

**CALLED MEETING OF THE
BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2012, AT 10:00 A.M.**

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

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

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Judge Beard led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval

The minutes from the September 17, 2012, and September 25, 2012, meetings were presented for approval.

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

3. Treasurer

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Treasurer Ofenstein said the health insurance premium, and some monthly and quarterly subsidies are included.

Commissioner Killingsworth asked about a charge from Big Bend Telephone Co. for a phone at the Red Pattillo Community Center. She said there is no phone there.

Treasurer Ofenstein said she would check into it.

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

Commissioner Ortega abstained from 78035-36. Judge Beard abstained from KALP bills.

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

Treasurer Ofenstein said she has been out, and some of the reports aren't finished; she said she would email them to Commissioners in the next day or so.

Commissioner Killingsworth asked Treasurer Ofenstein to check into the Texas Class Fund.

Specified Activity Report

Cash Flow Predictions

Budget Analysis Usage Report

Receipt File Listings

Cash Report

Payroll Reports

Check Register

Other Financial Reports as Requested by Commissioners

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

Judge Beard asked about receiving credit cards in relation to employee travel for each department.

Treasurer Ofenstein said there is still only one credit card, and she issues to employees as needed.

Judge Beard asked Treasurer Ofenstein and Commissioner Killingsworth to work together to get the issue resolved. She does not want to ask employees to front the money for travel.

Treasurer Ofenstein said she needs to move money from Texas Class Courthouse Preservation into the General Fund in the amount of \$14,354.71.

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

Commissioner Stone made a motion to first expend the balance in the Capital Projects fund, which was seconded by Commissioner Killingsworth, and passed unanimously.

4. Officials' Monthly Reports / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Stone read the reports for the record.

Commissioner Ortega made a motion to approve the records, which was seconded by Commissioner Killingsworth, and 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 things have been very quiet.

B. 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

Crews have been working on blading roads. They had to start some work completely over in South County due to rain. Two signs were placed on Old Marathon Highway. They've been finishing up the parking lot at Buck Stadium.

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

Engineer Travis Roberts said he will call Reece Albert today about purchasing the excess base materials. Commissioner Killingsworth said the deadline is approaching.

7. Pending Infrastructure Grant Matters

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

This grant should be closed out; it will be dropped as an ongoing agenda item.

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

Mr. Roberts said the contract is signed, and a pre-construction meeting was held last Thursday. He is waiting for a notice to proceed, and they have 200 calendar days to complete the project.

The County has some in-kind work to do involving access to the site.

2. Discussion and appropriate action to go forward with grant project

C. 2013-2014 TXCDBG Application Process

1. Update

Mr. Roberts said a cost estimate has been prepared on a water well in Marathon. He provided Commissioners with a synopsis of the project.

2. Discussion and appropriate action to go forward with application

8. Appointment of Election Judges for General Election / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Killingsworth made a motion to approve the judges as presented for a period of one year, which was seconded by Commissioner Stone, and passed unanimously.

9. LBJ School of Public Affairs Energy Efficiency Improvements Grant / Request to investigate and pursue, if practicable (County Judge)

Judge Beard said her office received a letter indicated that the LBJ school may have a limited amount of funds available for energy grants. The information is vague, and is on a very short timeframe.

Judge Beard said if they would like to pursue funding, maybe it could be used for HVAC at the Old Library. The max is up to \$30,000, and required a 50/50 match.

Commissioners concurred that it is worth looking into.

10. 2012 Tax Collection Contracts / Ratification / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Stone made a motion approving ratification of the contracts, which was seconded by Commissioner Killingsworth, and passed unanimously.

11. Deliberation Regarding Real Property, Pursuant to Section 551.072, Government Code, VTCA

A. Executive Session

At 10:23 a.m., Judge Beard announced that Commissioners Court was going into executive session, pursuant to §551.072 of the Government Code, VTCA, to deliberate real property. The courtroom was cleared of all but Commissioners Court.

Reconvene in Open Session

At 10:48 a.m., Commissioners reconvened in open session. Judge Beard announced that they had been in executive session to deliberate real property. She asked if there was any action to be taken as a result of the executive session.

No action was taken.

B. Discussion and appropriate action resulting from Executive Session

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

VAL CLARK BEARD, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

BERTA RIOS MARTINEZ, COUNTY CLERK