

PUBLIC NOTICE

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 AT 9:30 A.M.
BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM
201 W AVE E
ALPINE, TEXAS**

Judge Cano called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m., the following Elected Officials were present:

Eleazar R. Cano	County Judge
Esther Howard	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

In accordance with section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, Governor Abbott has suspended various provisions that require government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location. As a result, all or some government officials may participate via Zoom.

Additionally, members of the public are encouraged to watch the meetings live online, at the www.brewstercountytexas.com or [Brewster County, Texas \(County's facebook page\)](#). Members of the public are also encouraged to participate in public comment by calling telephone number 432-538-2028. This temporary suspension will leave important Open Meetings Act (Section 551.043, Texas Government Code) protections in place:

AGENDA

1. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation and Pledge were led by Judge Cano.

2. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval

No minutes were presented.

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 comments.

4. Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) by Dr. Ekta Escovar, County Health Authority / Discussion and appropriate action

Dr. Ekta Escovar, County Health Authority, gave an update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

5. Recognitions & Announcements

A. Recognize & Thank Chili Appreciation Society International (CASI) for their Monetary Donation

Sheriff Dodson announced that CASI will still be donating to Brewster County Sheriffs Office, Terlingua Common School District, and Terlingua Fire & EMS. Commissioner Ortega moved to send a Thank You letter to Keith Karaff, Executive Director of CASI. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion approved unanimously.

B. Proclamation recognizing October 2020 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Brewster County / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the proclamation recognizing October 2020 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Brewster County. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion approved unanimously.

C. Proclamation declaring October 2020 as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the proclamation declaring October 20th as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Brewster County. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion approved unanimously.

6. 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

Superintendent Causey gave an update on the Road & Bridge Department.

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

No action.

7. Community Facilities Report

A. General Report

Judge Cano reported 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.

8. Treasurer's Office

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

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

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Financial Report for August 2020. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion approved unanimously.

B. Accept \$1448.74 donation check from Friends of the Marathon Community Center for repairs at Post Park / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Ortega presented the history of Friends of the Marathon Community Center. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve donation check from Friends of the Marathon Community Center for repairs at Post Park. Commissioner Howard seconded the motion; motion approved 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.

17. Review & Approve Retainer Agreement with Law Firm Big Bend Law, Rod Ponton, Attorneys At Law in re Cause No. CVB20433; Marcia Ann Sykes and the Estate of Marcia Ann Sykes and all Unkown Heirs, Devisees, and Assigns of Marcia Ann Sykes; Phillip Joseph Smith; Dymphna Lorraine DeLaRosa / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve Retainer Agreement with Law Firm Big Bend Law, Rod Ponton, Attorneys At Law. Judge Cano seconded the motion; motion approved unanimously.

13. Final update on 2020 Census by Charlene McBride & Peggy O'Brian

Charlene McBride, US Census Bureau, and Peggy O'Brien, Rio Grand Council of Governments, presented an update on the 2020 Census activities in Brewster County.

Court recessed at 12:17 p.m.

Court reconvened at 12:32 p.m.

16. Sunshine House / Reaffirm and approve the County Judge's signature on the Resolution authorizing the County Grant for the Sunshine House to apply for additional funds through the Texas Department of Agriculture Texans feeding Texans: Home Delivered Meal Grant Program / Discussion and appropriate action

Judy Ford, Executive Director of Sunshine House Inc., presented the Resolution Authorizing County Grant Program. This Resolution allows the Sunshine House to apply for additional funding through the Texas Department of Agriculture's Texans Feeding Texans: Home Delivered Meal Grant Program. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the Resolution Authorizing County Grant Program. Commissioner Howard seconded motion; motion passed unanimously.

9. Brewster County Clerk / Update on agenda item 4 tabled on September 9th agenda / Discussion and appropriate action

Judge Cano announced that the transfer in question had been withdrawn by the applicant. No action.

10. Brewster County Auditor

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Assistant Auditor Paty Saenz presented on behalf of Patty Roach, County Auditor, the general bills and walk-ins. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general bills and walk-ins as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

Budget Amendments	Line Item Transfers
Other Financial Reports as Requested by Commissioners	

Assistant Auditor Paty Saenz presented on behalf of Patty Roach, County Auditor, several Line Item Transfers. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve line item transfers as presented. Commissioner Pallanez 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

No action.

11. Officials' Monthly Reports

None.

14. Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Reporting

A. Update

Erica Chavez, Administrative Assistant to Judge Cano, reported on the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS).

B. Discussion and appropriate action

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, EMC, reported on the Emergency Management Department.

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

EMC Elmore requested that the Commissioners Court consider an Order Prohibiting Outdoor Burning due to continuing drought conditions in the County. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Order Prohibiting Outdoor Burning; Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

15. Approve FY 2021 Contracts for Service with local Non-Profit Entities & Cleaning Contracts for service for County Facilities / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve FY 2021 Contracts for Service with local Non-Profit Entities & Cleaning Contracts for service for County Facilities. Commissioner Howard seconded motion; motion approved 4-0 with Commissioner Pallanez abstaining.

18. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on October 14, 2020, at 9:30 A.M.

Judge Cano announced the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting will be held October 14, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.

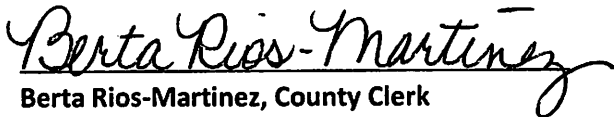
19. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.



Eleazar Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk