**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022, AT 9:30 A.M.**

**BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM**

**201 W AVE E**

**ALPINE, TEXAS**

Judge Cano called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.; the following Elected Officials were present:

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

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, 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. Commissioner Westermann led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

**2. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the March 22, 2022 meeting minutes. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**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.**

Walter Kurkendall, Emergent Air, presented an update on EMS transition progress.

**4. Recognitions & Announcements**

**Healthy Lands and Energy Development Summit**

Judge Cano reported updates on the Healthy Lands and Energy Development Summit conference.

Judge Cano also announced the courthouse closure on April 15, 2022, for Easter Weekend.

Commissioner Pallanez announced the Fire Department Fundraiser will be on April 23, 2022.

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

Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported current Covid19 statistics: 272 probable cases and 29 fatalities.Fire reported in Marathon. EMC Elmore will not approve any burn bans until the high winds die down.

Greg Henington, Task Force Chair, presented an update on the ongoing contract. Terlingua EMS training event will be held for training.

**6. Road & Bridge Department**

**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 Frenchie Causey presented the Road & Bridge Department’s general report. Superintendent Causey presented a permit application for boring/trenching across Fulcher Road. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the permit application. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work of Road & Bridge Department & Community Facilities to go forward**

**7. Community Facilities Report**

**A. General Report**

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

**8. Treasurer's Office**

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

**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**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented an audit update and 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**

Treasurer Morton announced payday will be on Thursday, April 14, 2022 due to the courthouse closure on Friday. She also announced that she will be absent next week while attending the Spring Treasurer Conference.

**9. FY 22 Rio Grande Council of Government (RGCOG) Municipal Solid Waste Grant Program**

**A. Announce award amount for Brewster County**

Commissioner Ortega announced that Brewster County was awarded the Municipal Solid Waste Grant from the Rio Grande Council of Governments. He also announced that the City of Alpine was awarded as well, and he suggested reaching out to coordinate Cleanup Day on the tentative date: May 14, 2022.

**B. Discuss and approve project and scheduling of activities**

**10. Brewster County Auditor**

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

**Budget Amendments Line Item Transfers**

**Other Financial Reports as Requested by Commissioners**

Auditor Roach presented the general bills. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the general bills as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Auditor Roach presented Line Item Transfers and Budget Amendments. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve Line Item Transfers and Budget Amendment as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Other general administrative and procedural matters related to Auditor's Office/ Discussion and appropriate action for work of Auditor's Office to go forward**

**11. 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, presented a general report on the Brewster County Tourism department.

A travel & tourism / community outreach event will be held in Marathon on May 2 at the Marathon Hotel from 5:30 pm - 8 pm and in Study Butte on May 3 at the Motor Inn’s Party Barn from 1 pm - 5 pm. The event will celebrate 25 years of the Brewster County Tourism Council and will also provide free Hospitality Training to the public. The Public Relations position is still open.

**B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work, contracts, and agreements for Brewster County Tourism to go forward**

**12. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent/ Activity Report/ Discussion Only**

Commissioner Colando read an Extension Agent report on behalf of Luke Hendryx, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent.

**13. Elections**

**A. Approve Notice of Democratic and Republican runoff Elections for May 24, 2022 / Discussion and appropriate action**

Lora Nussbaum, Elections Administrator, presented along with Mary Bell Lockhart, Democratic Chair, and Monica McBride, Republican Chair, the notice for the runoff Elections on May 24, 2022. Ms Nussbaum presented early voting dates to be May 16-20. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve dates as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Approve Election agreement between the City of Alpine and Brewster County Elections Administration for election equipment and limited election service/ Discussion and appropriate action**

EA Nussbaum presented an agreement for the leasing of equipment to the City of Alpine for their upcoming elections. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**14. Presentation from David Quin, Program Manager of Public Power Pool (P3): update current P3 contract for Brewster County and the competitive procurement for a new electric contract January 2023 / Discussion only**

David Quinn, Program Manager of Public Power Pool, presented the P3 contract for a new electric contract.

**15. Officials' Monthly Reports**

Commissioner Colando read the Officials’ Monthly Reports. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**16. Scheduled Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on April 26, 2022, at 9: 30 A.M**

Judge Cano announced the next Regular Commissioners Court meeting on April 26, 2022, at 9:30 A.M.

**22. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Meeting

adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

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**Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge**

**ATTEST:**

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**Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk**