

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2016, AT 9:00 A.M.
BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COUNTY COURTROOM
DOWNSTAIRS – OLD COURTHOUSE**

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

<i>Eleazar 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>Berta Rios-Martinez</i>	<i>County Clerk</i>
<i>Babett Mann</i>	<i>County Treasurer</i>

1. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

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

2. Public Comment

No public comments.

3. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval

No minutes presented for approval.

4. 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**

Superintendent Frenchie Causey started off by stating the first coat of paving for Wagon Road is complete and the second coat will begin today. Good rains have helped with blading roads

around the area, informed Superintendent Causey. Marathon Community Center will have the propane tank installed for the generators, informed Superintendent Causey.

Commissioner Ortega presented to that Court that there are problems with dogs at the Post Park and would like to place more signs up so that owners will pick up after the dog.. It was suggested to place a stand with doggie bags and maybe an area designated for dogs.

Superintendent Causey stated that he could place signs on all the trees to provide notice to all park visitors and then go from there if that doesn't work.

Commissioner Ortega stated that Road and Bridge have taken pride in keeping the Park pristine and encouraged the Court to come out.

Judge Cano informed the Court that signs will be posted and recommended getting the stand for doggie bags.

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

Nothing further at this time.

Moved to item 9

5. 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

Nothing reported

B. Request to rescind Burn Ban set on May 10, 2016 / Discussion and appropriate action

Van Ostrand recommend to rescind the Burn Ban that was set on May 10, 2016. With all the rain that the County has accumulated the County is out of harm.

Commissioner Ortega moved to rescind the Burn Ban that was set on May 10, 2016.

Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Homeland Security Multi-Jurisdictional Interoperability Communications Grant 2949901 / Review and possible approval of a contractual agreement between Brewster County and RTC Motorola

Van Ostrand report that the State would like a contract with Brewster County and the RTC Motorola. Van Ostrand briefly reviewed the contract and stated it was in reference to the \$10,000 grant that was approved for the County.

Brief discussion of the process and the contract took place.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the contract between Brewster County and RTC Motorola. Commissioner Novovitch seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Nothing further at this time.

6. Treasurer's Office

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Treasurer Babett Mann reported the general bills totaled \$264,087.85 with walk-in totaling \$80,895.81. Discussion of the AT&T bill took place and solutions are already in place and should see a change in June, informed Treasurer Mann.

Discussion of the trash pick-up took place to see if anything has been verified.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general bills as presented with the walk-ins. Commissioner Garrett seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Judge Cano asked Auditor Watson if the PO system has been affective. Auditor Watson stated that it is working good and in place.

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

Cash Receipts & Disbursements	Payroll Reports
Statement of Revenue & Expenses	Check Register
Receipt Register	Grant Reports
Other Financial Reports	
as requested by Commissioners	

Nothing to report

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

Treasure Mann provided a report on Stonegarden Grant regarding what was received vs. what was spent.

7. Officials' Monthly Reports

Commissioner Ortega read into record to include the correction from the Tax Office.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Novovitch stated that he had asked Tax Collector, Betty Jo Rooney, if she could provide a report for the tax status for Pumpco and TransPecos Pipeline. The taxable amount is \$426,000 for Pumpco and the Pipeline has nothing taxable in the County at this time, informed Rooney. Judge Cano asked what percentage of that will the County see and Rooney stated about \$73,000.

8. Brewster County Tourism Council / Budget Amendments

Tourism Council Member Ron Sanders reported and reviewed the amendments that are being requested.

Please see attached report.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Brewster County Tourism Council budget amendments. Commissioner Novovitch seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Court recessed at 10:13 A.M.

Court reconvened at 10:26 A.M.

9. Discuss Brewster County Clean-Up Days and the Scrap Tire Disposal Project and take appropriate action

Commissioner Ortega informed the Court that the end of July is the deadline to use the money allocated for Dump Days. After speaking with Superintendent Causey about getting the trailer to load tires.

Judge Cano asked what the budget for this project and Commissioner Garrett informed that it was over \$10,000. This includes the \$5,500 from the grant and \$5,000 in the budget stated Commissioner Garrett.

Superintendent Causey spoke with his crew and the date they suggested was June 18, 2016. This date is for all three locations: Terlingua Yard, Marker 120, Alpine Road & Bridge Yard, N. 118 and Marathon Yard, off of Albert Street, the hours will be 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Commissioner Ortega asked if signs could be made to be placed in all the areas.

