

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 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 9:35 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
Berta Rios-Martinez	County Clerk

Commissioner Mike "Coach" Pallanez, Pct. 4, arrived at 9:52 a.m.

**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](http://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**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve October 14, 2020 & October 28, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Howard seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Pallanez absent.

**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.

**14. Update / 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 Unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Assigns of Marcia Ann Sykes; Phillip Joseph Smith; Dymphna Lorraine DeLaRosa / Discussion and appropriate action**

Rod Ponton reported an update in re Cause No. CVB20433; Marcia Ann Sykes and the Estate of Marcia Ann Sykes and all Unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Assigns of Marcia Ann Sykes; Phillip Joseph Smith; Dymphna Lorraine DeLaRosa.

**4. Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) by Brewster County Judge, Eleazar R. Cano & Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator / Discussion and appropriate action**

Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported an update on Coronavirus (COVID-19). Next testing date will be posted on the Brewster County website and Facebook page. Commissioner Pallanez joined the meeting.

**5. 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, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported on the Emergency Management Department.

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

No action.

**6. Recognitions & Announcements / Memorial Resolution for Treva Watson / Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano presented a Memorial Resolution for Treva Watson. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Memorial Resolution for Treva Watson. Commission Howard seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**7. 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 reported an update on the Road & Bridge Department on behalf of Superintendent Causey.

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

No action.

**8. 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**

Commissioner Ortega recommended getting a quote on water softener.

**9. 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>        |

No reports presented.

**B. 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.

## **10. Brewster County Auditor**

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

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented the general bills. Judge Cano questioned an invoice. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general bills except for the \$413 invoice in question. Commissioner Howard seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

<b>Budget Amendments</b>	<b>Line Item Transfers</b>
<b>Other Financial Reports as Requested by Commissioners</b>	

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented 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**

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

## **12. Tax Collection Agreements for other Governmental Entities / Discussion of Tax Collection Agreements on behalf of Brewster County and other taxing entities throughout the county / Discussion and appropriate action**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the Tax Collection Agreements for other Governmental Entities. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the Tax Collection Agreements as presented. Commissioner Howard seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

## **13. Update on IT Services by Aaron Rodriguez tabled on October 14, 2020 / Discussion appropriate action**

Aaron Rodriguez presented on IT Services. Mr. Rodriguez suggested a complete overhaul on the county website with better security and a cleaner interface. He also recommended the County immediately address system-wide security vulnerabilities and email security upgrades.

Commissioner Ortega motioned to move forward with IT Services by Aaron Rodriguez with a \$5000 ceiling to begin the work as outlined. Commissioner Howard seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**15. FY 2021 Brewster County Commissioners Court Meeting Schedule / Consider changing December 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting approved on October 14, 2020 and change to December 16, 2020 / Discussion and appropriate action**

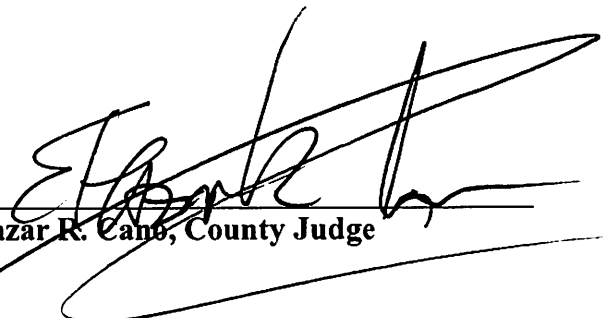
Judge Cano presented changing December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting due to conflict in Commissioners' Court schedule. Commissioner Ortega motioned to approve changing the December 9, 2020 Commissioners Court Meeting to December 16, 2020. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**16. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on November 18, 2020, at 9:30 A.M.**

Judge Cano announced the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting will be held November 18, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.

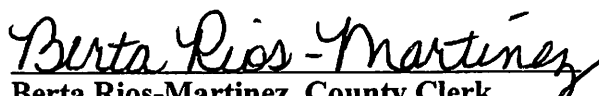
**17. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.



Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk