

PUBLIC NOTICE

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BREWSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020 AT 9:30 A.M.
BREWSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS COURTROOM
ALPINE, TEXAS**

Judge Cano called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m., the following Elected Officials were present:

Eleazar R. Cano	County Judge
Betse Esparza	Commissioner Pct. 1
Sara Allen Colando	Commissioner Pct. 2
Ruben Ortega	Commissioner Pct. 3
Mike “Coach” Pallanez	Commissioner Pc. 4
Julie Morton	County Treasurer
Berta Rios-Martinez	County Clerk

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation and Pledge were led by Judge Cano.

2. Minutes / additions / corrections / approval

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve Minutes for April 1st, 8th and March 25th, 2020. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

Commissioner Pallanez said there was a constituent from precinct 4 who asked “Why did Brewster County hire a surveyor from East Texas” to come do surveyor work for us in Brewster County. Judge Cano said the county did not hire a new surveyor.

4. Recognitions & Announcements

Commissioner Ortega recognized and thanked Dennis Yancy for his good work on the Food Bank especially for Marathon.

Judge Cano announced the maximum allowed capacity for reopened businesses in Brewster County was raised from 25% to 50% effective yesterday late afternoon. He said the Disaster Declaration is still in place and if COVID cases increase he will have to change the capacity to 25%.

5. Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) by Dr. Etko Escovar, Brewster County Local Health Authority / Discussion and appropriate action

Dr. Ekta Escovar gave an update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) to the court. She said even though the capacity was raised we need to keep doing frequent handwashing, wearing masks and social distancing. If there is a spike of cases then we will have to lower the reopened business capacity to 25%.

6. Review & Approve contract with Law Firm Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP / Discussion and appropriate action

Judge Cano discussed the contract with Law Firm Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP to the court. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the contract with Law Firm Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

7. 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

Commissioner Ortega gave an update on the Road & Bridge Department. He said AEP will be doing some electrical work in Marathon. Commissioner Ortega said the power will be off for 4 to 5 hours this Friday starting at 9 a.m. Coach Pallanez recognized Frenchie and his crew for a great job & dedication to keeping the roads safe.

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

No action.

8. Community Facilities Report

A. General Report

Judge Cano gave a brief update on the community facilities on behalf of Johnny Valencia.

B. Discussion and appropriate action for general work of Community Facilities to go forward

No action.

15. Review and Approve West Texas Management Pest Control / Discussion and appropriate action

Mandy Portillo with West Texas Management Pest Control briefly reviewed the agreement to the court. She said they will be covering the county buildings on a quarterly basis. Commissioner Pallanez moved to approve West Texas Management Pest Control to provide our extermination services as listed with the exception of the Pattillo Center in South Brewster County. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Court recessed at 10:44 a.m.

Court reconvened at 10:57 a.m.

9. County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program

A. Approve Grant Applicant and Resolution for the County Transportation Infrastructure Fund (CTIF) Grant Program with TxDot / Discussion and appropriate action

Treasurer Morton requested approval to apply for the County Transportation Infrastructure Fund Grant Program with TxDot. She said the due date is May 27, 2020. Treasurer Morton said TxDot printed out a list of potential award amounts for each county and Brewster County potential award amount would be \$60,000. That is assuming all counties that applied for the grant if they do not then the county could get more money and be reallocated because of everyone not applying. She said we are asking for \$60,000 grant and it is also a 20% cash match with the county and the cash match will come from labor. Commissioner Ortega moved to apply and get the application process started with the CTIF Grant Program with TxDot. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

B. Approve County Infrastructure Fund Grant Agreement with TxDot / Discussion and appropriate action

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the County Infrastructure Fund Grant Agreement with TxDot. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

10. Treasurer's Office

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

Combined Statement of Revenues & Expenses
Check Register
Personnel/Overtime Reports
Other Financial Reports as Requested
by Commissioners

Payroll Reports
Receipt File Listings
Cash Reports
Grants Reports

Treasurer Morton presented the February Monthly Reports for FY20. Judge Cano requested for Betty Jo Rooney to be present at the next meeting because there might be some questions related to the property tax collection and she might be the only one who can answer them. Treasurer Morton highlighted we had one delinquent tax sale in February which brought in \$29,994.00. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the reports as presented by Treasurer Morton. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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 gave an update on the audit. She said she will have a conference call tomorrow on May 14th with the auditors to discuss what they need. Treasurer Morton said she is a little behind but is working on it.

11. Officials' Monthly Reports

Berta Rios-Martinez presented the Officials' Monthly Reports. Commissioner Colando read the Officials' Monthly Reports into record. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as read. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

12. Brewster County Auditor

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action

Paty Saenz presented the general bills. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve bills as presented. Commissioner Pallanez seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Esparza abstained from Printco and Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

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

Budget Amendments
Other Financial Reports as Requested
by Commissioners

Line Item Transfers

Paty Saenz presented a couple of line item transfers. She said the first one is for Tourism in the amount of \$1,120 from Professional Development to Liability Insurance to purchase directors/officers liability insurance. The second item is from

Emergency Management in the amount of \$2,141.99 from Equipment to Water Tanks to cover water tank expenses. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the line item transfers. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

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

No action.

13. 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 Grants / Discussion and appropriate action

Stephanie Elmore gave an update on the Emergency Management Department. Commissioner Ortega thanked Stephanie Elmore for a job well done during the COVID-19 testing.

B. Discussion and appropriate action for work of Emergency Management Department to go forward

No action.

14. Brewster County District Clerk / Update on LGS Computer Program & Monthly Reports, updates previously given on January 8, 2020 and April 8, 2020 / Discussion and appropriate action

JoAnn Salgado, Brewster County District Clerk and Briana Portillo gave an update on LGS Computer Program and Monthly Reports.

16. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on May 27, 2020 at 9:30 A.M.

Judge Cano said the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting will be May 27, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

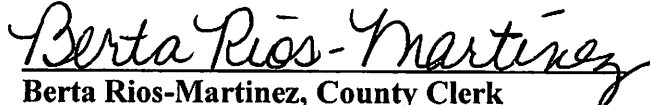
17. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Esparza seconded the motion; motion

passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.


Eleazar R. Cano, County Judge

ATTEST:


Berta Rios-Martinez, County Clerk