

PUBLIC NOTICE

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
WEDNESDAY, May 12, 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 9:29 am, the following Elected Officials were present:

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 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 |

Commissioner Colando was absent. Renee Wylie, Chief Deputy of the County Clerk, present on behalf of Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk, in Probate training.

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

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the April 28, 2021, minutes as presented.
Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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

Commissioner Ortega stated to looking forward with the new city electors.
Judge Cano recognized Kimberly Baeza as the new Judges Assistant Administrator.

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

Commissioner Ortega requested research to look into Insurance for Volunteers.

10. Presentation by Luke Hendryx, Agrilife Extension Agent / Quarterly report / Discussion and appropriate action

Luke Hendryx, Agrilife Extension Agent, presented quarterly report update.

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

Rod Ponton, Attorneys At Law, presented 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.

6. Recognitions & Announcements

Judge Cano announced Alpine High School Graduates.

Commissioner Ortega announced Marathon Graduates.

Commissioner Pallanez recognized Nikki Arhens and Jimmy Morris as the newly elected Alpine School Board Members.

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. Commissioner Ortega recognized Robert Murphy donated the white paint for the Marathon building.

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

No action.

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

No action.

Court recessed at 11:11 A.M.

Court reconvened at 11:25 A.M.

11. Treasurer's Office

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

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|---|------------------------------|
| 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 |

No reports.

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.

12. Brewster County Auditor

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented general bills. Commissioner Ortega moved to improve the general bills. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane. Commissioner Westermann abstained from Sign of Recognition.

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

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

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

C. Discuss and Approve order for Disbursement of Routine Office Expenses

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented Disbursement of Routine Office Expenses. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve order as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

D. Discussion with action to approve reimbursement of proceeds from sale of Trust property PID 22627 to Kyler Dawson

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented reimbursement of proceeds from sale of Trust property PID 22627 to Kyler Dawson. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve reimbursement as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

E. 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. Brewster County Electricity Related

A. Discussion and consider budget amendment for current electric costs / Discussion and appropriate action

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented the Brewster County Electricity. A memo was passed to Commissioners and Judge showing Roach's dispute. Roach is requesting budget amendment for current electric costs. Commissioner Ortega moves to approve the Brewster County Commissioners Court confirm the County Auditor's certification of available funds and due to unforeseen circumstances, hereby declare and approve and emergency expenditure for increased electricity costs in accordance with the attached budget amendment form. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

B. Discuss and consider new electricity contract and/or resolution / Discussion and appropriate action

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented new electricity contract and/or resolution. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the recommendation of the County Auditor to join Public Power Pool. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Ortega announced the resolution. Commissioner Ortega moves to approve resolution. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

14. Officials' Monthly Reports

Commissioner Pallanez read the Officials' Monthly Report. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

16. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on May 26, 2021, at 9:30 A.M.

Judge Cano announced the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on May 26, 2021, at 9:30 A.M.

17. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned 12:15 P.M.



Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:



KAWANA BOURBON, DEPUTY CLERK