Commissioner Garrett moved to go forward with Brewster County Clean-Up Days and Scrap Tire Disposal Project. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

10. Texas Association of Counties / Healthy County Program / Presentation

A. Discussion and appropriate action to join Healthy County Program

TAC representative stated that he was here for a workshop and would not go into much detail. He stated that the presentation is broken down into two (2) presentation: the first is the Healthy County program and the second is to implement the Wellness program.

TAC reviewed the programs in detail and how it would be benefit the County employees and the County as a whole. In implementing these programs will not change overnight but will benefit the lifestyle of each individual and will in the end benefit the County, stated TAC Rep. The TAC rep. indicated the benefit of long term programs for the Healthy County programs as well as those who have pre-existing diseases with locating the proper Physicians for any and all Dr. that is needed.

TAC Rep. briefly reviewed the rewards programs to help increase participation.

With the launch date set, which it does not have to be done at this time, there will be training provided.

Evans Knot Walker, Brewster County FFA Coordinator, provided some history of times in the past that Brewster County participated in similar programs.

Commissioner Garrett moved to join the Healthy County Program. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion and appropriate action to designate a sponsor and a coordinator

TAC informed the Court it is best to have a sponsor who would oversee the process and a coordinator is one who is more active in the program. These designated for the position does not have to be qualified to serve, just have the enthusiasm to motive people, stated the TAC Rep.

Commissioner Garrett moved to assign Commissioner Pallanez as the Sponsor and Julie Morton as coordinator of the Healthy County Program. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Garrett recommended to form a committee to explore program incentives.

Evans Knott Walker stated that she would like to serve on the committee.

11. County OSSF (Septic Tank): Septic Tank Permitting & Inspection / Announce Marshall Mclean, a certified septic tank inspector, to do permitting and septic tank inspections for Brewster County

Judge Cano introduced and announced Marshall McClean as the new County OSSF Designated Representative. .

Commissioner Ortega informed the Court that Mr. McClean was selected based on his experience and him being a resident in South County as well as being familiar with the area.

Mr. Carrasco will still be used as a back-up informed Judge Cano.

Mr. McClean provided some of his history in this position.

12. Rio Grande Council of Governments (RCOG) / Presentation regarding the Economic Development Administration (EDA) VISTA Initiative Project / Discussion

Judge Cano introduced Annette Gutierrez and Marisa Quintanilla of the RCOG. Ms. Gutierrez allowed Ms. Quintanilla to explain the Economic Development Project. Ms. Quintanilla informed the Court that this project will primarily focus on the development of housing for companies and others wanting to come into the area. Ms. Quintanilla stated that Sul Ross' Small Business Development Center is providing an office space to work out of and will be working with them on making an impact in the County. Ms. Gutierrez informed the Court that while the position is considered to be a "volunteer", it will be full time and will include a housing stipend with food assistance and health care. This is a one year project and is considered a Federal position. As such, whom ever is hired will receive Federal hours / credit. informed Gutierrez. If there are any persons interested in applying please direct them to Ms. Gutierrez and Ms. Quintanilla at the RCOG.

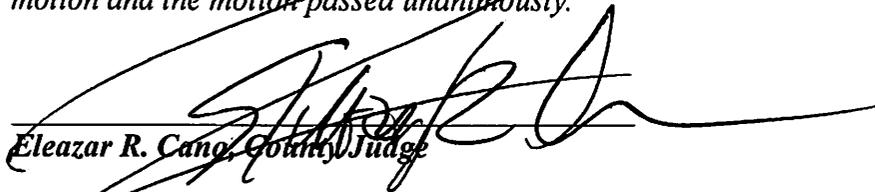
Judge Cano asked if the Court could have a couple of weeks to see who would be interested. Ms. Gutierrez responded that she would visit with Judge Cano to review applications already received and look at cut off dates and project time-lines.

13. Schedule next Commissioners Court Regular Meeting (Tuesday, June 14, 2016)

Judge Cano announced that the next Regular Commissioner Court would be held on June 14, 2016 with a called meeting on May 31, 2016 at 9:00 A.M. in Commissioners Courtroom.

14. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn at 11:44 A.M.. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.


Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:


Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk