

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH, 2017, 9:00A.M.  
BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM  
ALPINE, TEXAS**

**Judge Cano called the meeting to order at 9:03a.m., the following Elected Officials were present:**

<b>Eleazar R. Cano</b>	<b>County Judge</b>
<b>Betse Esparza</b>	<b>Commissioner Pct. 1</b>
<b>Hugh Garrett</b>	<b>Commissioner Pct. 2</b>
<b>Ruben Ortega</b>	<b>Commissioner Pct. 3</b>
<b>Mike "Coach" Pallanez</b>	<b>Commissioner Pct. 4</b>
<b>Babett Mann</b>	<b>County Treasurer</b>
<b>Berta-Rios Martinez</b>	<b>County Clerk</b>
<b>Betty Jo Rooney</b>	<b>County Tax Assessor Collector</b>

**1. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**2. Public Comment- Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person. Pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Court is limited in its ability to respond to comments.**

No public comments

**3. Recognitions & Announcements**

**A. WWI 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary/Approve Proclamation declaring April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as WWI Centennial Day in Brewster County/Discussion appropriate action**

Travis Roberts gave an update on the upcoming events for WWI 100 Year Anniversary. Travis Roberts spoke and asked if they would support him on putting a display in honor of the men and women who have served in the service. Judge Cano read the Proclamation into the record. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Proclamation, declaring April 6, 2017, as WWI Centennial Day in Brewster County. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**4. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval**

The March 14, 2017, minutes were presented for approval. Commissioner Pallanez advised he had not had time to review. Commissioner Pallanez moved to table the March 14, 2017, minutes until next meeting. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

## **5. Treasurer's Office**

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

Treasurer Mann read the general reports and walk-ins. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general reports and walk-ins as presented. Commissioner Garrett seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

### **B. Financial Reports / Updates, discussion, review and appropriate action concerning the following:**

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

Treasurer Mann had no reports, but discussed the depository contracts with the banks. Treasurer Mann also mentioned she needed receipts when doing a purchase or returning from a trip. Treasurer Mann would like for the receipts from restaurants to be itemized, as they are only turning in the credit card receipts.

### **C. Donations**

- 1. Accept \$500 Donation from the Vanguard Charitable, non-profit organization that administers a donor-advised fund for the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department / Discussion and appropriate action**

Treasurer Mann reported the donation has not yet been received. Commissioner Garrett asked Treasurer Mann to identify the donors of the Vanguard Charitable and asked to discuss on the next agenda.

- 2. Accept \$100 Donation from Katherine Benedict to the Office of Emergency Management in recognition of Brewster County Deputy Patrick Hardin's assistance for Ms. Benedict/Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano read a letter from Katherine Benedict thanking Patrick Hardin for his assistance. She donated \$100 to the Office of Emergency Management.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the donation from Katherine Benedict. Commissioner Garrett seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**3. Accept \$250 Donation from Unitarian Universalists Church for the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department/Discussion and appropriate action**

Treasurer Mann reported the donation from Unitarian Universalists Church was received. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the donation of \$250 from Unitarian Universalists Church for the Alpine Fire Department. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

Treasurer Mann had no reports. Commissioner Garrett asked Treasurer Mann to identify the donors of the Vanguard Charitable and asked to discuss on the next agenda.

**6. Purchasing/Review and discuss current charge accounts with Porters Thriftway/Discussion and appropriate action**

Auditor Treva Watson reported the county has five accounts at Porter's Thriftway. She suggested to cancel accounts with the exception of one account. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve cancelling the accounts at Porter's Thriftway with the exception of one. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**7. Officials' Monthly Reports**

No reports

**8. County Tax Assessor Collector/Presentation on 2016 Tax Collections for the County**

County Tax Assessor Collector Betty Jo Rooney read the reports on how much money was brought into Brewster County. Totals attached to minutes.

**9. 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**

R & B Superintendent Frenchie Causey read the reports on the Road & Bridge Department and wanted to commend them for their hard work. Causey also suggested to ask Steve Walker to survey Spring Creek Road. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve for Steve Walker to survey Spring Creek Road. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

Judge Cano reported that the Road & Bridge Department are doing a great job.

**10. 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**

David Lambrix reported that the Sheriff's Office and Fire Department have been busy with some fires. He also stated there will be training for the First Responders on April 5 at the university.

**B. County Inventory/Approval to set capitalization limit of fixed assets to \$5,000/Discussion and Appropriate Action**

David Lambrix read the approval to set the capitalization limit to be fixed at \$ 5,000. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Capitalization Limit. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**C. Mold Assessment for County Clerk's Office/Approval of proposal for initial assessment of Microbial Sampling in the records room and basement/Discussion and Appropriate Action**

David Lambrix reported he talked to Robert Polanco from the City about a mold assessment in the basement at the County Clerk's Office and mentioned that 4 companies can do this kind of job in the area. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve to get the assessment done. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**D. National Flood Insurance Program/Designation of David J. Lambrix as the Brewster County Flood Plain Manager/Discussion and appropriate action**

David Lambrix reported that they need to designate someone for Brewster County Flood Plain Manager. Commissioner Ortega moved to table it and find out which office is in charge and get more information. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

Omar Holguin will be attending training next week for Courthouse Security, as he is the designated officer.

**11. Tri-County Eldercare & Rehab Resources, Inc /Presentation by James R. McDonald**

**A. Discuss procedures for Commissioners Court to authorize application for rural Waiver of the Department of Aging and Disabilities Services for licensed Medicaid beds / Discussion only**

James McDonald spoke to the court on Tri-County Eldercare's plan to build a nursing home and assisted living facilities. James McDonald is asking for public support for the Nursing Home Project. Judge Cano stated more research needs to be done but will keep in touch with James McDonald.

Court recessed at 10:46 A.M.

Court reconvened at 11:02 A.M.

**B. Update on the development of a Skilled Nursing Facility for the Big Bend Region/Discussion only**

The site is already secured. They are seeking additional fundings to cover the remaining half of the expense. Total of project is \$6 million.

**12. Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Reporting/Update on disposition completeness percentage for the County/Discussion and appropriate action**

County Attorney Steve Houston addressed some issues related to the Criminal Justice Information System. More input is needed from the District Attorney's Office.

**13. Sheriff's Office/2016 Racial Profile/Citation Data Report / Discussion and appropriate action**

Sheriff Ronny Dodson read the reports on the 2016 Racial Profile and the Citation Data Report.

**14. County Jail/Review of pending Jail infrastructure issues**

**A. Update**

Sheriff Ronny Dodson stated that Jimmy Martinez is the new Jail Administrator.

**C. Discuss and consider approval of Order granting the Discretionary Exemption for Professional Architectural Services to Southwest Architects Inc/Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano read the Order granting the Discretionary Exemption for Professional Architectural Services to Southwest Architects Inc. Commissioner Garrett moved to approve the Order granting the Discretionary Exemption for Professional Architectural Services to Southwest Architects Inc. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**15. Pending Litigation/Cause No. 1:17cv-44, Ben Elmore, Plaintiff, vs. Brewster County, Texas, Defendant, In The United States District Court for the Western District of Texas Alpine Division/Confer with County Attorney**

**A. Executive Session - § 551.071, Government Code, VTCA, Pending Litigation and Consultation on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the government body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this Chapter (Privileged Matters)**

**Reconvene in Open Session**

**B. Discussion and appropriate action resulting from Executive Session**

Court recessed into Executive Session at 11:03 A.M.

Court reconvened in Open Session at 11:44 A.M.

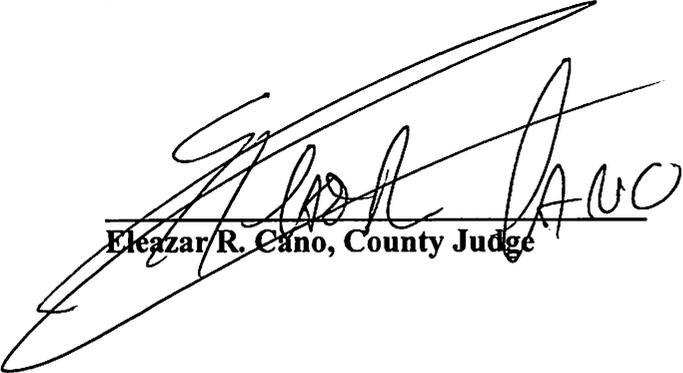
No action was taken after Executive Session.

**16. Schedule next Commissioners Court Regular Meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Commissioners Courtroom**

Judge Cano informed the Court of the next Regular Meeting on April 11, 2017, Commissioners Courtroom.

**17. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.



Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

**ATTEST:**

Berta Rios-Martinez  
Berta-Rios Martinez, County Clerk