

**CALLED MEETING OF THE BREWSTER
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 AT**

Judge Cano called the meeting to order and the following 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>

To Discuss and Take Action as Appropriate

1. Public Hearings regarding Budget & Tax Rate

**A. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2016 BREWSTER COUNTY
BUDGET**

1. Review of 2016 Proposed Budget

Judge Cano explained that there are no changes since the last meeting.

**2. Public Comment regarding 2016 Proposed Budget (Any citizen may
comment)**

Carlos Lujan expressed concerns about budgeting process and budgeted items. He asked if he could speak and ask questions during the budget discussion. Judge Cano explained that all comments for this meeting needed to pertain to the budget and any other concerns could be addressed during the regular scheduled meeting. Commissioner Garrett followed up with stating that there will not be much that will be done as far as changes to the budget as the Court have had several meetings over the past few months to present the proposed 2016 proposed budget.

Lujan proceeded to express his concerns with the Sherriff's office deputies being moved from part-time to full time employees, questioned the reduction of staff in the Treasurer's Office and the rationale behind creating and funding a Emergency Management Coordinator position.

3. Discussion among members of Commissioners Court and Public

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Proposed 2016 Budget. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Proposed Budget was adopted at 9:16 A.M.

NOTE: This proposed 2016 budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by \$181,784.00 (7.63%), and of that amount, \$31,569.64 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

B. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING TAX RATE

To discuss and take action as appropriate on the following:

1. Public Hearing regarding the Proposed 2015 Tax Rate

Maintenance & Operation	.341694
<u>Interest & Sinking</u>	<u>.031006</u>
Total Rate Proposed	.372700

Judge Cano read the above Proposed 2015 Tax Rate into record and asked the Court if there was any other discussion.

- a. Opportunity for Public Comment
- b. Discussion among Members of Commissioners Court and Commissioners Court and Public

2. Announce date and time to set Tax Rate and give notice of 2nd hearing regarding Tax Rate and other matters related to notice and scheduling

Next Tax Rate hearing is the September 21 at 9:00A.M. And the Tax Rate will be adopted on September 25, 2015 at 8:00 A.M.

2. Consideration of the 2016 Proposed Brewster County Budget, as discussed in the Budget Hearing

A. Discussion

B. Adoption, Amendment or other appropriate action concerning 2016 Budget

3. Review Schedule for 2nd Hearing on 2015 Tax Rate & Adoption of Tax Rate

Next Tax Rate hearing is the September 21 at 9:00A.M. And the Tax Rate will be adopted on September 25, 2015 at 8:00 A.M.

4. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval

No minutes at this time.

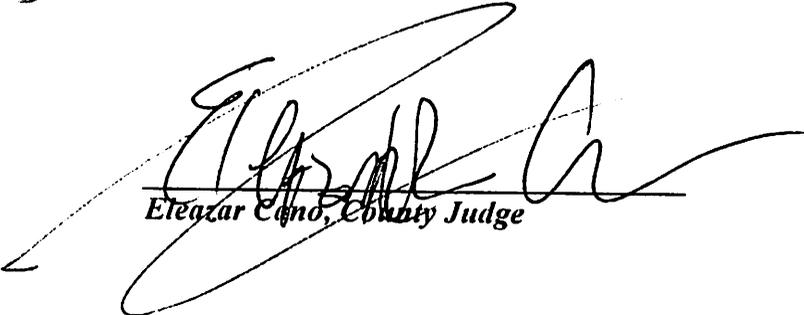
5. Brewster County Tourism Council / Presentation of the 2016 Budget / Discussion and appropriate action

Judge Cano announced that beginning on January 1, 2016 Tourism Council Executive Director and Assistant will be County Employees. Added that their salary plus benefits will be from designated Tourism revenue. Brewster County Tourism Council President, Ron Sanders further explained the Hotel/ Motel Tax and the amount it generates for the County. This Tax is used for economic development and to generate more tourism within the area, stated Sanders. Sanders continued with the presentation of the 2016 Tourism Council Budget (Budget Attached—

Commissioner Novovitch moved to adopt the 2016 Brewster County Tourism Budget with more details in the report. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn at 10:13 A.M... Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.



Eleazar Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:

Berta Rios-Martinez
Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk