**BREWSTER COUNTY**

**COMMISSIONERS COURT**



**JIM WESTERMANN SARA COLANDO** Commissioner, Pct.1Commissioner, Pct. 2

**RUBEN ORTEGA MO MORROW**

Commissioner, Pct. 3Commissioner, Pct.4

**GREG P. HENINGTON**

Brewster County Judge

**Regular Commissioners Meeting:** October 24, 2023, at 9:30 A.M.

**Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom**

**201 W. Ave. E Alpine, Texas 79830**

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order-Judge Greg P. Henington**

Judge Heningtion called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.; the following Elected Officials were present:

Greg Henington County Judge

Jim Westermann Commissioner Pct. 1

Sara Allen Colando Commissioner Pct. 2

William “Mo” Morrow Commissioner Pct. 4

Sarah Vasquez County Clerk

Ruben Ortega, Commissioner Pct. 3, was absent.

**2. Invocation**

Invocation by Judge Henington.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge were led by Judge Henington.

**4. Review, discuss and take necessary action to approve previous meeting minutes**

Commissioner Morrow moved to approve October 10, 2023, minutes. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**5. Public Comment-Comments are limited to 5 minutes per person. Members of the public are also welcome to participate in public comment by calling 432-244-6663.**

None.

**6. Recognition & Announcements**

Commissioner Morrow announced the new Chief Appraiser, Raymond Herrera, was hired and will start on November 6.

**7. Update on new Brewster County Website/ Commissioner S. Colando / Discussion only**

Commissioner Colando presented the first mockup, with photos to be changed as needed.

**8. County Judge Report - for informational purposes only/ no action required**

Judge Henington announced an update on Study Butte Water Supply Company.

**9. Review, discuss and take possible action on Brewster County Project List**

Judge Henington presented two new projects to be added to the list which include the digitization of the County Clerk’s land records and to set aside money for Cyber Security. Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk, spoke on the necessity to digitize historical records and keep the books’ integrity intact for as long as possible. Jason Sanchez spoke on behalf of Velocerus Technology Solution to assist with cyber security.

Commissioner Westermann presented an update from AG Welding for the carport at the Fire Station.

Judge Henington moved to approve the Brewster County Project List. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**10. Review, discuss and take possible action on opening a satellite office in South Brewster County for Tax Assessor and County Clerk**

Judge Henington announced the opening of a satellite office in Terlingua by the first of the year with a Tax Assessor’s office and a County Clerk’s office. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the opening of a satellite office in South Brewster County for Tax Assessor and County Clerk. Judge Henington seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**11. Sheriff's Office**

**A. Review, discuss and take possible action on the sale of Brewster County Vehicles.**

Sheriff Ronny Dodson presented the sale of Brewster County vehicles by the Sheriff’s Department. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the sale of Brewster County Vehicles. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**B. Review, discuss and take possible action on purchasing an explosive detection canine. Funds to be allocated from the Awarded Account Fund**

Sheriff Dodson presented the necessity to purchase an explosive detection canine using the asset forfeiture money. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the purchase of an explosive detection canine. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**12. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding Professional Services Agreement between iDocket.com and the Brewster County Clerk/District Clerk**

Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the Professional Services Agreement between iDocket and Brewster District Clerk. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**13. Review, discuss and take possible action to allow County Judge blanket authority to sign contracts on behalf of Brewster County once the contracts are approved by the Commissioners Court**

Judge Henington presented the authority to sign contracts after approval from the Commissioner Court. Commissioner Westermann moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**14. Review, discuss and take possible action to allow accounts payable to be funded up to $10,000 prior to Commissioners Court ratification**

Commissioner Westermann moved to approve accounts payable to be funded up to $10,000 prior to Commissioners Court. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**15. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding final approval for the Mesquite Tranquility subdivision request**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the final plat for Mesquite Tranquility Subdivision. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Morrow abstained. Judge Henington asked the County Clerk to reference groundwater documents on the plat that was recorded in OPRs, document 118206 & 118207.

**16. Review, discuss and take possible action to engage a commercial appraiser to establish value for property located at 210 North 6th Street, Alpine, Texas**

Judge Henington presented to engage a commercial appraiser to establish the value for property 210 N. 6th. St., Alpine, Tx. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**17. Review, discuss and ratify a resolution authorizing Sunshine House Inc. to use the receipt of county funds (via an agreement) to further apply for state funding to feed the elderly and/or disabled: Texas Department of Agriculture Texans Feeding Texans: Home-Delivered Meal Grant Program Resolution**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the resolution authorizing Sunshine House Inc. to use the receipt of county funds (via an agreement) to further apply for state funding to feed the elderly and/or disabled: Texas Department of Agriculture Texans Feeding Texans: Home-Delivered Meal Grant Program. Judge Henington seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**18. Road & Bridge Department**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Frenchie Causey presented the Road and Bridge Department report.

**B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action for general work/ permits/ contract of Road & Bridge Department**

**19. Emergency Management Department**

**A. General Report - Emergency Management Coordinator**

Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented an update on the Emergency Management Department.

**20. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports/ Updates**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the September 2023 financial report and the surplus report. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Treasurer’s report as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**B. Discussion, review, and appropriate action related to financial reports, administration, and policies**

**21. Brewster County Auditor**

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

**1. Budget Amendments**

**2. Line-Item Adjustments**

Paty Saenz, Assistant Auditor, presented the general bills. Judge Henington moved to approve bills as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Assistant Auditor Saenz presented line item transfers. Judge Henington moved to approve the line item transfers as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**B. Financial Reports/ Updates**

None.

**C. Discussion, review, and appropriate action related to financial administration and policies**

None.

**22. Brewster County Tourism**

**A. Report from Robert Alvarez, Executive Director:**

**General update, travel shows, marketing, finances, visitation status, project reports and issues**

None.

**B. Discussion, review and take possible action for Brewster County Tourism to go forward**

None.

**23. Officials' Monthly Reports**

Commissioner Westermann moved to approve the Officials’ Monthly Report. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**24. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on November 14, 2023, at 9:30A.M.**

Judge Henington announced the next Commissioners Court Meeting on November 14, 2023, at 9:30 AM.

**25. Adjourn**

Commissioner Colando moved to adjourn. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:41 A.M.

**If necessary, following any closed or executive meeting the Commissioners Court will convene in open session to take any final action, decision, or vote on any matter deliberated in closed meeting which has properly been noticed in compliance with Chapter 551 Government Code of Texas.**

**If, during the course of the meeting covered by the notice, the Commissioners Court needs to meet in executive session, then such closed or executive meeting or session, pursuant to Chapter 551, Government Code of Texas, will be held by the Commissioners Court on the date, hour, and place given in the notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by this notice as the Court may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session convening and concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Chapter 551 of said Government Code.**

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**Greg P. Henington**

**Brewster County Judge**

**ATTEST:**

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**Sarah Vasquez**

**Brewster County Clerk**