

PUBLIC NOTICE

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2019, 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:

Eleazar R. Cano	County Judge
Betse Esparza	Commissioner Pct. 1
Sara Allen Colando	Commissioner Pct. 2
Ruben Ortega	Commissioner Pct. 3
Mike "Coach" Pallanez	Commissioner Pct. 4
Julie Morton	County Treasurer
Betty Jo Rooney	County Tax-Assessor Collector
Berta Rios-Martinez	County Clerk

1. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation and Pledge were led by Judge Cano.

2. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve Minutes for May 1, 2019. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve Minutes for May 3, 2019. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment – Comments are limited to 5 minutes per person. Pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Court is limited in its ability to respond to comments

No public comment.

4. Recognitions & Announcements

Commissioner Ortega announced there will be a History Fair on Saturday in Marathon at the Community Center. He said around 28 people have signed up.

Commissioner Esparza mentioned when we meet in South County the meeting starts at 10 to give ourselves enough time but when we have them here in Alpine it starts at 9 and that does not give the people from South County enough time to get here. She said it is something to think about for our schedule next year.

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, reminded the court since we switched to fiscal year the schedules for the meetings and the holidays must be approved before October 1, 2019. She also said the Senate Bill 354 passed to give authority to the Elected Officials to disburse payroll payments without Commissioners Court pre-approval and will be effective October 1, 2019.

5. 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

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the Financial Reports for April. She presented the first report the combined statement of revenues and expenses for April. She did mention that our expenses are a million less than our revenues but we will not see a lot revenue the next couple of months, but if we stay in line with our expenses and when we receive the PILT payment, she thinks the county will be in a good position maybe will even have more revenue than expenses. Treasurer Morton also said with the court's permission, when we receive the PILT payment, she would like to at the auditor's suggestion, receipt the PILT payment into Tex Pool or Tex Class and then make necessary transfers to the General Fund. Commissioner Esparza moved to make necessary transfers to the General Fund. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

B. Approve Payroll for pay period April 29, 2019 – May 12, 2019 / Discussion and appropriate action

Treasurer Morton presented the payroll for pay period April 29 – May 12, 2019. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve payroll as presented. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

C. Discuss & consider approving revised Holiday policy draft / Discussion and appropriate action

Treasurer Morton discussed and requested approval on a revised Holiday policy draft. Commissioner Esparza moved to approve the modified draft. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Treasurer Morton will bring the policy back for final approval.

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 Morton said she has some procedural matters with Road & Bridge. She said she wants to inform the court that Superintendent Causey had a part-time worker that he requested to become full time. Treasurer Morton said when he got hired he was paid \$13.50 per hour and now being full time the starting pay is \$13.00 per hour. She wants approval from the court to either pay him at \$13.50 or \$13.00. Commissioner

Ortega moved to keep the pay at \$13.50 per hour. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

6. Brewster County Auditor

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Paty Saenz presented the General Bills. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve bills and walk-ins as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane. Commissioner Esparza abstained from Printco.

B. Discuss and consider giving County Auditor the authority to revoke credit card usage as the result of misuse and/or violation of county credit card usage policy / Discussion and appropriate action

Treva Watson, County Auditor, discussed the addition of the authority of the County Auditor revoke credit card usage as the result of misuse or violation to the county credit card usage policy. She said a professional advice from the contracted auditor suggested Vernon's Texas Code to the credit card policy. Commissioner Esparza moved to add the Code to the credit card policy. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

Treva Watson, County Auditor, said she is still working on the final steps of the audit that was presented on May 3, 2019. She said she received numbers from the auditor two days ago and is checking those that they have come up with for our final balances and our outstanding amounts of expenditures from last year and everything is in order at this time.

7. Officials' Monthly Reports

Berta Rios-Martinez presented the Officials' Monthly Reports. Commissioner Esparza read the Officials' Monthly Reports into record. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Pallanez 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

Commissioner Ortega gave a brief update on the Road & Bridge Department. Judge Cano encouraged the commissioners to travel around their precincts and see what needs to be done.

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

No action.

9. Community Facilities Report

A. General Report

Judge Cano gave a brief report on the Community Facilities on behalf of Johnny Valencia. He said the majority of their work is either at the jail or upstairs. Judge Cano said he will talk to Judge Ferguson about having the hearings in the commissioners courtroom so Johnny can finish up the work upstairs so he can finish as soon as possible. Judge Cano said the next project is the old Food Bank building where the Tourism Council employees will be moving into.

B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work of Community Facilities 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

Stephanie Elmore gave an update on the Emergency Management Department. She said she and Superintendent Causey went to Double Diamond a couple of times and placed flagging tape on all locations of the dry hydrants. Ms. Elmore said she will go back to

Double Diamond tomorrow after her meetings to get the exact locations and go into GPS to give them to Robert Martin. She also mentioned tomorrow at 10 a.m. she has a Red Cross meeting and hopes to get training for sheltering. Ms. Elmore said the public is invited to attend the meeting on May 16, 2019.

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

No action.

11. Veteran's Service Officer / Update

Dennis Yancy, Veteran's Service Officer, gave an update on the Veterans Services. He said he has been helping with the Food Bank in Alpine and Marathon. Mr. Yancy also mentioned Sanderson is trying to recruit him to go work there. He also said he is starting a Telehealth in Brewster County for the VA. Mr. Yancy said the biggest problem is transportation for the veterans to go to doctors appointments.

Court recessed at 10:57 a.m.

Court reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

12. McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen, P.C. / Consideration and approval of Resolution requesting a Sheriff's Resale of Property acquired by the County of Brewster, Texas, Trustee, at the Delinquent Tax Sale held on March 1, 2016, August 7, 2012, and March 7, 2017 / Discussion and appropriate action

Betty Jo Rooney, County Tax-Assessor Collector requested approval of Resolution requesting a Sheriff's Resale of Property acquired by the County of Brewster, Texas, Trustee, at the Delinquent Tax Sale held on March 1, 2016, August 7, 2012 and March 7, 2017. She recommends the court accept the three bids for \$1,000, \$1,200 and \$1,500 for total of \$3,700. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the bids as presented. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Judge Cano read the Resolution into record.

13. 2020 Budget Workshop / Discussion concerning all aspects of County revenues/expenditures and upcoming financial needs for all county departments and other entities funded by the County / Scheduling issues related to adoption of Budget and setting Tax Rate

A. Review 2020 Budget & Tax Rate Planning Calendar / Discussion and appropriate action

Judge Cano reviewed the 2020 Budget & Tax Rate Planning Calendar.

B. Approve 2020 Budget & Tax Rate Planning Calendar / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Calendar as presented. Commissioner

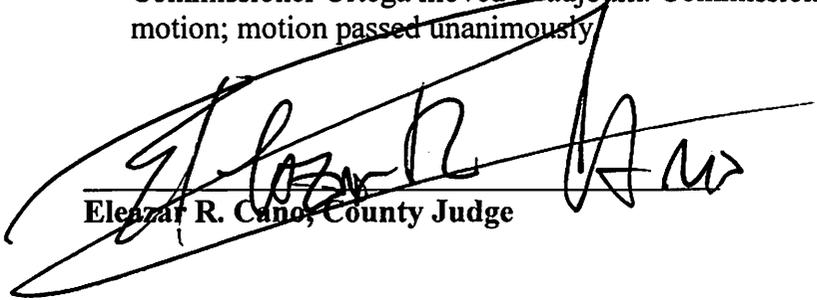
Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

14. Schedule next Commissioners Court Regular Meeting on May 29, 2019, at 9:00 A.M.

Judge Cano said the next Commissioners Court Regular Meeting will be May 29, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

15. Adjourn

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



Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk