**BREWSTER COUNTY**

**COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**JIM WESTERMANN SARA COLANDO** Commissioner, Pct.1Commissioner, Pct. 2

**RUBEN ORTEGA MO MORROW**

Commissioner, Pct. 3Commissioner, Pct.4

**GREG P. HENINGTON**

County Judge

**Regular Commissioners Meeting:** September 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 9:32 a.m.; the following Elected Officials were present:

Greg Henington County Judge

Jim Westermann Commissioner Pct. 1

Sara Allen Colando Commissioner Pct. 2

Ruben Ortega Commissioner Pct. 3

William “Mo” Morrow Commissioner Pct. 4

Julie Morton County Treasurer

Sarah Vasquez County Clerk

**2.** **Invocation**

Invocation by Judge Henington.

**3.** **Pledge of Allegiance**

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

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

**A.** **Commissioners Court Meeting of August 27, 2024**

No minutes.

**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**

Rick Stevens, Ward 1 City Council Member, announced an update on the City of Alpine.

**6. Recognition & Announcements**

Commissioner Ortega announced “West Fest” on Friday and Saturday, to benefit the Marathon Fire Department.

Commissioner Morrow announced that he attended a meeting in Fort Davis for a company hunting rare earth minerals in Brewster County.

**A. Discuss and take possible action to approve Proclamation declaring September 17-23, 2024 as Constitutional week.**

Judy Perry, representative of the Daughters of the American Revolution, presented the proclamation for the anniversary of the drafting of the constitution for September 17. Judge Heninton moved to approve the presented proclamation. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**9. Review, discuss and take possible action on the Interlocal Agreement for the fiscal year 2025 between Brewster County and the Far West Texas Regional Public Defender's Office**

**A. Interlocal Agreement**

James McDermott presented the Interlocal Agreement for FY25 between Brewster County and the Far West Texas Regional Public Defender’s Office. It has a 10% cost decrease from last year's agreement. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**10. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve 2025 Sheriff and Constable fees for notices and services.**

**A. 2025 Proposed Fees**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the 2025 Sheriff and Constable fees as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**11. Review, discuss and take possible action to engage a new outside auditing firm for the fiscal year 2022**

**A. Singleton, Clark and Company, PC Certified Public Accountants**

Judge Henington presented with Patty Roach and Malynda Richardson. Singleton, Clark & Co. will be sending a team to Alpine for two weeks. Judge Henington moved to approve Singleton, Clark & Co. as an outside auditor for FY22. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0

**12. Review, discuss and take possible action to purchase a new accounting software for Brewster County**

**A. Tyler Technologies Software**

Judge Henington announced Malynda Richardson as the new Brewster County Comptroller and presented the accounting software from Tyler Technologies. Judge Henington moved to approve the purchase of Tyler Technologies software and be paid out of the LATCF monies. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**13. Road & Bridge Department**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Johnny Salcido presented the Road and Bridge Department report.

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

None.

**14. Emergency Management Department**

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

None.

**15. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

None.

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

**16. Brewster County Assistant Auditor**

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

Paty Saenz, Assistant Auditor, presented the general bills and walk-ins. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; the motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

**1. Budget Amendments**

None.

**2. Line-Item Adjustments**

None.

**B. Financial Reports / Updates**

None.

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

None.

**D. Review, discuss and take possible action to increase allocation of funding for Audit Task Force. Funds to come from budget surplus in the amount of $50,000**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the increase of $50,000 for the Audit Task Force. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

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**17. Brewster County Tourism**

**A. Review, discuss and take possible action on video production agreement between Brewster County Tourism Council and 12 Rounds Media**

Judge Henington moved to approve the video production agreement with 12 Rounds Media. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Review, discuss and take possible action on Texas Monthly Productions LLC Sponsorship Agreement**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Texas Monthly Productions LLC Sponsorship Agreement. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**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.

Judge Henington called for a Closed Meeting to discuss security issues.

Court recessed at 10:13 AM

Court reconvened at 10:21 AM

**A. Review and discuss items regarding county's cybersecurity upgrades**

Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the funding of $41,000 for cybersecurity upgrades. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Return to Open Meeting to vote, if applicable, on matters discussed in Closed Meeting.**

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

None.

**8. Brewster County Project List**

**A. Project list at of 9/10/24**

No update.

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

Judge Henington announced the next Commissioners Court Meeting on September 24, 2024, at 9:30 AM. Commissioner Court meetings for approval will be on the next Commissioner Court.

**20. Adjourn**

Commissioner Morrow moved to Adjourn. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:23 AM.

**ATTEST:**

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**Greg P. Henington Sarah Vasquez**

**Brewster County Judge Brewster County Clerk**