

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2018, AT 9:00 A.M.**  
**BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM**  
**ALPINE, TEXAS**

Judge Cano called the meeting to order at 9:04 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>Tax Assessor Collector</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**

Dr. Sharon Clark voiced her concerns on the lack of representation from South County on the Groundwater District Board. Kim Keith addressed the court about moving the Precinct 1 polling place off of the high school campus mainly to ensure the voters safety and the security of the election process.

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

Commissioner Garrett moved to approve the minutes for January 16, 2018. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.  
Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the minutes for January 10, 2018 with changes as noted. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**4. Resolution in Memory of Steven F. Walker, Brewster County Surveyor / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Garrett read into record the Resolution in Memory of Steven F. Walker, Brewster County Surveyor. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**5. Recognitions & Announcements / Recognize Organizers and Participants in Big Bend Livestock Show for 2018**

Kloey Cargill Painter, Extension Agent, recognized the organizers and some of the

participants from the Big Bend Livestock Show for 2018. She also said she will be attending other stock shows.

**11. 83<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney's Office / Application & Resolution for the VOCA/Crime Victims Coordinator for 2018-2019 / Discussion and appropriate action**

Jessica Ketschmer, Grant Administrator, and Chris Rodriguez from the 83<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney's Office requested grant authorization for the VOCA/Crime Victims Coordinator for 2018-2019. The requested amount for the grant was \$63,000.00. Judge Cano read into record the Resolution for the VOCA/Crime Victims Coordinator for 2018-2019. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**12. Brewster County Elections / Recommendation from the Elections Commission to change voting location for Pct. 1 in Brewster County (small gym at Alpine High School, Fighting Buck Ave.) / Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano and Commissioners decided to table agenda item #12 pending further information and research.

**13. Contracts for Service with local Non-Profit entities for FY 2018 (Alpine Public Library, Marathon Public Library, The Sunshine House, Family Crisis Center, Frontier CASA, Inc., and The Children's Advocacy Center of the Big Bend / Discussion and appropriate concerning contracts for services in 2018**

Judge Cano asked Commissioners to renew the contracts for service with local non-profit entities for FY 2018. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the contracts. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**14. Contracts for cleaning maintenance services for County facilities / Approval to renew yearly contracts / Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano reviewed the contracts for cleaning maintenance services for South County and Marathon. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**6. Treasurer's Office**

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

**Combined Statement of Revenues & Expenses  
Check Register  
Personnel/Overtime Reports  
Other Financial Report as Requested  
by Commissioners**

**Payroll Reports  
Receipt File Listings  
Cash Reports  
Grants Reports**

Donna Nunley said she had no Financial Reports.

**B. Approve Payroll for pay period January 8, 2018 – January 21, 2018 / Discussion and appropriate action**

Mrs. Nunley presented the payroll for pay period January 8, 2018 – January 21, 2018. Commissioner Garrett moved to approve payroll as read. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**C. Accept donations for K-9 operations from Emison Ranch LP & Y-Bar Cattle Co. LLC / Discussion and appropriate action**

Chris Roach said two land owners offered to donate some money to the Sheriff's Office K-9 operations. Emison Ranch LP donated \$6,000.00 and Y-Bar Cattle Co. LLC donated \$6,000.00 a total of \$12,000.00. The donations will cover the training for Mr. Roach, the dog and other expenses. Judge Cano said he will send a thank you note for the donations. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the donations as presented by Mr. Roach. Commissioner Esparza 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**

No action.

**7. Brewster County Auditor**

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

Paty Saenz presented the general bills and walk-ins. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general bills as presented as well as walk-ins and abstain from invoices #251347 and #251349. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Esparza abstained from Printco bills.

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

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

**Transfers**

Treva Watson, County Auditor, said she had a few line item transfers to be approved which will not affect the balance. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the transfers as presented by the County Auditor. Commissioner Garrett seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**D. Budget for other funds / Discussion and appropriate action**

Ms. Watson said she is in the process of budgeting for other funds but wants to assure the court that the ETP funds are still available and will have a budget created by the next meeting.

**E. Discuss Commitment of 2017 Surplus Funds****1. Create Retirement Health Insurance Fund / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Garrett moved to create a Retirement Health Insurance Fund. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**2. Commit \$250,000 from 2017 Surplus Funds to the Retiree Health Insurance Fund / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Ortega moved to commit \$250,000 from 2017 Surplus Funds to the Retiree Health Insurance Fund. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**3. Commit \$100,000 from 2017 Surplus Funds to the Jail Infrastructure Fund / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Ortega moved to commit \$100,000 from 2017 Surplus Funds to the Jail Infrastructure Fund. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**4. Commit \$100,000 from 2017 Surplus Funds to pay down TCDRS Unfunded Liability / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Garrett moved to commit \$100,000 from 2017 Surplus Funds to pay down TCDRS Unfunded Liability. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**F. 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.

**8. Officials' Monthly Reports**

Commissioner Pallanez read the Officials' Monthly Reports. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

## **9. 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 gave an update on the Road & Bridge Department. He said Johnny Valencia returned back to work. Mr. Causey said he is working on getting his Inspection License so he can inspect the county vehicles at the shop.

### **B. Discuss & Schedule Dump Days for 2108 / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Garrett said he would like in the future to call it Cleanup Day. Commissioner Garrett said they still have not gotten their grant authorization and asked if it can be confirmed by anyone in the courtroom for the Solid Waste Management Grant. He said they will have to schedule it in April to make sure they receive the grant.

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

No action.

## **10. 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; burn bans, emergency management issues related to public and private insurance coverage, personnel issues related to emergency response, matters related to pending & future Homeland Security & FEMA Grants / Discussion and appropriate action**

David Lambrix announced his intern Stephanie Elmore, a grad student at Sul Ross, graduated in December 2017 with masters in chemistry and geology. She was the only student that attended the Hazmat Instructor from Alpine. Ms. Elmore graduated not only with the highest score but at the top of the class for Hazmat Instructor, and is the only Hazmat First Aide Instructor in our area. She will be teaching at Sul Ross with the Law Enforcement Training Academy this year for Hazmat. Mr. Lambrix gave an update on the Emergency Management Department. He also said the tanker truck is working now. Judge Cano mentioned there are a couple of grants that he is looking at to present at the next Commissioners Court meeting from Homeland Security and FEMA.

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

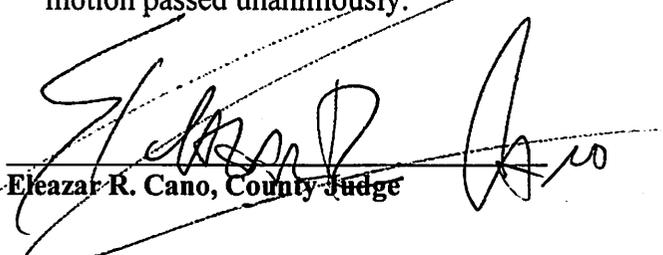
No action.

**15. Schedule next Commissioners Court Meeting, February 7, 2018**

Judge Cano said the next regular Commissioners Court Meeting is February 7, 2018.

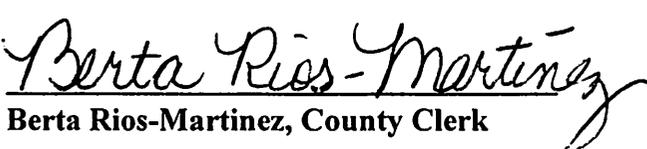
**16. Adjourn**

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



Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk