

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2017, AT 9:00 A.M.**  
**BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COUNTY COURTROOM**  
**DOWNSTAIRS OLD COURTHOUSE**  
**ALPINE, TEXAS**

Judge Cano called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.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>Betty Jo Rooney</b>	<b>County Tax Assessor</b>
<b>Babett Mann</b>	<b>County Treasurer</b>
<b>Berta Rios-Martinez</b>	<b>County Clerk</b>

**1. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance**

Invocation and Pledge were led by Judge Cano.

**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**

Ralph Price, from Secure Tech Wave System, gave a brief report on the Courthouse Security System.

**3. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval**

Commissioner Esparza moved to approve the minutes for October 25<sup>th</sup>, November 1<sup>st</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup> as corrected and November 15, 2017. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**4. Recognitions & Announcements**

Judge Cano announced three new employees started working the same day. The new Employees are Jessica Kretschmer, Grant Administrator for Brewster County; Chloe Painter Brewster County Extension Agent, who will be doing Agriculture Natural Resources and 4H Resources and 4H at the West Texas Food Bank Building; and Carlos Espinoza, Maintenance worker at the courthouse. Judge Cano also announced the Christmas Tree Lighting and parade will be on Friday. He congratulated Babett Mann on her marriage and announced she will be out for two weeks in January for her honeymoon.

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**5. Treasurer's Office**

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

<b>Combined Statement of Revenues &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>Payroll Reports</b>
<b>Check Register</b>	<b>Receipt File Listings</b>
<b>Personnel/Overtime Reports</b>	<b>Cash Reports</b>
<b>Other Financial Report as Requested by Commissioners</b>	<b>Grants Reports</b>

Treasurer Mann presented the Financial Reports. She stated she will have her regular financial reports at the next meeting once the month of November is over.

**B. 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 presented the Payroll Approval for Pay Period November 13 – 26, 2017. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve expenses as presented for Payroll. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**6. Brewster County Auditor**

Treva Watson, County Auditor, presented budgeted expenditures to date. She requested that December 15<sup>th</sup> be the last day to issue purchase orders until the new budget takes effect. She also stated that at the next Commissioners Court Meeting she will have the preliminary budgets for special funds to review and adopt.

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

Paty Saenz presented the General Bills. Judge Cano stated he sent Big Bend Telephone Co. some invoices from Nectar Computers to make sure the County is not paying double for the same service we are getting from both of them. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general bills as presented, and along with walk-ins. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Esparza abstained from Printco bills.

**B. Monthly Reports**

No action.

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

**Statement of Cash Position Transfers  
Budget Analysis Usage Report**

No action.

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

No action.

**7. Officials' Monthly Reports**

Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk, presented the Officials' Monthly Reports. Commissioner Ortega read the Officials' Monthly Reports. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**8. 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; 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) and community facilities (assistance with maintenance and other related issues); assistance to other governmental entities and emergency responders; personnel issues, (vacancies, new hires, performance and safety); permits for boring or trenching for utilities across County Roads**

Frenchie Causey, Superintendent of the Road & Bridge Department, gave an update. He mentioned they are short-handed and they are doing as much as possible with what they have.

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

No action.

**9. Emergency Management Department**

**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 public and private insurance coverage and personnel issues related to emergency response / Discussion and appropriate action**

David Lambrix, Emergency Management Coordinator, gave an update. He also mentioned the ADFD water tanker is out of commission completely and the engine is leaking a lot of oil. Mr. Lambrix requested a burn ban for the Alpine, Marathon fire districts. Commissioners suggested more research on the Terlingua District as it is very dry. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the burn ban as presented by David Lambrix. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

No action.

Court recessed at 10:20 a.m.

Court reconvened at 10:32 a.m.

**10. Sheriff Office**

**A. Jail Inspection Report / Discussion and appropriate action**

Sheriff Ronny Dodson gave a report on the Jail Inspection. He mentioned the jail needs eight new windows and a new industrial door knob. He has until January 20, 2018, to have the job done.

**B. Request to make repairs recommended by the inspector / Discussion and appropriate action**

No action.

**11. Brewster County Tourism Council / Re-appointment of current odd year Board Members / Discussion and appropriate action**

Robert Alvarez, Brewster County Tourism Council, gave a brief report on the Big Bend Tourism Council. Commissioner Garrett moved to reappoint Ron Sanders, Bill Ivey, Carol Peterson and John Price to the Big Bend Tourism Council. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**12. Brewster County Groundwater Conservation District**

**A. Update**

Summer Web, Executive Director, gave a brief update on the Brewster County Groundwater Conservation District.

**B. Board Appointments / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Garrett moved to reappoint Joan Johnson to represent Precinct 2 and Ambrosio Valles to represent Precinct 1. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**13. Consider purchase of Water Truck with ETP Funds / Discussion and appropriate Action**

Commissioner Ortega said he would seek bids for a new water truck. David Lambrix gave a brief report on the 2018 water truck. He announced he will be attending a meeting on Tuesday with the USDA related to grant funding.

**14. Tax Collection Contracts for other Governmental Entities / Discussion of Tax Collection Agreement Contracts on behalf of Brewster County and other taxing entities Through out the county / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Esparza gave a brief report on the Tax Collection Agreement Contracts on behalf of Brewster County and other taxing entities throughout the county. Becky Watley, Alpine ISD Superintendent, gave a brief report on the Tax Collection Agreement Contracts on behalf of AISD.

**15. Schedule next Commissioners Court Regular Meeting December 13, 2017, at 9:00 A.M.**

Judge Cano informed the court on the next Commissioners Court Regular Meeting on December 13, 2017.

**16. Adjourn**

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

  
Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:

  
Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk