**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023, AT 9:30 A.M.**

**BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM**

**201 W AVE E**

**ALPINE, TEXAS**

Judge Henington 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

Ruben Ortega Commissioner Pct. 3

William “Mo” Morrow Commissioner Pct. 4

Sarah Vasquez County Clerk

**Members of the public who are not able to participate in person, are encouraged to watch the meetings live online, at www.brewstercountytx.com or Brewster County's Facebook page. Members of the public are also encouraged to participate in public comment by calling 432-244-6663.**

**AGENDA**

**1. Invocation**

Invocation by Commissioner Morrow.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**3. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the April 11, 2023, minutes. Commissioner Colando seconded the

motion; motion passed 5-0.

**4. Public Comment - Comments are limited to 5 minutes per person. Pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Court may be limited in its ability to respond to comments.**

No comments.

**9. Presentation by Big Bend Telephone regarding broadband services in Brewster County/ Discussion only**

Rusty Moore, General Manager of Big Bend Telephone Company, presented on fiber optic infrastructure and broadband access in Brewster County.

**10. Big Bend Telephone**

**A. Review, discuss and take possible action to support BBT's efforts to obtain broadband funding for Brewster County**

Judge Henington moved to write a letter of support for BBT's efforts to obtain broadband funding for Brewster County. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**11. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve Broadband Resolution supporting improving broadband coverage in the Far West Texas and Upper Rio Grande region**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Broadband Resolution as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**17. Elections Office**

**A. Presentation by Michele Carew Vista SG representative/ discussion and appropriate action**

Michele Carew, Vista SG representative, presented.

**B. Review, discuss and take possible action to purchase additional election software tools (AutoSync, Sweep Module, ABBM, Audit & Campaign Finance) from Vista SG using available ARPA funds**

Lora Nussbaum, Election Administrator, requested the additional modules for the current software, to be paid with ARPA funds. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the additional Vista software modules as requested. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**C. Review, discuss and take possible action to purchase 1 additional DS200 Scanner from Election Systems and Software to aid in compliance of Early Voting and Election Day reporting using available ARPA funds.**

EA Nussbaum requested approval to purchase an additional ballot scanner with ARPA funds. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the purchase as requested. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**13. Review, discuss and take possible action to accept the adoption of Los Ranchos Estates road into Brewster County system**

Commissioner Westermann presented a request from property owners to accept Los Ranchos Estates Road into the County Road System. Commissioner Westermann moved to accept Los Ranchos Estates Road into the County Road System. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**14. Justice of the Peace office to provide update presentation on Brewster County Precinct 1/ Discussion only**

Judge Wasserman, JP Pct. 1, presented an update on Brewster County JP Precinct 1.

**5. Recognition & Announcements**

**- Clean up day**

Commissioner Ortega announced a successful County Cleanup Day and the upcoming Cinco de Mayo parade on Saturday, May 6th at the Alpine Civic Center.

**- CPR/AED course first class April 26 10 am -12 pm and 2 pm - 4pm**

Judge Henington announced a free class of CPR/AED training.

**6. County Judge Report - for informational purposes only; no action required**

Judge Henington announced the County Clerk's new flooring is almost completed.

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

Commissioner Colando presented a letter to Verisign that the Judge will need to sign to request a .gov domain for Brewster County.

**8. Road & Bridge Department**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Frenchie Causey presented the Road and Bridge Department general report.

**B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work / permits / contracts of Road & Bridge Department**

**12. Kayse Muratori 9-1-1 GIS Coordinator, to discuss, review and take possible action to name roadway**

**A. Report project update/ discussion only**

Kayse Muratori, 911 GIS Coordinator, and Rod Ponton requested approval to name Arvel Avenue, a private road in Brewster County. Commissioner Westermann moved to approve the name Arvel Avenue. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Muratori presented the necessity of proper codes and protocol based on Local Government Code Chapter 212. Judge Henington will work with Ms. Muratori on the road naming policy.

**15. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

No reports.

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

None.

**C. Official Monthly Reports**

None.

**D. 2020 County Audit update/ Discussion only**

Judge Henington announced the 2020 Audit will be presented in May.

**16. Brewster County Auditor**

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

**1. Budget Amendments**

**2. Line-Item Adjustments**

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented the General Bills. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general bills as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Auditor Roach presented line-item transfers. Commissioner Colando moved to approve line item transfers as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Financial Reports/ Updates**

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

**18. Review, update, discuss and take possible action regarding ARPA expenditures**

Judge Henington presented a proposed list for the use of ARPA funds. 2024 is the deadline for commitment of the expenditures, and funds must be spent/projects completed by 2026. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the list of proposed ARPA projects. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**19. Brewster County Tourism**

**A. Executive Director Report**

Ali Chambers and Evans Walker, Visit Big Bend, presented the general report for Brewster County Tourism.

Brewster County Tourism’s next meeting is on May 8, 2023, at 1:00 pm. Texas A&M representatives will be in attendance to present the Visitor Survey results.

**B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work/ contracts for Brewster County Tourism**

Evans Walker presented 2024 upcoming contracts. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the contracts as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**20. Emergency Management Department**

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

Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented the General Report for the Emergency Management Department.

**B. Brewster County Burn Ban**

EMC Elmore requested the court approve a 45 day burn ban. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Burn Ban for 45 days. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**21. Schedule next Commissioners Court Meeting on May 9th, 2023, at 9:30 A.M**

Judge Henington announced the next Commissioners Court Meeting on May 9, 2023, at 9:30 A.M.

**22. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m

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**Greg P. Henington, County Judge**

**ATTEST:**

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**Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk**