**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023, AT 9:30 A.M.**

**BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM**

**201 W AVE E**

**ALPINE, TEXAS**

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.

**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 Judge Henington.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

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

Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the June 13, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion;

motion passed 4-0.

**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.**

None.

**5. Recognition & Announcements- Brewster County Judge Office Summer Intern**

Judge Henington introduced Joshua Abraham as the County Judge’s summer intern.

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

Commissioner Colando presented an update on the county website and the creation of the domain.

**7. Review, Discuss, and take possible action on Order to approve Online Education for County Commissioners**

Commissioner Colando presented an Order to approve Online Education for County Commissioners. Commissioner Colando moved to approve Online Education for County Commissioners. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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

Judge Henington presented a general report update on the Courthouse ongoing projects.

**9. Review, Discuss, and take possible action on ARPA funds**

**A. Carport addition at the Emergency Service Building / Commissioner Westermann**

Commissioner Westermann requested an allocation of $30,000 for a construction project at the North Brewster County Emergency Response Center to shelter the emergency vehicles from the harsh weather. Commissioner Westermann moved to approve adding the expenditure to the list of planned ARPA projects. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**B. Broad Band Funding / Marathon / Lawrence Neu**

Lawrence Neu, Neu Ventures Inc, requested an allocation of $48,000 for equipment upgrades to provide high speed internet in Alpine and Marathon. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve adding the expenditure to the list of planned ARPA projects. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**C. Mobile Library Project / Terlingua / Joselyn Fenstermacher**

Joselyn Fenstermacher and Jenny Turner, Big Bend Citizens Alliance, requested an allocation of $67,000 for the purchase and outfitting of a mobile Library unit. Judge Henington moved to approve $57,000 to purchase the trailer and to add the expenditure to the list of planned ARPA projects. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Colando abstained due to being on the Alliance’s board of directors.

**10. Review, discuss Alpine Public Library 2024 funding request / no action required**

Don Wetterauer, Alpine Public Library Director, presented the Alpine Public Library 2024 funding request.

**11. Business Manager Jeanette Hall to present Terlingua ESD #1 Annual Financial Report / Discussion only**

Jeanette Hall, Board Member of Brewster County ESD #1, presented the Annual Financial Report.

**14. Kayse Muratori 9-1-1 GIS Coordinator Report project update/ discussion only**

Kayse Muratori, 911 GIS Coordinator, presented a general report update including the Flood Zone map that is dated from 1971.

**15. Review, Discuss, and take appropriate action for Brewster County Subdivision #1 Preliminary Plat**

Larry Brewer presented a preliminary plat application for Brewer Subdivision #1 in Study Butte. Commissioner Colando stated that the Preliminary Plat Application is incomplete, due to a lack of newspaper posting, and written comments from the Study Butte Water Supply Company, Rio Grande Electric Co-op, and the Brewster County Septic Inspector, among others.

**12. Road & Bridge Department**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

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

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

**13. Emergency Management Department**

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

Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented the General Report for the Emergency Management Department. The Burn Ban is still in effect; please contact EMC Elmore or emergency dispatch for

burning permits. Fireworks restrictions are in place for the Fourth of July.

**17. 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 and no walk-ins. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the general bills as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Westermann abstained from Branding West.

Auditor Roach presented a budget amendment for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT). Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**B. Financial Reports/ Updates**

Judge Henington gave an update on the 2020 external audit.

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

**16. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the financial report for May 2023. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the financial report as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**B. Official Monthly Reports**

**C. Texas Association of Counties / Introductions and Presentations by the County's Health & Employee Benefits Pool (TAC HEBP) Specialists / Discussion only**

Mindy Seahorn, Seahorn & Herring Insurance Associates, LLP, presented the Texas Association of County’s Health and Employee Benefits Pool (TAC HEBP) renewal rates and plan options.

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

Covered under Agenda Item 17.

**18. Elections**

**A. Review, Discuss and take possible action to approve Election Systems and Software, LLC. / Hardware Maintenance Service Agreement**

Lora Nussbaum, Elections Administration, presented the Election Systems and Software, LLC and Hardware Maintenance Service Agreement. Judge Henington moved to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

EA Nussbaum introduced the new hire in the Elections Admin Office.

**20. Texas AgriLife Extension / Quarterly Report by Luke Hendryx County Extension Agent**

Luke Hendryx, County Extension Agent, presented a quarterly report.

**19. Brewster County Tourism**

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

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

**B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work/ Contracts for Brewster County Tourism go forward**

No report; Robert Alvarez, Executive Director, was absent.

**21. Schedule next Commissioners Court Meeting on July 11, 2023, at 9:30 A.M**

Judge Henington announced the next regular Commissioners Court Meeting on July 11, 2023, at 9:30 am.

A Special Commissioners Court meeting will be held on Friday, June 30, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.

**22. Adjourn**

Commissioner Colando moved to adjourn. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

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**Greg P. Henington, County Judge**

**ATTEST:**

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**Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk**