

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2019, 9:00 A.M.  
BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM  
ALPINE, TEXAS**

Commissioner Ortega called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., the following Elected Officials were present: Judge Cano was absent.

Betse Esparza	Commissioner Pct. 1
Sara Allen Colando	Commissioner Pct. 2
Ruben Ortega	Commissioner Pct. 3
Mike "Coach" Pallanez	Commissioner Pct. 4
Berta Rios-Martinez	County Clerk

**1<sup>ST</sup> PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING  
TAX RATE AND RELATED MATTERS**

**1. Public Hearing regarding the Proposed 2019 Tax Rate**

Maintenance & Operation	0.358883
<u>Interest &amp; Sinking</u>	<u>0.029714</u>
<b>Total Rate Proposed</b>	<b>0.388597</b>

**a. Opportunity for Public Comment**

No public comment.

**b. Discussion among Members of Commissioners Court and Commissioners Court and Public**

No action.

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

Commissioner Ortega announced that on September 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. will be the next Tax Rate and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing regarding the Tax Rate.

**3. Adjourn**

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

**NOTE: This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by \$619,023.18, (8.0%), and of that amount, \$30,613.54, is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.**

**Any member of the Public may attend and comment at this Hearing. For more detail concerning the County's Proposed 2018 Expenditures, the County's 2019 Budget is on file in the Brewster County Clerk's Office.**

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### **1. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance**

Invocation and Pledge were led by Commissioner Ortega.

### **2. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve Minutes for July 29, 2019. Commissioner Pallanez 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**

No action.

### **5. Elections Administration**

#### **A. Update on Election Assessment HB 1421 (Pedro Conchas – AT&T) / Update only**

Lora Nussbaum, Elections Administrator, gave an update on Election Assessment HB 1421. She said starting September 1, 2019 it will become mandatory by the State. Pedro Conchas with AT& T gave a brief update on the HB 1421.

#### **B. HB 1888 / No Remote Early Voting / Update only**

Lora Nussbaum, Elections Administrator, gave an update on the HB 1888. She said its another bill that passed starting September 1, 2019. Lora Nussbaum, Elections Administrator said if she does remote early voting she must maintain that location for a minimum of 8 hours a day for the rest of the election. Unless, on the very last day of early voting have 8 hours with a five day notification. She must have 4 workers for early voting.

**C. Request to consolidate Precincts 1,2,4 & 8 and 5, 6 & 7 for the November 5, 2019, Constitutional Amendments / Discussion and appropriate action**

Lora Nussbaum requested to consolidate Precincts 1,2,4 and 8 and 5, 6 and 7 for the November 5, 2019, Constitutional Amendments. Commissioner Esparza moved to approve as requested. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**6. Update by Della Hensley, Status of 501c3 / Information only**

Della Hensley gave an update on Status of 501c3.

**7. 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</b>	<b>Grants Reports</b>
<b>by Commissioners</b>	

Commissioner Pallanez moved to table the agenda item for the next meeting. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**B. Discuss and consider proposal from RCI for a records update and processing for the County's Record Retention Plan / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Ortega discussed the proposal from RCI for a records update and processing for the County's Record Retention Plan. Commissioner Esparza suggested to table the agenda item for further information. Commissioner Esparza moved to table the agenda item. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**C. 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.

**8. Brewster County Auditor**

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

Paty Saenz presented the general bills. Commissioner Esparza moved to approve the

bills as presented including walk-ins. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane. Commissioner Esparza abstained from Printco.

**B. 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 has two line item transfers requests. She said Juvenile Probation is asking to transfer \$400 from their maintenance line in the local budget to the audit line so they can pay the audit that was done, which is \$5,500.

They are short \$400. Commissioner Esparza moved to approve the line item transfer. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

She said the other line item transfer is for Justice of the Peace Precinct 1. She said he wants \$900 moved from repairs and maintenance into his equipment line so he can purchase a new computer for the office. Commissioner Esparza moved to approve the transfer of \$900 to purchase a new computer. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Treva Watson, County Auditor, said the audit from GRP for the Juvenile Probation Office was good. She said there was a couple of problems in the accounting funds in 2018 but other than that everything was good.

**9. Officials' Monthly Reports**

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

**10. 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 report on the Road & Bridge Department.

**B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work of Road & Bridge**

**Department & Community Facilities to go forward**

No action.

**11. Community Facilities Report**

**A. General Report**

Commissioner Ortega gave a brief report on the Community Facilities on behalf of Johnny Valencia.

**B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work of Community Facilities to go Forward**

No action.

**12. 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 attended a meeting at Terlingua and met the new Fire Chief, Marcus Smith. Ms. Elmore said he is excited to start working in Brewster County.

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

No action.

**13. Lajitas Lakeside Cottages / Revisit Platt Approval from April 11, 2005 and tabled on 8/16/2019 / Discussion and appropriate action**

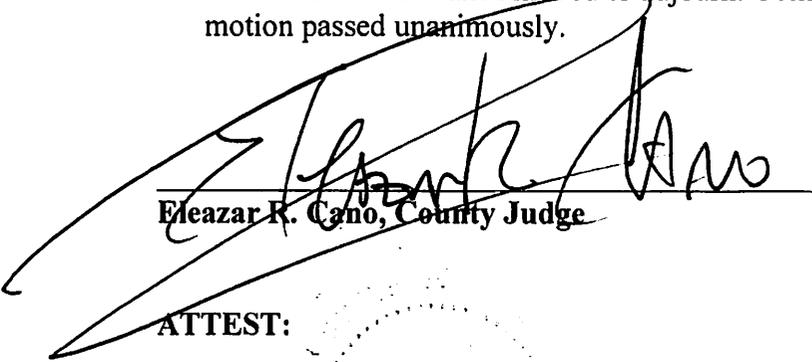
Travis Roberts gave an update on the plat that was approved April 11, 2005. Scott Beasley, manager of Lajitas Lakeside Cottages, said he wants to make sure all requirements are met before approving the plat.

**14. Schedule next Commissioners Court Regular Meeting on September 4, 2019 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tax Rate Hearing)**

Commissioner Ortega said the next Commissioners Court meeting will be September 4, 2019 and will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tax Rate Hearing.

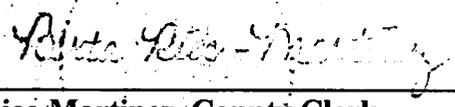
**15. Adjourn**

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



\_\_\_\_\_  
Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk