



ELECTIONS COMMISSION SELECTS FINAL FOUR

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EDINBURG — at a meeting of the Hidalgo County Elections Commission today, Chairman Hidalgo County Judge J.D. Salinas announced that out of 66 applicants for the position of the Elections Administrator, the commission has narrowed it down to the final four. They are:

- Mike Braun Jr. of Edinburg, TX
- Froylan Garza of Alamo, TX
- Simon Saenz of Austin, TX
- Yvonne Ramon of McAllen, TX

The final four candidates will undergo a second round of interviews on Wednesday's meeting of the commission. A decision could be made immediately following the meeting.

“Making decisions in haste leads to waste,” Judge Salinas said at the conclusion of today's meeting. “We are putting the candidates for this very important position under the microscope. Today, we deliberated further on the merits of each candidate, but decided that we'd like to speak to them one more time before making our decisions.

“Background checks are not yet complete. Furthermore, I have not had a chance to personally interview these candidates thanks to Hurricane Dolly. As a commission, we want to ask some tough questions on Wednesday so we can select the most honest, knowledgeable, capable and hardworking Elections Administrator Hidalgo County deserves,” Judge Salinas said.

The Elections Commission also voted to ask the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court to approve a request for the Secretary of State to help administer the November elections or to consider the hiring of a private elections administration firm.

“Voters will be picking who they want for what's arguably the most powerful position in the world. Whoever we choose for Elections Administrator will have a learning curve, and this is not a slight to them, but we simply want the November election to go off without a hitch. We are requesting help to administer this election,” Judge Salinas said.

The item suggested by the Elections Commission will be placed on Tuesday's Commissioners' Court agenda for consideration.

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