

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021 AT 9:30 A.M.  
BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM  
201 W AVE E  
ALPINE, TEXAS**

Judge Cano called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m., the following Elected Officials were present:

Eleazar R. Cano	County Judge
Jim Westermann	Commissioner Pct. 1
Sara Allen Colando	Commissioner Pct. 2
Ruben Ortega	Commissioner Pct. 3
Mike “Coach” Pallanez	Commissioner Pct. 4

Renee Wylie, Chief Deputy, in attendance for Sarah Vasquez’s, County Clerk, absence.

**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**

No minutes reported.

**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 comment.

**13. 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, Attorney with law firm Big Bend Law, presented an update on Cause No. CVB20433; Marcia Ann Skyes and the Estate of Marcia Ann Sykes and all Unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Assigns of Marcia Ann Sykes; Phillip Joseph Smith; Dymphna Lorraine DeLaRosa.

**6. Recognitions & Announcements**

Rebel Royall, District Extension Administrator with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, announced Luke Hendryx as the new Brewster and Jeff Davis County Extension Officer upon approval at the next Commissioners Court Meeting.

Judge Cano announced on behalf of Robert Alvarez, Executive Director of Visit Big Bend, that the Brewster County Tourism Council will have roll-off trash containers placed at the Visitor Kiosks in Marathon and Study Butte, to alleviate problems with trash and litter during Spring Break. The containers will be in place from March 8<sup>th</sup> until April 5<sup>th</sup>, or until full. There will also be hand washing stations placed, and branded hand sanitizer and face masks distributed.

Aaron Rodriguez, Velocerus Technology Solutions, announced that public WIFI had been added to the Visitor Kiosk in Marathon, and will be added to the Visitor Kiosk in Study Butte.

Commissioner Colando announced that there is a Boil Water Notice in effect, posted by Study Butte Water Supply Corporation on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Commissioner Pallanez recognized Sheriff Dodson and his deputies for their hard work during the winter storm and helping Border Patrol.

**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, presented an update on Coronavirus (COVID-19).

**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, presented General Reports.

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

No action.

**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

Superintendent Causey reported an update for the Road and Bridge Department.

**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 presented the Community Facilities Report on behalf of Johnny Valencia.

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

No action.

**9. Treasurer's Office**

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

**Combined Statement of Revenues & Expenses      Payroll Reports**

**Check Register  
Personnel/Overtime Reports  
Other Financial Report as Requested  
by Commissioners**

**Receipt File Listings  
Cash Reports  
Grants Reports**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Monthly Report for December 2020. Commissioner Colando moved to table Treasurer Monthly Reports to the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**B. Discuss & consider budget amendments to be in accordance with Commissioners Court approval on 2/10/2021, for the amendment to the Brewster County Hand Book section 2A-9 Employee Payroll-overtime calculations and rules / Discussion and appropriate action**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, requested a budget amendment to be in accordance with Commissioner Court approval on 2/10/2021, for the amendment to the Brewster County Hand Book section 2A-9 Employee Payroll-overtime calculations and rules. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**C. Discuss & consider revisions to the Families First Corona Virus Response Act (FFCRA) for employee paid sick leave policies procedures / Discussion and appropriate action**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, requested to consider revisions to the Families First Corona Virus Response Act (FFCRA) for employee paid sick leave policies procedures. Commissioner Colando moved to approved the revisions as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**D. Other general administrative & procedural matter related to Treasurer's Office / Discussion and appropriate action for work of Treasurer's Office to go forward**

No action.

**10. Discuss and consider professional services agreement with Betty Jo Rooney for the Brewster County Tax Assessor Collector's Office / Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano presented a professional services agreement with Betty Jo Rooney for the Brewster County Tax Assessor Collector's Office. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**11. Brewster County Auditor**

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

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented General Bills and walk-ins. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

**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 line-item transfers. Commissioner Colando moved to approve line-item transfers as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**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.

**12. Officials’ Monthly Reports**

Commissioner Colando read the 2<sup>nd</sup> Officials’ Monthly Report. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the report as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**14. Far West Texas Water / Approve the FY2021 Administrative Cost Share for the Far West Texas Planning Group / Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano presented the FY2021 Administrative Cost Share for the Far West Texas Planning Group. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the FY2021 Administrative Cost Share. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**15. Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases (RPDO-LGC) as a Local Government Corporation, on behalf of Lubbock county / 2021 Interlocal Agreement between Lubbock & Brewster County / Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano presented the Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases as a Local Government Corporation on behalf of Lubbock County. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the 2021 Interlocal Agreement between Lubbock & Brewster County. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**16. Discuss & consider Microsoft 365 Government Community Cloud Licensing, including email, office, cloud storage, and other services through LIFTOFF Company for all Brewster County Offices / Discussion and appropriate action**

Aaron Rodriguez, Velocerus Technology Solutions, presented the Microsoft 365 Government Community Cloud Licensing, including email, office, cloud storage, and other services through LIFTOFF Company for all Brewster County Offices. Commissioner Ortega moved to table the agenda item. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0.

**17. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on March 10, 2021, at 9:30 A.M.**

Judge Cano announced the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on March 10, 2021, at 9:30 AM. Judge Cano also announced that there will be a Special Meeting on March 31, 2021 at 9:30 AM at the J.W. "Red" Pattillo Community Center in Study Butte.

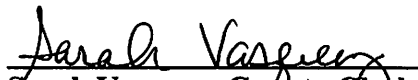
**18. Adjourn**

Commissioner Pallanez moved to adjourn. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed by vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM



Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk