going on and he did not budget for this last year. This is for a budget amendment from the Tourism to spend the \$35,000.

Commissioner Hinojosa asked if this was coming from Tourism Funds. Mr. Sosa responded yes.

The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Alvarez, Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Fugate voting "FOR".

11. Discuss and consider introduction of an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget to appropriate funds for the 2026 Wings Over South Texas Air Show. (Interim Tourism Director).

Introduction item.

12. Discuss and consider distribution of the allotment of sponsorship tickets & chalet options for the Wings Over South Texas Air Show weekend. (Interim Tourism Director/City Attorney).

Ms. Duke stated that a lottery drawing will be held among employees who submit their names for tickets.

Motion made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the distribution of the allotment of sponsorship tickets & chalet options for the Wings Over South Texas Air Show weekend to be a lottery for employees for either Saturday or Sunday and for commission members to receive two tickets, seconded by Commissioner Alvarez. The motion was passed and approved by the following vote: Hinojosa, Alarcon, Lopez, Alvarez, Fugate voting "FOR".

13. Discuss Ranch Hand weekend and 2025 activities, attendance, and financials. (Commissioner Lopez/ Mayor Fugate).

Commissioner Lopez stated that she had requested this item to be placed on the agenda because she attended a Hotel Occupancy Tax Board (HOT) meeting in which there was some information that those discrepancies from the information that the city commission received on December 9th from the Tourism Office, and the information that was presented to the HOT Board. There was conflicting information, conflicting financial information, and conflicting information on attendance. Lopez stated that there was a lot of misinformation. She further commented that the Tourism Department had stated that they had made \$6,500 in profit when, in reality, it was presented to the HOT Board that they were \$17,288.88 in the red. This was a red flag to her, and she felt that the commission had never been given a report on this and did not receive a report on this last year either. The only report that has been received was from the year before back in 2023 when we had a non-profit, CASA, and they were given \$49,000. Lopez stated that it was time for the commission to discuss what happened, how come the commission was given that information on December 9th and something different was presented to the HOT Board.

Mr. Sosa asked Ms. Duke if she had created a spreadsheet that he was holding in his hands. Ms. Duke responded no. Sosa further asked if she knew who had created that spreadsheet. Ms. Duke responded that it was created by Mrs. Alicia Tijerina. Mr. Sosa then stated that he had gone back to the Finance Department and asked them to do a reconciliation of the expenditure and revenues that came in for that event. He further stated that the spreadsheet was done by Mrs. Tijerina which has a lot of discrepancies in it that were found. Sosa further stated that as she is not Finance, the Finance team went back and did a reconciliation on everything that was spent and the totals that the Finance Department came up with was a minus of \$6,636. When the previous Tourism Director, Mrs. Connie Womack, was with the city, there was still some invoices that had not been paid as they were just received recently. This was for IHeart radio and some broadcasting. Sosa stated that the spreadsheet had false information that was presented to the HOT Board and stated that he now owes them an apology and when he spoke to them afterwards he told them that he would look into it and now we have the proper documentation to present, which he would be happy to present to the commission and explain it to them so we can let it die today.

Commissioner Lopez asked Mr. Sosa what he meant by stating let it die.

Mr. Sosa stated that the city is not in the business to make a profit. This was the Tourism Directors at the wheel at the time. She was new and had been there not even six months when this happened. It was inevitable that we weren't going to have a loss. A lot things had changed and she continued the event as it had been in the past as that is the way it had traditionally been done. So she did the event, to which he thinks it was a great success. Did we have the attendance, no the attendance wasn't there, but she put on a great event as he was present for the event and enjoyed it. Now that we are minus \$6,600 that is part of the business of doing an event. Not all events will be profitable. Sosa stated that moving forward he would ask the commission if they would like to continue with this event, of the concert after the event or we could look at other directions. He further stated that it would be up to the commission and he will follow whatever advice he receives from the commission.

Mayor Fugate asked if this was for Tourism. Mr. Sosa responded yes. Mayor Fugate commented that he thinks that Tourism needs to lead the way on this. Allow that department to say what they would like to do. Mr. Sosa responded that he agrees.

Commissioner Hinojosa asked if they provide a profit or loss for each event to the city or if this is the first time this has been done. He further asked who was the motive behind it.

Mr. Sosa responded that this was the first time we have actually done a profit/loss on any of the events. From the previous years we never had any records, this is the first time there were records of a profit/loss. He stated that he did not know as there was always a non-profit involved in the mix so it was between Tourism and the non-profit. He further stated that he never received any type of generated expenditures or revenues as to what was actually spent and what was brought in. Sosa stated that it was all hearsay and therefore he does not know and he is unable to answer that question.

Commissioner Hinojosa commented that there are different circumstances for the events. He stated that maybe these people got tired of making contributions for any event that was pulled out by the Tourism Department. He stated that people do get tired and maybe some other factors came into play that may have created this loss. The \$17,000 verses the \$6,000 is a big difference to somebody and this report was generated by the Finance Department. He further stated that hopefully in the future they can get together and come up with some correct figures.

Mayor Fugate commented that it is more money than \$6,000 because when they were doing the Wine Walks and collected money for the charitable organizations every year they averaged about \$50,000, which is \$50,000 they didn't get this year. So this is really more than \$6,000 that we didn't get. He stated that from what he can see the difference was that there were not enough sponsors and particularly table sponsors. He stated that when he was there that night, there were not a lot of people sponsoring tables. He stated that he had attended an event for another organization where they had 32 table sponsors at \$1,200 a table.

Mr. Sosa stated that this was a learning curve for the Tourism Director that was there at that time. He stated that he is not pointing fingers at anybody or less sponsorship, this is what it turned out to be.

Commissioner Alvarez commented that the money from the Wine Walks was not generated from the Wine Walk itself, it was from sponsors and donations as she went to many of those Wine Walks and there like nobody there. It wasn't from people going there and buying passports.

Mayor Fugate commented that it shouldn't be said that there was nobody there, as there were people in attendance.

Commissioner Alvarez stated that not to where they generated \$56,000. Those were already donations that were given.

Mayor Fugate stated that the initiatives were with the Wine Walk and you will find that the downtown merchants would love to see that come back.

Commissioner Lopez commented yes. She further stated that she does not know why we stopped using the non-profit. She further stated that in 2023 \$49,000 was given to CASA, and there is documentation on that as she saw it. Last year it was Weavers of Love, but no information was ever received on what they received. She stated to Mr. Sosa, that last year there probably wasn't anything, but the year before it was there. She stated that using the non-profits you have built in volunteers and they encourage the folks to come and on subsequent years that they are not doing it, they still come as they promoted it. You help your citizens. Lopez further stated that her concern is who gave her that information that was presented to the commission on December 9th. Why would you all give her that information to come in and tell the commission and to state that there was 3,500 people at the tree lighting, there was no way that many people were at the tree lighting. Lopez further stated to Mr. Sosa, that if he looks at that report, she doesn't think that the illegal electric box that was placed on the Fuentes property, which is still there, was added to the spreadsheet. She further stated that, going back to all this, the choice of music had a lot to do with it. There were a lot of factors that made it unsuccessful. To say that we didn't lose money, there was a loss, and the non-profits didn't receive anything.

Mr. Sosa stated that it was a learning curve.

Commissioner Hinojosa stated that what is being said is that a lot of money came in, but he never saw any documentation to that effect. He stated that he would rather see something in writing and compare the sponsorship from one event to another. The sponsors are getting tired of contributing money to all these events. He further stated that he has not seen a report on heads on beds that come in for these events, such as the Wine Walks and Ranchhand Breakfast. He stated that maybe there was information but he never did see that information.

Commissioner Lopez commented to Mr. Sosa that for him to say that it was all wrong that Mrs. Tijerina did was not fair, because some of the things that were coded weren't correct, but let's not blame anybody as it is not fair to her who works hard as they all do.

Mr. Sosa commented that he agrees, but when someone wants to generate a report, he would like for the Finance Department to be involved to get the true numbers for the event.

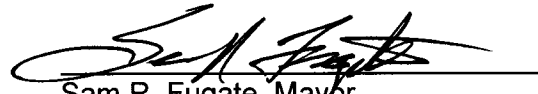
Commissioner Lopez commented that as he is the leader, that is correct. She further stated that the HOT Board had mentioned that they would like to be involved in the process of hiring the next Tourism Director. She stated also that they were upset about the grant that they were not told about, the \$40,000 that will be spent in revamping the website. Lopez further stated that as she had never been to a HOT Board meeting, she noticed that they had many concerns.

Commissioner Hinojosa commented that he agrees that they shouldn't be pointing fingers at anybody. There was just lack of communication from one department to another department that didn't get together to finalize these figures. It is unfair for the person that stated that there was a \$6,000 profit and for the Finance Department to be blamed that we told her, as we don't know where she got those numbers. It is unfair to point fingers at anybody.

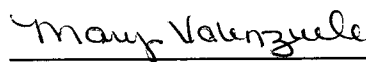
Mayor Fugate stated that someone had told him that the 3,500 attendees that was said to be at the tree lighting, it was including everyone that was coming in and out from HEB.

VI. Adjournment.

As there was no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.


Sam R. Fugate, Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary Valenzuela, TRMC, City Secretary