

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012, AT 10:00 A.M.**

*Judge Beard called this meeting to order. Officers present are listed as follows:*

<b>VAL CLARK BEARD</b>	<b>COUNTY JUDGE</b>
<b>ASA "COOKIE" STONE</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER PCT. 1</b>
<b>KATHY KILLINGSWORTH</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER PCT. 2</b>
<b>RUBEN ORTEGA</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER PCT. 3</b>
<b>BETTY JO ROONEY</b>	<b>TAX ASSESSOR</b>
<b>BERTA RIOS-MARTINEZ</b>	<b>COUNTY CLERK</b>
<b>JERRY SOTELLO</b>	<b>J.P., PRECINCT</b>
<b>CAROL OFENSTEIN</b>	<b>COUNTY TREASURER</b>

**1. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval**

*The minutes from the Sept. 17, 2012, meeting were presented for approval. Commissioner Ortega made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Stone, and passed unanimously.*

**2. Treasurer**

**A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action**

*Deputy Treasurer Megan Antrim said the fourth quarter workman's comp payment is included in the general bills.*

*Commissioner Killingsworth made a motion to approve the bills, which was seconded by Commissioner Ortega and passed unanimously.*

*Commissioner Killingsworth abstained from 77900.*

**B. Financial Reports / Updates, Discussion, Review and appropriate action**

<b>Specified Activity Report</b>	<b>Cash Report</b>
<b>Cash Flow Predictions</b>	<b>Payroll Reports</b>
<b>Budget Analysis Usage Report</b>	<b>Check Register</b>
<b>Receipt File Listings</b>	<b>Other Financial Reports as Requested by Commissioners</b>

**C. Other general administrative & procedural matters related to Treasurer's**

*Office / Discussion and appropriate action for work of Treasurer's Office to go forward*

**3. Officials' Monthly Reports / Discussion and appropriate action**

*There were no reports presented.*

**4. Far West Texas Judges and Commissioners Conference at Study Butte**

**A. Review Conference and attendance**

*Judge Beard said she believes the conference was a great success. Commissioner Killingsworth said that there were more than 70 commissioners and judges. Including the vendors, there were more than 100 people in attendance. South County is to be the site for next year's conference.*

*Judge Beard said that one of the TAC representatives commented that the educational sessions at this particular meeting are always very strong because the membership has a voice in selecting the topics.*

**B. Acknowledge Brewster County's appreciation to attendees of conference / Discussion and appropriate action**

*Commissioner Ortega made a motion to approve acknowledgment with letters of thanks. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

**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, insurance coverage, personnel issues related to emergency response, exercises & drills, matters related to pending & future Homeland Security & FEMA Grants and matters related to 911 & 911 addressing / Discussion and appropriate action***

*EMC Tom Santry said that early Friday morning, a tanker truck overturned and completely blocked Hwy. 67 about 19 miles north of Alpine.*

*Locally, there was a very quick response. Diesel fuel was leaking from the tank. In order to lift the truck from the highway, the tank had to be emptied using a special drill that would not cause a spark. At first, it was thought that a company from Dallas was the closest responder; however, a company from Midland was able to come and arrived about 3 p.m. They started drilling about 8 p.m. Alpine VFD was on site to apply foam to the drilling area. Drilling and clean-up were all complete at about 2 a.m. The whole incident took about 22.5 hours.*

*Judge Beard said that Ray Hendryx of KVLF was very complimentary of how public information was handled by the PIO and Mr. Santry.*

*Judge Beard complimented Leroy Baeza, the owner of the trucking company. She said he was a true gentleman and remained calm and courteous.*

### ***B. State Funding for improvement of County Roads for ingress & egress in emergency situations / Discussion only***

*Judge Beard said there has been a lot of talk in the region lately. She said there is not TxDOT State funding that is generally available to counties in the region.*

*She said this Commissioners Court values its relationship with the local and area TxDOT offices. Pre-construction meetings are often held at the local office, and often attended by the Judge or Mr. Santry.*

*Historically, TxDOT has assisted the County with surplus State materials which can be utilized on County roads. This has been of great help.*

*Judge Beard said that TxDOT has in the past funded some border colonia paving projects. Every County in the region is eligible to apply and compete for funding. The program is not funded right now. She said the border colonia access projects were chosen locally by the counties; a “bottom up” approach was used, as opposed to “top down” from Austin, and the funds were applied for.*

*TxDOT does not now directly perform any construction on County roads, and does not designate County projects.*

*In Brewster County, we do have some subdivisions which are difficult to evacuate in an emergency situation, especially wildfires. Some have suggested that TxDOT is able to come in and build roads for that purpose. Judge Beard said that is not the case now. TxDOT does not have a general funding program in place for that kind of project. If a program like that does open up, and is general and competitive, it is something Brewster County would very likely apply for.*

### ***C. Discussion and appropriate action for general administrative work of Emergency Management Office to go forward***

## ***6 Road & Bridge Department / Community Facilities***

### ***A. Road & Bridge Superintendent’s Report***

***General updates on maintenance and repairs for all county roads; 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***

*Supt. Frenchie Causey reported that several roads were bladed last week. The second course has been completed at Buck Stadium. More oil is need to finish the job, and it is on standby at this time.*

*Some of the speed bumps were removed at Toronto Creek Estates, and two “Children at Play” signs were installed.*

*Mr. Causey said the sign machine isn't working, and he needs to call for technical support. The cattle guard at Wagon Rd. will be done today.*

***B. TxDot Border Colonia Access Paving Grant / Matters related to concluding Project / Discussion and appropriate action to complete Terlingua Springs paving project, including other appropriate action regarding construction matters, payments, inspections and concluding project***

*Commissioner Killingsworth said they are waiting on one invoice to wrap it up.*

## ***7. Pending Infrastructure Grant Matters***

***A. Colonia Construction Fund Application / (2<sup>nd</sup> Septic Tank Replacement grant for S. Brewster County) / Closeout of Project / Discussion and appropriate action***

***B. 2011/2012 Texas Department of Rural Affairs Grant Program (R.O. facility for Study Butte Water Corp.)***

- 1. Update on progress after award of bid***
- 2. Discussion and appropriate action to go forward with grant project***

***C. 2013-2014 TXCDBG Application Process***

***1. Update***

*Commissioner Ortega said a contract has been signed for the matching funds.*

***2. Discussion and appropriate action to go forward with application***

***8. 2012/2013 Membership Dues for the US/Mexico Border Counties Coalition /  
County Judge's recommendation to renew membership / Discussion and  
appropriate action***

*Commissioner Ortega made a motion to approve renewal of the membership, which was seconded by Commissioner Stone, and passed unanimously.*

*Commissioner Ortega made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Stone, and passed unanimously.*

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***VAL CLARK BEARD, COUNTY JUDGE***

***ATTEST:***

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***BERTA RIOS MARTINEZ, COUNTY CLERK***