**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 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 9:40 a.m.; the following Elected Officials were present:

Eleazar R. Cano County Judge

Jim Westermann Commissioner Pct. 1

Sara Allen Colando Commissioner Pct. 2

Mike “Coach” Pallanez 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**](http://www.brewstercountytx.com) **or** [**Brewster County, Texas**](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064756293847) **(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 minutes for July 26, 2022. 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.**

No comments.

**4. Recognitions & Announcements – reminder to complete cyber security course**

Judge Cano announced schools will be starting up between this meeting and the next Commissioners Court meeting.

Commissioner Colando announced the new gymnasium will be open at Terlingua CSD. Commissioner Colando also announced an informational meeting with TFEMS will be held at the Terlingua Ranch Lodge for anyone interested in becoming certified in first aid/CPR.

Judge Cano announced the Meet & Greet on August 12 at 5 pm at the North Brewster County Emergency Response Center for all the new individuals holding public offices and other important positions in the community.

**5. Emergency Management Department**

**A. General Report including:**

**Recent emergency responses; emergency planning update; recent work with cooperating emergency responders: (ESD #1, all VFDs 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, prohibiting fireworks, 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, presented the General Report for the Emergency

Management Department. Current Covid19 statistics: 280 probable active local cases, and 31 local fatalities since the onset of the pandemic. Texas has a total of 702 cases of monkeypox statewide.

EMC Elmore presented an Order Restricting Outdoor Burning. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the order as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**B. Approve Multi-Hazard Mitigation Action Plan for Brewster County**

EMC Elmore presented the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Action Plan. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the Plan as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**6. 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**

Commissioner Ortega presented the Road and Bridge Department general report on behalf of Superintendent Frenchie Causey.

**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 read the Community Facilities Report on behalf of Johnny Valencia.

**B. Approval of contract with Talent Roofing Inc. for the roof replacement at the Brewster County District Clerk building / discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Colando moved to table Item #7B. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**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 Grant Reports**

**by Commissioners**

No report.

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

**9. Brewster County Auditor**

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

Patty Roach, County Auditor, presented the general bills. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve general bills as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**H. 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 Line Item Transfers. Commissioner Colando moved to approve Line Item Transfers as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**10. 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)**

No report.

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

None.

**11. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension agent Luke Hendryx**

Luke Hendryx, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent, presented a general update on all past and future activities.

**12. PermianCare for Mental Health Services Provider Agreement to Mental Health Deputy Services**

**A. Review of Proposed Contract**

Judge Cano presented the PermianCare for Mental Health Services Provider Agreement to Mental Health Deputy Services.

**B. Discussion and appropriate action regarding renewal of contract**

Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**13. Sheriff’s Office / 2022 Sheriffs’ & Constables’ Fees / Discussion and appropriate action**

Commissioner Colando moved to table Item #13. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**14. Elections**

**A. Approval of Election Judges list for the Term of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2023 / Discussion and appropriate action**

Mary Bell Lockhart, Democratic Chair, and Monica McBride, Republican Chair, presented the Election Judges list. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the list of Election Judges as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**15. FY 23 Budget Workshop / Discussion concerning all aspects of County revenues / expenditures and upcoming financial needs for all county departments and other entities funded by the County / Scheduling issues related to adoption of Budget and setting Tax Rate.**

Judge Cano opened the Budget Workshop and returned to Items #9B through #9G.

**9B. Denise Flores to present the Certified Property Values/ Discussion and appropriate action**

Denise Flores, Chief Appraiser, presented the Certified Property Values. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve the Certified Property Values as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**9C. Sylvia Vega to present the Certified Tax Roll and Tax Rate/ Discussion and appropriate action**

Sylvia Vega, Tax Assessor/Collector, presented the Certified Tax Roll and Tax Rate. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**9D. Review of the Proposed Budget / Discussion only**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, and Auditor Roach presented the Proposed Budget for review and discussion.

**9E. Review of Proposed Elected Salaries. Discussion and appropriate action.**

Treasurer Morton and Auditor Roach presented the Proposed Elected Salaries. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Proposed Elected Salaries as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**9F. Discussion to approve proposed Tax Year 2022 Tax Rate/ Discussion and appropriate action**

Treasurer Morton and Auditor Roach presented the proposed Tax Year 2022 Tax Rate. Commissioner Colando moved to propose the Voter Approval rate of $0.395545. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion. Record Vote:

Commissioner Pallanez - Aye;

Judge Cano - Aye;

Commissioner Colando - Aye;

Commissioner Westermann - Aye.

Motion passed.

**9G. Approve budget and Tax Rate hearing dates (8/23/22)/ Discussion and appropriate action.**

Treasurer Morton and Auditor Roach suggested having the budget and Tax Rate hearing on August 23, 2022. Commissioner Colando moved to schedule a Budget and Tax Rate hearing on August 23 2022. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**15A. Review FY 23 Budget and Tax Rate Planning Calendar / Discussion and appropriate action**

Judge Cano announced that the County is on track with the Budget and Tax Rate Calendar..

**B. Presentations by Elected Officials and Department Heads concerning expenditures within their department for the FY 23 Budget / Discussion only**

None.

**16. Officials’ Monthly Reports**

Commissioner Westermann read the Officials’ Monthly Reports. Commissioner Colando moved to approve as read. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

**17. Schedule next Commissioners Court Meeting on August 23,2022 at 9:30 A.M.**

Judge Cano announced the next Commissioners Court Meeting on August 23, 2022, at 9:30 A.M.

**18. Adjourn**

Commissioner Colando moved to adjourn. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

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**Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge**

**ATTEST:**

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**Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk**