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

**Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom**

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

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order**

Judge Heningtion called the meeting to order at 9:33 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 April 23, 2024**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve April 23, 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**

None.

**6. Recognition & Announcements**

Commissioner Morrow mentioned a 33 acre fire that was put out pretty quick. Arson has not been ruled out.

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

**A. Jail Inspection Report**

Sheriff Ronny Dodson presented the Jail Inspection Report. A positive and complimentary report was scored.

**B. Special Commissioners Meeting on May 21, 2024**

Judge Henington called a Special Commissioner Meeting on May 21, 2024, at 9:30 am in the Commissioners’ Courtroom. This meeting will be in regards to courthouse security and will be a closed meeting..

**9. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding purchase of a new electric stove for the jail kitchen at an anticipated cost of $24,000. This purchase will replace an existing stove that has stopped working. Funds to come from jail infrastructure fund**

**A. Stove Quote for Jail**

Sheriff Ronny Dodson presented a quote for a stove at the jail. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

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

**A. Project List**

Judge Henington presented the updated project list.

**10. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve the receipt of Unclaimed Capital Credits for 2024 available from the Texas Comptroller's office. The final amount will be determined in July, 2024 and is based on actual unclaimed capital credits for the current period.**

**A. Unclaimed Capital Credit Information**

Judge Henington presented the unclaimed money.

**B. Unclaimed Capital Credit Report**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Unclaimed Capital Credit Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**11. Review, discuss and take possible action on the following items related to the implementation of a PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program in Brewster County:**

**A. Public Hearing and Comments**

Collin Bibb, President of Byways Hospitality, presented the voluntary program.

**B. Approval of Resolution to establish a PACE program in Brewster County**

Judge Henington moved to approve PACE program Resolution. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**C. Approval of the Service Agreement**

Charlene Heydinger, President of Texas Pace Authority, presented the service agreement. Judge Henington moved to approve the PACE Service Agreement. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**12. Review, discuss and take possible action to increase the Autopsy budget by $50,000. Funds to come out of general surplus.**

Judge Henington and JP1 Judge Wasserman Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the Autopsy budget by $50,000. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**13. Review, discuss and take possible action to increase Technology budget by $25,000. Funds to come out of general surplus.**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Technology budget by $25,000. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**14. Review, discuss and take possible action on the following items related to the Professional Service Contract for an Acting Comptroller**

**A. Create a line item for professional services - Acting Comptroller**

Judge Henington presented the Professional Service Contract for an Acting Comptroller.

**B. Re-allocate $50,000 from County Auditor's budgeted salary to professional services - Acting Controller**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**C. Approval of professional services contract for Acting Controller**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**15. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve a contract for funding of PermiaCare in the amount of $5000. This amount is in the county's 2024 approved budget.**

**A. PermiaCare contract**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**16. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve payment of $557.43 to Cali Porter Hughes related to the District Court cause # CVB0326.**

Judge Henington presented a summary of the District Court Case # CVB0326. Judge Henington moved to approve payment of $557.43 from the District Clerk’s budget. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**17. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve the use of SB22 funds (prosecutor's) to increase the two administrative positions in the County Attorney's office from $50,946 and $38,670 to $53,000 and $45,000, respectively.**

**A. Letter from County Attorney**

County Attorney, Steve Houston, presented the SB22 funds. Judge Henington moved to approve the increase of two administrative positionsCommissioner Morrow

**18. Acknowledge and ratify a one year extension of the Agreement between Brewster County, the City of Alpine and Emergent Air. The initial contract expired on March 31, 2024 and was automatically, under the terms of the Agreement extended until March 31, 2025.**

**A. Emergent Air Agreement**

Commissioner Ortega moved to ratify the agreement between Brewster County, the City of Alpine, and Emergent Air. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**19. 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 permit for Fulcher Rd by Polli Rayburn. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the permit. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed.

**20. Emergency Management Department**

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

James Etchinson, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented a general report.

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

EMC Etchinson presented the Burn Ban Order. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**21. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

No reports.

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

**22. 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 moved to approve the bills as presented including walk-ins. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

**B. Financial Reports / Updates**

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

**23. Brewster County Tourism**

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

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

**B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action on approving Power Play Marketing 2024 MLB All-Star Game Program**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the contract as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**24. 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.**

**25. Schedule next Special Commissioners Court Meeting on May 21, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.**

**26. Adjourn**

Commissioner Morrow moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:43 AM.

**ATTEST:**

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**Greg P. Henington Sarah Vasquez**

**Brewster County Judge Brewster County Clerk**