

PUBLIC NOTICE

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 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 9:37 a.m., the following Elected Officials were present:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Eleazar R. Cano | County Judge |
| Jim Westermann | Commissioner Pct. 1 |
| Sara Allen Colando | Commissioner Pct. 2 |
| Mike "Coach" Pallanez | Commissioner Pct. 4 |
| Sarah Vasquez | County Clerk |

Ruben Ortega, Commissioner Pct. 3, was absent.

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 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 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

None..

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

Aaron Rodriguez, Velocerus, announced the original statue of the Open Meetings Act will resume on September 1, 2021. The public will need to be present for public comments.

4. Brewster County Constable, Precinct 1

A. Accept resignation of Constable Nick Harrison / Discussion and appropriate action

Judge Cano presented Constable Nick Harrison's letter of resignation. Commissioner Pallanez moved to accept Constable Nick Harrison's resignation. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

B. Appointment of Constable Precinct 1, Flavio R. Ybarra, Jr. who will hold office until the next general election / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Pallanez moved to appoint Flavio R. Ybarra, Jr. as Constable Precinct 1, who will hold office until the next general election. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Sheriff Ronny Dodson administered the oath of office and Flavio R. Ybarra, Jr was sworn in as Constable for Precinct 1.

11. Approve Resolution for the Partnership between Brewster County as Applicant and Big Bend Telephone LTD (BBT) a Sub Recipient, to deploy fiber optic facilities with National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) grant funds in Brewster County, Texas / Discussion and appropriate action

Tucker Gandy, Big Bend Telephone Company Sales Representative, presented the resolution for the Partnership between Brewster County as Applicant and Big Bend Telephone LTD (BBT) a Sub Recipient, to deploy fiber optic fiber optic facilities with National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) grant funds in Brewster County, Texas. BBT will put in the funds for grant writing and no funds will be needed from the county for this partnership. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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 & Updates on Coronavirus (COVID-19) / Discussion and appropriate action

Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented an update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) and General Reports.

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

No action.

6. Recognitions & Announcements

Commissioner Pallenz recognized the Road and Bridge Department for a job well done with the rain management.

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 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.

9. 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

No reports.

B. Accept donations made in Memory of James Travis Roberts' to the Brewster County Historical Commission in the total amount of \$1,035.00 / Discussion and appropriate action

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented donations of \$1,035.00 made in memory of James Travis Roberts to Brewster County Historical Commission. Commissioner Pallanez moved to accept the total amount of \$1,035.00 in donations. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

C. Consider and discuss authorization for the County of Brewster to issue requests for proposals (RFP) for administrative services (RFQs) for professional services for the American Rescue Plan Act of FY2021

Treasurer Morton requested authorization from the court to issue requests for proposals for administrative services for the American Rescue Plan Act of FY2021. Commissioner Colando moved to approve Treasurer Morton's request. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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

None.

10. Approval of Sub depository Bid (LGC \$116.024) for County and Terlingua CSD Funds / Discussion and appropriate action

Treasurer Morton presented the Sub Depository Bid for County and Terlingua CSD Funds. Commissioner Colando moved to award West Texas National Bank the Sub Depository contract for County & Terlingua CSD Funds. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

8. Community Facilities Report

A. General Report

Judge Cano presented the Community Facilities Report on behalf of Johnny Valencia.

B. Discuss and approve purchase of HVAC Unit in the Brewster County Sunny Glen Cooperative Building, tabled on June 23, 2021 / Discussion and appropriate action

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented an update on the bid from TW Heat & Air for HVAC Unit to remove the 70% upfront fee. No updated bid proposal has been presented at the time. Commissioner Colando moved to authorize the Judge to sign the contract on arrival. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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

None.

12. Brewster County Auditor

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented the general bills and walk-ins. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the general bills and walk-ins as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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

**Budget Amendments
Other Financial Reports as Requested by Commissioners**

Line Item Transfers

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented the Budget Amendments. Commissioner Colando moved that the Brewster County Commissioner Court confirm the County Auditor's certification of unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$28,045 and increase the Fiscal Year 2021 revenue and expenditure budgets in accordance with the attached budget amendment form. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented the Line Item Transfers. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the line item transfers as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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.

13. Officials' Monthly Reports

Commissioner Westermann read the Officials' Monthly Report for June 23, 2021, 2nd report. Commissioner Colando moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Westermann read the Officials' Monthly Report for July 14, 2021, 1st report. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

14. Brewster County Tourism

**A. Report from Robert Alvarez, Executive Director:
General update, travel shows, marketing, finances, visitation status, project reports; personnel issues, (vacancies, new hires and performance)**

Robert Alvarez, Executive Director of Brewster County Tourism, presented a general update report.

B. Approve letter of support to TXDOT regarding the addition of 'Visitor Information' signs to the BCTC Big Bend Snapshot Roadside Exhibits / Discussion and appropriate action

Mr. Alvarez presented a letter of support to put "1 Mile Ahead Visitor Information" signs to the BCTC Big Bend Snapshot Roadside Exhibits. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the letter of support to TXDOT regarding the addition of "1 Mile Ahead Visitor Information" signs to the BCTC Big Bend Snapshot Roadside Exhibits. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

C. Discussion and appropriate action for general work of Brewster County Tourism to go forward

No action.

15. 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

Judge Cano presented an update on the 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 on behalf of Rod Ponton, Attorneys At Law. There is no change in the case. No response has been presented on Rod Ponton's filing.

16. Designate officer/employee to calculate and certify FY2022 tax rates / Discussion and appropriate action

Sylvia Vega, Brewster County Tax Assessor-Collector, requested the court designate her to calculate and certify FY2022 tax rates. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve Sylvia Vega as the designated officer to calculate and certify FY2022 tax rates. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

17. Appoint Commissioner Westermann as alternate/proxy for Judge Cano for the Big Bend Community Action/Discussion and appropriate action

Judge Cano requested the court appoint Commissioner Westermann as his alternate/proxy for Big Bend Community Action. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the appointment. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Westermann abstained.

18. Approve the July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022, Interlocal Agreement for the Resources Officers / Discussion and appropriate action

Sheriff Ronny Dodson presented the Interlocal Agreement for School Resources Officers for July1, 2021 - June 30, 2022. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

RECESS at 12:00 Noon till 1:00 P.M.

Court recessed at 12:25 PM.

Court reconvened at 1:34 PM

19. FY2022 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. FY2022 Budget Presentations from Elected Officials & Department Heads on FY2022 Budget Requests / Discussion only

Steve Houston, County Attorney, presented the County Attorney FY2022 requested budget.

Sheriff Ronny Dodson presented the County Jail FY2022 requested budget.

Sheriff Dodson presented the County Sheriff's Office FY2022 requested budget.

Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented the Emergency Management Department FY2022 requested budget.

Judge Susanna Gonzales, Justice of the Peace Precinct 3, presented the Justice of the Peace Precinct 3 requested budget.

Court recessed at 2:45 PM

Court reconvened at 3:02 PM

B. Review of budget request forms from Department Heads & Elected Officials / Discussion only

No action.

20. Schedule a Special Commissioners Court Meeting on July 21, 2021, at 9:30 A.M. and Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on July 28, 2021, at 9:30 A.M.

Judge Cano announced the Special Commissioners Court Meeting on July 21, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

Judge Cano announced the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on July 28, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

21. Adjourn

Commissioner Pallanez moved to adjourn. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.



Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk