**BREWSTER COUNTY**

**COMMISSIONERS COURT**



**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: April 04, 2024, at 9:31 A.M.**

**Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom**

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

**AGENDA**

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

Judge Heningtion called the meeting to order at 9:31 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 Mortan Treasurer

Sarah Vasquez absent

Katrina Munoz, Deputy, was present on behalf of 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 action to approve Commissioners Court Meeting minutes from :**

**A. March 26, 2024**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve March 26, 2024, minutes. Commissioner Colando 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**

Della Hensley commented on the Marathon Animal Shelter's activities since 2017 and the need for county action.

**6. Recognition & Announcements**

Judge Henington recognized Dr. Hemant Vankawala for 20 years of service as medical director for Terlingua Fire & EMS, and introduced Dr. Earl who will be taking over the role.

Commissioner Morrow announced the new doors at the Brewster County Tax Assessor Office (Old Post Office building) have been installed, and the Brewster County Appraisal District office has moved to 1604 W. Hwy 90, Alpine.

Commissioner Colando recognized the Girls Track Team at Big Bend High School for their District Championship wins.

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

None.

**8. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding Project List**

**A. Review, discuss and take possible action to ratify interlocal Agreement between Alpine Independent School District and Brewster County related to approved funding of $50,000 under County Projects for local childcare operational needs**

Judge Henington moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement between Alpine Independent School District and Brewster County for local childcare as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**9. Review, discuss and take possible action to re-appoint one County designated board member to the Alpine Emergency Services Board**

Paul Loeffler, Chair of the Alpine Emergency Services Board, announced a need to fill an open seat on the Alpine Emergency Services Board. Judge Henington moved to reappoint Albert Lujan to the Board for a three year term. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**10. Presentation: Discussion only; No action required :**

**A. Alpine Emergency Services Board**

Mr. Loeffler presented the Alpine Emergency Services Board report.

**B. Luke Hendryx Agrilife and Natural Resource Extension Agent - Quarterly Report**

Luke Hendryx, Agrilife and Natural Resource Extension Agent, presented the Agrilife and Natural Resource Extension quarterly report.

**11 . Review, discuss and take possible action to approve a 60-month lease (with fund out option) for a high-speed copier from Total Office Solutions. Copier will be for the Brewster County Tax Assessor**

Maybe judge

Judge Henington presented the 60-month lease agreement for a high speed copier. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the lease agreement as presented. Commissioner Westerman seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**12. Review, discuss and take possible action on Grant Application for the FY25 Operation Lone Star Grant Program Resolution**

**Judge Henington read the**

Judge Henington read the resolution into the record. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**17. Review, discuss and take possible action to change the status of the Agua Fria County Road 2 miles beyond its current terminus and for current landowners along that two mile portion of the road to continue maintaining that section of the road .**

Mr. Rod Ponton presented on behalf of the Agua Fria Ranch owners requesting that 2.2 miles be added to the County Road System, extending Agua Fria Rd to the entrance gate of the Agua Fria Ranch. Judge Henington moved to approve taking in the 2.2 miles into the County Road System. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**13. 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**

No Report.

**14. Emergency Management Department**

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

No Report

**15. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented a monthly report.Commissioner Westermann moved to approve the Treasurer's Monthly report as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

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

None.

**16. 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 including walk-ins. Commissioner Ortega asked to add $6000.00 for the Marathon Community Center project. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the bills as presented including walk-ins. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Westermann abstained from Branding West, and Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

**B. Financial Reports / Updates**

None

**C. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve a line-item adjustment of $3,500 from the sale of ladder truck to the Alpine Emergency Services Board**

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

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

none

**19. Brewster County Tourism**

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

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

Robert Alvarez, Executive Director, presented a General Report. The next regular meeting of the Tourism Council is tentatively scheduled for May 1, 2024 in the Commissioners Courtroom.

**B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action on approving the Fall 2024 UT Marketplace Exhibitor Agreement**

Mr. Alvarez rescinded the contract due to an event scheduling conflict with the Outdoor Writers Association of America.

**18. Review, discuss and take possible action to begin studying concept and operational factors related to capital improvement project**

Judge Henington presented on the plans to begin Visitor Centers in Study Butte and Marathon.

**20. Closed meeting, 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.**

Regular meeting recessed at 10:59 AM.

Regular meeting reconvened at 11:38 AM.

No action.

**21 . Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on April 23, 2024, at 9:30 AM.**

Judge Henington announced the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on April 23, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

**22.Adjourn**

Commissioner Westermann moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:39 AM.

**ATTEST:**

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**Greg P. Henington Sarah Vasquez**

**Brewster County Judge Brewster County Clerk**