

**CALLED MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2016 AT 10:00 A.M.
J.W. "RED" PATTILLO COMMUNITY CENTER
53633 STATE HIGHWAY 118, STUDY BUTTE, TEXAS**

Judge Cano called the meeting to order and the following Elected Officials were present:

<i>Eleazar R. Cano</i>	<i>County Judge</i>
<i>Luc Novovitch</i>	<i>Commissioner Pct. 1</i>
<i>Hugh Garrett</i>	<i>Commissioner Pct. 2</i>
<i>Ruben Ortega</i>	<i>Commissioner Pct. 3</i>
<i>Mike "Coach" Pallanez</i>	<i>Commissioner Pct. 4</i>
<i>Babbet Mann</i>	<i>County Treasurer</i>
<i>Berta Rios-Martinez</i>	<i>County Clerk</i>

1. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Judge led the Court in an Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comment

Cynthia Salas of Big Bend Regional Hospital District informed the Court that they are trying to put a clinic in the South County area and would like any help from those who live in that area to make this successful.

3. Rio Grande Electric Co-op presentation regarding the status of the Study Butte/Terlingua Substation Project (Information Only)

Representatives of the Rio Grande Electric Co-Op presented a lengthy PowerPoint presentation to provide detailed information on the process of placing a substation in the area and how this would better the power in South County. After the presentation a lengthy question and answer session took place with discussion. This was an information item and no action was to be taken.

Court recessed at 11:31 A.M.

Court reconvened at 11:47 A.M.

4. Big Bend Citizens Alliance presentation regarding a proposal to transfer ownership of the Study Butte/Terlingua Baseball Park to Brewster County (Information Only)

Commissioner Garrett provided an explanation of the process and what concerns that were in place for the Baseball Park in Study Butte/Terlingua. Bonnie Hill, representative of the Baseball Park read into record what they would like the County to do as well as some of the history of the Baseball Park. Mrs. Hill stated that Big Bend Community Action would oversee the Park but would like to see the Park be turned over to Brewster County in that it could be better maintained and could get electricity back to the Park. Mrs. Hill explained that there are not enough people in Terlingua to maintain the Park and that limited financial support is available

to provide the Community to use the Park when needed during the high temperatures. Funds were provided to the Park beginning in 2001 and discontinued when Red and Amelio left office. Commissioner Garrett asked if the \$5,000-\$7,000 was allocated directly to the BBCA. Commissioner Ortega stated that the Big Bend Little League Association received the funds and would then distribute the funds accordingly. Marcos Paredes stated that when the Park was not associated with the Big Bend Little League was the reason for the lack of funds being distributed or not. Commissioner Ortega informed the Court that they were not receiving funds. Judge Cano asked if the School has any use for the Baseball Park. Commissioner Ortega stated that the school has no baseball program for them to take the park over. Discussion of the liability for playground equipment and the liability that would fall on the County and would limit what could be done if the County took it over. Commissioner Novovitch asked if more information could be provided to the Court in order for the Court to open the Park and to maintain it in the way being discussed. Commissioner Garrett suggested putting together a detailed proposal for the Court to look at and to see what can be done in a reasonable manner.

5. Road & Bridge Department / Community Facilities

- A. Road & Bridge Superintendent's Report, General updates on maintenance and repairs for all county roads & state of County Roads System; road materials including, fuel, supplies including usage & inventories & future needs; budgetary matters; equipment including heavy equipment, (maintenance repairs, future needs, replacement and additions), pickups, trailers and other light vehicles and accessories, and small equipment, (usage, future needs), equipment rentals; facilities (yards in Alpine, Marathon and S. County) cattle guards, fences and other means of containing livestock; safety issues and equipment; and community facilities (assistance with maintenance and other related issues); assistance to other governmental entities and emergency responders; personnel issues, (vacancies, new hires, discipline, performance, safety and other general personnel matters); permits for boring or trenching for utilities across County Roads / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Ortega reported on behalf of Superintendent Frenchie Causey. He reported that Road & Bridge has been working on Wagon Road laying out the base. On Thursday they brought the equipment to help with the fire and taking the excavator back that was used in cleaning the Post Park.

