**BREWSTER COUNTY**

**COMMISSIONERS COURT**

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**JIM WESTERMANN SARA COLANDO**

**Commissioner, Pct.1 Commissioner, Pct. 2**

**RUBEN ORTEGA MO MORROW**

**Commissioner, Pct. 3 Commissioner, Pct.4**

**GREG P. HENINGTON**

**County Judge**

**Regular Commissioners Meeting: December 10, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.**

**Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom**

**201 West Ave. E, Alpine, Texas 79830**

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order**

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

Ruben Ortega Commissioner Pct. 3

Julie Morton County Treasurer

Sarah Vasquez County Clerk

Sara Allen Colando, Commissioner Pct. 2, and William “Mo” Morrow, Commissioner Pct. 4, were absent.

**2. Invocation**

Invocation by Judge Henington.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge were led by Commissioner Ortega.

**4. Review, discuss and take necessary action to approve previous meeting minutes**

**A. Commissioners Court Meeting of November 26, 2024**

Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the Minutes of November 26, 2024. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0.

**5. Public Comment - Comments are limited to 5 minutes per person. Members of the public are also welcome to participate in public comment by calling 432-244-6663**

Linda Molinar, CEO for PCHS, expressed gratitude for the use of the Terlingua building.

**6. Recognition & Announcements**

Commissioner Westermann recognized the Courthouse Christmas lighting.

**7. County Judge Report - for informational purposes only**

No report.

**8. Report from City of Alpine representative; discussion only, no action required**

No report.

**13. Justice of the Peace # 1**

**A. JP # 1 Report**

Judge Wasserman, Justice of the Peace Pct. 1, presented a general report and revenue yearly reports.

**B. Establishment of a new line item under JP #1 known as Prosecutorial Fees**

Judge Wasserman explained the rights to appoint a Pro Tem Prosecutor. Judge Henington suggested a line item for just FY24 to get the Prosecutorial Fees paid. FY25 will not have the line item due to the new County Attorney that will appear in January 2025.

**C. Discuss and take possible action to approve line item transfer for prosecutorial fees in fiscal year 2024**

Judge Henington moved to approve the payment of fees to Robert Steele. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0.

Judge Henington moved to approve the creation of the line-item “Legal Fees-Collections”. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0.

**9. Sheriff's Office**

**A. Sheriff's Report**

**B. Report on Abandoned Vehicle Auction**

Sheriff Dodson was not able to appear. Judge Henington presented the report on the Abandoned Vehicle Auction.

**10. Review and discuss Excess Tax Proceeds Report; no action required**

**A. Excess Tax Proceeds Report**

Sarah Fellows Martinez, District Clerk, presented the Excess Tax Proceeds Report.

**11. Discuss and take possible action to declare 7 light fixtures as salvage and available for sale via the county auction process**

**A. Photos**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the light fixtures as salvage and available for auction. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0.

**12. Discuss and take possible action to approve Dell Financial Services lease #001-6853846-022 for county computers**

**A. Dell Financial Services**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Dell Financial Service lease agreement. Judge Henington seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0.

**14. Road & Bridge Department**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Johnny Salcido presented a general report for the Road & Bridge Department.

**B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action for general work/ permits/ contract of Road & Bridge Department**

None.

**15. Emergency Management Department**

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

James Etchinson, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented a general update for the Emergency Management Department.

**B. Discuss and take possible action to renew Brewster County Burn Ban for 45 days**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Burn Ban for an extended 45 days. Commissioner Westerman seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0.

**16. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented an update with TransPecos Bank reconciling accounts statements.

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

**17. Brewster County Comptroller**

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

**1. Budget Amendments**

**2. Line-Item Adjustments**

Malynda Richardson, Comptroller, presented the Line-Item Adjustments and Budget Amendments. Judge Henington moved to approve line item adjustments and budget amendments as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion.

Comptroller Richardson presented general bills. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

**B. Financial Reports / Updates**

Comptroller Richardson presented a financial report. Judge Henington stated the pressure on the auditors to present the audit. Comptroller Richardson stated the new auditors will be in the courthouse in the last two weeks of January.

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

**18. Closed meeting of Commissioners Court, if necessary**

If, during the course of the meeting covered by the notice, the Commissioners Court needs to meet in executive session, then such closed or executive meeting or session, pursuant to Chapter 551, Government Code of Texas, will be held by the Commissioners Court on the date, hour, and place given in the notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by this notice as the Court may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session convening and concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Chapter 551 of said Government Code.

If necessary, following any closed or executive meeting the Commissioners Court will convene in open session to take any final action, decision, or vote on any matter deliberated in closed meeting which has properly been noticed in compliance with Chapter 551 Government Code of Texas.

**19. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on December 24, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.**

Judge Henington scheduled a Special Commissioners Court Meeting on December 18, 2024, at 9:30 AM for the signing of the refund of tax from the Alpine Taxpayers. There will be no meeting on December 24, 2024.

**20. Adjourn**

Judge Henington moved to adjourn. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM**.**

**ATTEST:**

**Greg P. Henington Sarah Vasquez**

**Brewster County Judge Brewster County Clerk**

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:** The Brewster County Commissioners Court reserves the right to conduct an executive/closed meeting session to discuss and deliberate any of the items listed on the agenda instrument posted for this meeting, as permitted by law, including all applicable open meeting exceptions recognized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (“Chapter 551,” the Texas Open Meetings Act), or other applicable statute, including without limitation the following Chapter 551 exceptions: §§ 551.071 and 551.129 (consultation with attorney); § 551.072 (deliberation regarding real property); § 551.0725 (deliberation regarding contract being negotiated); § 551.073 (deliberation regarding prospective gift); § 551.074 (deliberation regarding personnel matters); § 551.0745 (deliberation regarding personnel matters affecting county advisory board); § 551.076 (deliberation regarding security devices or security audits); § 551.0785 (deliberations involving medical or psychiatric records of individuals); and § 551.087 (deliberation regarding economic development negotiations).