

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2015 AT 9:00 A.M.**

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

<i>Eleazar Cano</i>	<i>County Judge</i>
<i>George Johnson</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 Pallanez</i>	<i>Commissioner Pct. 4</i>
<i>Steve Houston</i>	<i>County Attorney</i>
<i>Berta Rios-Martinez</i>	<i>County Clerk</i>
<i>Betty Jo Rooney</i>	<i>Tax Collector-Assessor</i>
<i>Ruth Staton</i>	<i>County Treasurer</i>

To discuss and take action as appropriate on the following:

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Judge Cano led the Court in the pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comment

Mansfield Fritchie of Precinct 1 voiced his concerns about the Agenda item made by Hugh Garrett on January 12, 2015. He stated he was in favor of the motion made to rescind the changes made to the policy related to eligibility for retirement benefits and provided the Court with a list of fourteen (14) questions to be answered by the court on a later date.

3. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval

Judge recommended for those on the court during the December meetings to approve those and then the current Court begin approval for January on a regular basis.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the minutes for December 8, 2014 and December 30, 2014. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Treasurer

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Treasurer Staton stated she provided a report to the court, however no written report was provided for the record.

Commissioner Johnson asked about the difference in the approved amount of \$65,212.06 and the actual

paid of \$81,413.56. Mrs. Staton stated she would look into that. Commissioner Johnson stated he abstained from voting on line item 424 in the amount of \$981.82 for training. Commissioner Johnson asked when the Purchase Order process would begin and Treasurer Staton stated February 9th that is when the inventory would begin the purchase Order process would be initiated after the inventory was complete. She would like to send someone from the Sheriff office to be with the person doing the inventory for security purposes. Mrs. Staton introduced Julie Morten as a new member of her staff and informed the court she will be doing grants and purchase orders. Commissioner Pallanez questioned the check to Virgil Clark. Treasurer Staton explained that it was for inspection of the septic tank. Commissioner Pallanez asked if anyone followed up inspections, the answer was no. Steve Houston explained further. After looking into the question asked by Commissioner Johnson regarding the difference in the approved bills, Treasurer Staton stated that it was the monthly contract payment that do not have to go before commissioner court. Commissioner Ortega requested a list of those monthly payments. Staton replied that she would provide a list to Commissioner Court.

Commissioner Ortega moved to accept the bills as presented with Commissioner Johnson and Garrett abstaining from their line item 424 for training. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion and 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
Grant Reports	Requested by
Commissioner	

Nothing presented at this time.

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

Nothing presented at this time.

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

Superintendent Frenchie Causey stated that he would be reporting from the beginning of January to current. There were 3 men at the courthouse on Sunday clearing limbs from the area before work on Monday and then the next week cleared limbs from county roads and hauled all of them to the dump. Mr. Causey checked all of the generators to make sure they were in working condition during the cold weather. Crews helped the city haul over 200 loads of limbs to the dump site. Roads were bladed in Precinct 1, Precinct 2, Precinct 3 and Precinct 4. Moved the fuel tank from the property of Kathy Killingsworth to the yard in Terlingua. Patched holes in Marathon. Worked on the Terlingua Ranch Roads. Judge Cano thanked the Road & Bridge for the work that was done during the winter storm and the maintenance that is done to the county road. Mr. Causey asked about the tires that were dumped during the dump day. Commissioner Ortega stated he was working on the grant to help for the funding to haul off. Mr. Causey then asked if he could begin hauling them to Denver City and Commissioner Ortega asked if he could wait until the word comes back on the grant. Mr. Causey then explained the process. Judge Cano asked about the status of the trucks and Commissioner Ortega stated they have been ordered and would take up to 6-8 weeks and should have arrived by mid-March. Commissioner Pallanez asked about placing a bid on line and having the bids across the state and Commissioner Ortega stated that the Sherriff office used the bidding process. Sherriff Dodson stated that when it was used it did not work for them on one occasion. Further discussion took place on this matter and Judge Cano suggested using the "Buy Board" process in the future as mentioned by Commissioner Pallanez.

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

Nothing at this time.

6. Officials' Monthly Reports

Judge Cano read the Official Monthly Report provided to the Court.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Officials' Monthly Reports as read. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Brewster County Tourism Council / Projects and providers that will bill more than \$5,000 per year cumulatively

Ron Sanders introduced Mike Davidson and Betty Kelly as part of the Tourism Council. Mr. Sanders stated that there was \$12,000 approved as part of bills and part of that was an under writing for a PBS program with up to 30 Million people to see. Also, Mr. Sanders provided a contract for a bi-monthly newsletter that will be \$1,800 a month and three people will be

assigned to oversee. Commissioner Garrett asked if there was a process to review the progress of the newsletter, such as a 60 day or 90 day review. Mike Davidson explained the process the Tourism Council takes on matters such as these as well as the process of monitoring the followers on twitter and Facebook, etc. Mr. Sanders stated they will provide updates to the court on the activities.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Tourism Council to enter into a contract with Good Will for up to \$25,000. Commissioner Garrett seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

8. Sheriff's Office

A. Request to approve Application & Resolution for 2016 Criminal Justice Division Grant

Sherriff Dodson stated they met the 90% to qualify for the grant and during the presentation mentioned that Brewster County had not attended meetings and points were deducted but ended up getting a grant that Deputy Taylor utilizes. Sherriff Dodson informed the court that they will be asking for \$59,050.00 deputy position, \$31,000.00 for truck no equipment, \$17,000.00 for annual software program that will cover Alpine Police Department and the sheriff office and training for crime report system. Commissioner Ortega asked how much has to be matched and Mr. Dodson stated it is a non-matching grant. Sherriff Dodson stated that they may not get the truck or the software but will lay it out on the table. Commissioner Johnson asked what the total would be and Sherriff Dodson stated they are asking for \$100,000.00. Judge Cano encouraged Brewster County to be seen at Rio Grande Cog and ask for what the County needs.

Commissioner Ortega motioned to approve the request for application and Resolution CJD 2863501 for 2016 Criminal Justice Division Grant. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

B. Proposed Jail Inmate Telephone System Contracts

1. Open and read bids for proposals for jail inmate phone system

Sherriff Dodson explained the importance for the phone system and how it has helped with cases in the past. Judge Cano informed the court that there was an application that was submitted after the deadline, only by 15 minutes but was after the 2:00 P.M. deadline. Ryan Bartula with Crown Communication, who is the current vendor, presented the history of the company and an explanation of how the system works. He also stated that there is a \$4.95 one-time set up fee where other companies charge a higher fee. Commissioner Pallanez asked the cost per minute and Mr. Bartula stated the rate is about .15 cents to .25 cents per minute after the setup fee.

2. Review of proposals by Sheriff

Judge Cano opened the packets provided by those who submitted a bid. Sherriff

Dodson stated he would like to review personally with a deputy and then the Commissioner's review as both would be looking for different things. Judge Cano handed Sherriff Dodson his copy of the bids for review, CPC Company, Inc., Crown Correctional and Incarnal, Incorporated. Judge Cano asked the Sherriff if he could review and present in Commissioner Court.

9. CJIS Reporting (DPS Criminal Justice Information System)

A. Update

Chief Skelton provided an update on the CJIS Reporting stating that they have to be at 90% and need to be met by August 1.

Judge Cano stated that he met with Chief Skelton on the process and how the reporting process works. Steve Houston also provided an explanation. A May deadline is suggested by Judge Cano. Chief Deputy Skelton stated he will provide an update in April to Commissioner Court.

B. Discussion of deadlines and consequences of non-compliance, deficiencies, and progress made by reporting agencies

A May deadline is suggested by Sherriff and will set up an update in April at Commissioner Court.

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn, Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

Eleazar Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:

Berta Rios- Martinez, County Clerk