B. Discussion on South County Dump Days / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Garrett informed the court that he and Commissioner Ortega are working on the grant to be approved for the Dump Day to happen. However, the funds approved are half of what was asked for and are waiting for the full approval, informed Commissioner Garrett. Commissioner Garrett stated the he hoped it could be done by April. Commissioner Ortega stated that a discussion will need to take place on how the funds will be distributed so that it will be county wide not just one area of Brewster County. Commissioner Ortega stated that all the

With all the dry weather and wind, Van Ostrand suggested that everyone watch what they are doing to prevent fires. Van Ostrand informed the Court that he would be attending a meeting in El Paso for Homeland Security Grant Program to grade and review applications..

B. Update by Chief Greg Henington on Terlingua Fire & EMS

Chief Greg Henington of Terlingua Fire and EMS provided a detailed report on the accomplishments of the department and their service. This report included the number of calls made and reported to, the number of active workers and the training level received by each one. It also included the grants received and fundraisers in order for the Fire and EMS to provide service to the area. Henington also informed the court of the Fireman's Ball on April 9, 2016. This is one of the fundraisers and everyone is invited, informed Henington.

C. Discussion and appropriate action for general administrative work of the Emergency Management Department to go forward

Nothing at this time.

7. Treasurer's Office

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Treasurer Babett Mann stated that the general bills totaled \$12,259.66.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general bills as presented. Commissioner Garrett seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Financial Reports / Updates, Discussion, Review and appropriate action concerning the following:

Specified Activity Report	Payroll Reports
Cash Flow Predictions	Check Register
Budget Analysis Usage Report	Transfers
Receipt File Listings	Personnel/Overtime Reports
Cash Report	Other Financial Reports as Requested
Grants Reports	By Commissioners

Nothing at this time.

C. Revision of the Brewster County Policy Handbook for employee travel reimbursements / Discussion and appropriate action

Tabled until next meeting.

details need to be in place prior to the day and not limit how many loads that could be brought in.

Maria Blosser appreciated the Court for the work that is done to help South County out and suggested if there was a way to move the date in order for those constituents who leave for the summer could participated in this process. Commissioner Ortega stated that the process cannot happen without the funds and when the funds are available there is a time frame in which it has to happen.

After a brief discussion, constituents are willing to pay the dump fee in order to save them the drive to Alpine with the fee.

C. Discussion on recent Electronics Recycling Event in South Brewster County

Commissioner Garrett informed the Court that the Recycling Event was a great success and though the last year it has occurred a couple of times this year, in the future it will happen once a year and looks like it will be in the Spring. It was suggested not to let it happened during Spring Break as the business owners cannot participate as it is their busy time.

D. Discussion and appropriate action for general work of Road & Bridge Department to go forward

Nothing further at this time.

6. County Emergency Management Office

A. General Report including:

Recent emergency responses; emergency planning update; recent work with cooperating emergency responders: (ESD #1, all VFD's and EMS); update on needs, programs, training, recent work with other governmental entities; equipment for emergency response and updates regarding needs, maintenance, repairs, replacement and additions; emergency management issues related to burn bans; emergency management issues related to communications & public information; emergency management issues related to County insurance coverage; personnel issues related to emergency response, exercises & drills; matters related to pending & future Homeland Security & FEMA Grants and other funding, matters related to 911 EMS in County and matters related to 911 & 911 addressing / Discussion and appropriate action

Matt Van Ostrand reported that there was a fire that broke out about 8 miles East of Alpine and was contained. Commissioner Pallanez informed the Court that a fire happened due to battery solar panel but was contained and the Alpine Fire Department responded quickly. There was a plane crash in Marathon and no life threatening injuries, stated Van Ostrand.

D. Other general administrative & procedural matters related to Treasurer's Office / Discussion and appropriate action for work of Treasurer's Office to go forward

Nothing further at this time.

8. Schedule next Commissioners Court Regular Meeting / April 12, 2016, 9:00 A.M.

Judge Cano informed the Court that the next meeting would be April 12, 2016 at 9:00 A.M. and encouraged those present to come.

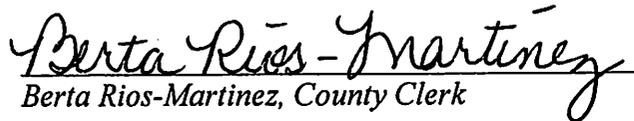
9. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn at 1:00 P.M. Commissioner Novovitch seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.



Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk