**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:** October 8, 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 September 24, 2024**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Minutes of September 24, 2024, as presented. Commissioner Westermann 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 the Firefighter training was a success. Brewster County has eight certified Firefighters 1 and Firefighters 2.

Commissioner Ortega announced the passing of Tommy Owens and condolences to his family.

**9. Elections**

**A. Review, discuss and take possible actions to approve updated list of Judges and Alternates**

Monica McBride, Republican Chair, presented the list of Judges and Alternates and an addendum standby list. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the list of Judges and Alternates as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion. Judge Henington moved to approve the standby list as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motions passed 5-0.

**8. Presentation by Texas Association of Counties/ Mark Zollitsch**

Mark Zollitsch, TAC representative, and Ernesto Martinez, Health Insurance Consultant, presented.

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

None.

**10. Brewster County Project List**

**A. Project Allocation Tracker List as of October 8, 2024**

Judge Henington presented the project list.

**11. Review, discuss and take possible action to ratify the receipt of the annual SAVNS grant in the amount of $3,200.16**

**A. SAVNS Contract**

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

**12. Review, discuss and take possible action to renew the Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) contract for FY 2025**

**A. FY 2025 Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the renewal of the Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service contract as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**13. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve the resolution for FY 2025 Solid Waste Grant**

**A. FY 2025 Solid Waste Grant Resolution**

Commissioner Ortega moved to accept the resolution of the Solid Waste Grant. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**14. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve FY 2025 rates for optional, Voluntary Health Benefits for Brewster County employees.**

**A. FY 2025 Voluntary Health Benefit Rates**

**B. AirMedCare Network Membership**

Judge Henington moved to approve the FY 2025 Voluntary Health Benefit Rates and the AirMedCare Network Membership. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**15. Review, discuss and take possible action to accept the FY 2025 Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance Program (SB22).**

**A. FY 2025 Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance Program**

Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the FY 2025 Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance Program. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**16. Review, discuss and take possible action on General Services Agreement with Biggerstaff, Heath, Delgado & Acosta LLP**

**A. Engagement Agreement**

**B. Resolution and Order**

Judge Henington moved to approve the Engagement Agreement and Resolution and Order as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**17. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding the implementation and budgeting for new county subdivision regulations**

Judge Henington and Commissioner Colando will work on the upcoming subdivision regulations.

**18. Review, discuss and take possible action for authorization to issue requests for proposals (RFPs) for administrative services and requests for qualifications (RFQs) for engineering services related to the 2025 Colonia Fund - Construction (CFC) administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)**

Jerry Carvajal, project manager at GrantWorks Inc, presented the Texas Department of Agriculture Colonia Fund. Judge Henington moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**19. Review, discuss and take possible action to obtain Request for Proposals for Professional Administrative Services related to USDA Forest Service Community Wildfire Defense Plan(CWDP)**

**A. USDA - Community Wildfire Defense Plan RFP**

Judge Henington presented the Community Wildfire Defense Plan for grant money. Judge Henington moved to explore the grant. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**20. Review, discuss and take possible action to establish a scoring committee for TxCDBG grant administration proposals**

Commissioner Colando moved to establish the Commissioners Court as the scoring committee for TxCDBG grant administration proposals. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**21. Approve FY 2025 Contracts for Service with Local Non-Profit entities:**

**A. Alpine Public Library, Marathon Public Library, Big Bend Citizens Alliance (Big Bend Public Library), The Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend, Inc., Sunshine House, Inc., Frontier CASA, Inc., Elm Grove Cemetery, Holy Angels Cemetery, Marathon Latin American Cemetery, Marathon Cemetery, The Big Bend Amateur Softball Association, Alpine Junior Bucks (Flag Football and Little Dribblers), Big Bend Little League, The Children's Advocacy Center of the Big Bend, Brewster County Child Welfare Board, Brewster County Groundwater Conservation District**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the FY 2025 Contracts for Service with Local Non-Profit entities. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**22. 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**

No permits. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve moving Tomas Sanchez into the foreman position. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**23. Emergency Management Department**

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

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

**B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action on Brewster County Burn Ban**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Burn Ban from October 15th until December 1st. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**24. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the August Monthly Report. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the financial report as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

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

None.

**25. Brewster County Comptroller**

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

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

Judge Henington moved to amend the general bills to include the vehicle for tourism in the amount of $59,896.00 for the total bills amount of $150,499.43. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**1. Budget Amendments**

None.

**2. Line-Item Adjustments**

Judge Henington moved to approve the line-item adjustments as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Financial Reports / Updates**

Malynda Richardson, County Comptroller, presented a general update and the progress with Tyler Technologies.

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

None.

**26. 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.**

**A. Review and discuss personnel matters related to Section 551.074 of the Government Code (Open Meetings)**

Court recessed at 10:36 AM.

Court reconvened at 10:51 AM

**B. Return to Open Meeting; Take action, if necessary, related to discussion in Closed Meeting**

Judge Henington moved to combine the part time position in the Comptroller’s office and the part time position in the Treasurer’s office for a full time position in the Comptroller’s office for an estimated salary amount of $40,000. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**27. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on October 29, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.**

Judge Henington announced the next Commissioners Court Meeting on October 29, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

**28. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to Adjourn. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.

**ATTEST:**

**Greg P. Henington Sarah Vasquez**

**Brewster County Judge Brewster County Clerk**