**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:** January 23, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.

**Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom**

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

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order - Judge Greg P. Henington**

Judge Heningtion 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

Sara Allen Colando Commissioner Pct. 2

Ruben Ortega Commissioner Pct. 3

William “Mo” Morrow Commissioner Pct. 4

Sarah Vasquez County Clerk

Julie Morton County Treasurer

**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**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve January 9, 2024, minutes. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**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**

None.

**6. Recognition & Announcements**

Judge Henington announced Terlingua Fire and EMS has been offered a donation of over $50,000 from Lajitas Golf Resort to purchase a new medical-grade oxygen generation system, to replace the one which recently malfunctioned.

**7. Update on new Brewster County Website / Commissioner S. Colando / Discussion only**

No update.

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

No update.

**9. Brewster County Project List – Review : No action required**

Judge Henington announced the company managing the File Storage Project (storage and destruction) will be here next week to begin inspecting and sorting the records.

**10. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the Salary Grievance Committee**

Clerk Vasquez presented the eligible candidates for the Salary Grievance Committee in an envelope. Commissioner Colando selected the following names at random from the envelope: Lorraine Larose Reynolds, Lanyana Hernandez, and David Valenzuela. Commissioner Westermann then selected the following names at random as alternates: Gilly Beggs, Nicholas Short, and Berkley Mae Clair Baker.

**12. Review, discuss and take possible action to increase budget line item from $42,000 to $44,100 for the County's contribution to the Hal Flanders Recycling Center**

Judge Henington moved to approve an increase in budget as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**13. Review, discuss and take possible action to declare certain county items as salvage and eligible for online auction sale**

Judge Henington presented a conference table and an old roll top desk to be declared salvage. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve declaring the items in the photographs as salvage. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**14. Review, discuss and take possible action to declare certain county items as salvage and eligible for disposal.**

Judge Henington presented a pallet of law books sitting in storage at the Co-op Building for disposal. Commissioner Westermann moved to approve declaring the items in the photographs as salvage. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**15. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve the 2024 Interlocal Agreement between Pecos County and Brewster County regarding the funding of the 83rd District Attorney. Brewster County's share of the operating costs is $94,890.00 and is established in the 2024 Brewster County budget.**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**11. Sheriff's Office**

**A. Report regarding annual racial profiling statistics / No action required**

Ryan Skelton, Chief Deputy, presented the annual racial profiling statistics.

**16. Road & Bridge Department**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Frenchie Causey presented the Road and Bridge Department report.

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

Superintendent Causey presented a Boring/Trenching permit application for a resident in Precinct 1 for an electrical conduit. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**17. Emergency Management Department**

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

Stephanie Elmore, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented an update on the Emergency Management

Department.

**18. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

Treasurer Morton presented the November 2023 Monthly Report. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the report as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**C. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve a credit card contract with GoVolution**

Treasurer Morton presented the proposed contract with GoVolution to process credit card transactions with Genesis eBonds. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

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

Treasurer Morton announced that W2 tax forms for county employees will be printed at the end of the week and ready for pickup or to be mailed out.

**19. Brewster County Auditor**

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

**1. Budget Amendments**

**2. Line-Item Adjustments**

Paty Saenz, Assistant Auditor, presented the general bills that have been paid and need to be paid. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the bills as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

**B. Financial Reports / Updates**

None.

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

None.

**20. Audit Task Force Report - Update only: No action required**

Patty Roach, Certified Public Accountant, presented the Audit Task Force Report.

**21. Brewster County Tourism**

**A. Report from Robert Alvarez, Executive Director:**

**General update, travel shows, marketing, finances, visitation status, project reports and issues**

No report.

**B. Discussion, review and take possible action for general work/ Contract for Brewster County Tourism to go forward**

None.

**22. Closed meeting of Commissioners Court**

**The Brewster County Commissioners Court will meet in a closed session pursuant to Section 551.072 of the Government Code; Deliberation Regarding Real Property**

**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.**

**Final action/vote, if necessary, in Open Meeting. Regarding item discussed in Closed Meeting; Deliberation Regarding Real Property**

Court recessed 10:26 am

Court reconvened 10:53 am

Judge Henington moved to approve the purchase of the real property located at 210 North 6th St, Alpine, Texas, at the price discussed during closed session, subject to inspection and negotiation. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Judge Henington moved to allocate $2500.00 to pay half of the appraisal cost. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Judge Henington moved to allocate up to and not exceed $5000.00 for the commercial building inspection. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**23. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on February 13, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.**

Judge Henington announced the next Commissioners Court Meeting on February 13, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

**24. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed

5-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

 **ATTEST:**

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**Greg P. Henington Sarah Vasquez**

**Brewster County Judge Brewster County Clerk**