

**BREWSTER COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**JIM WESTERMANN**  
Commissioner, Pct.1

**RUBEN ORTEGA**  
Commissioner, Pct. 3



**SARA COLANDO**  
Commissioner, Pct. 2

**MO MORROW**  
Commissioner, Pct.4

**GREG P. HENINGTON**  
County Judge

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**Regular Commissioners Meeting: May 13, 2025, at 9:30 A.M.**  
**Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom**  
**201 W. ave. E Alpine, Texas 79830**

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**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order**

Judge Henington 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

**2. Invocation by Harvey Treviño**

Invocation by Pastor Harvey Treviño of Calvary Apostolic Church in Alpine.

**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. Special Commissioners Court Meeting of April 22, 2025 held in Marathon, Texas**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the minutes of the Special Commissioners Court meeting of April 22, 2025. 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. Presentation by Bill Benge regarding county road; discussion only**

Mr. Bill Benge presented an issue with Benge Rd not being bladed fully.

**7. Presentation by Stephen Hummel of McDonald Observatory regarding Brewster County Courthouse being recognized as Night Sky Friendly; no action required**

Mr. Stephen Hummel, Dark Skies Sr. Outreach Program Coordinator at McDonald Observatory, presented Brewster County with the Night Sky Friendly recognition plaque.

**8. Report from City of Alpine representative; discussion only, no action required**

No report.

## **9. Recognition & Announcements**

Commissioner Ortega recognized two Marathon students who qualified for Tennis regional and state competitions.

Commissioner Morrow announced County Cleanup Day for Alpine was a success.

Commissioner Colando announced the Terlingua Robotics team placed 10th in the State Competition.

Judge Henington announced there will be a presentation tonight at 6:30PM at the Alpine Auditorium about how to live alongside the local bear population.

## **10. County Judge Report - for informational purposes only**

### **A. TIDC reimbursement grant update; discussion only**

Judge Henington and James McDermott, chief public defender for the Far West Texas Regional Public Defenders Office, announced they are applying for a grant to help reimburse the county \$39,000 for a case that could not be taken by Public Defenders Office due to a conflict of interest.

### **B. Update on termite treatment at Val Beard complex; discussion only**

Judge Henington announced that the termite treatment in the Val Beard building is underway today.

## **11. Discuss and take action to ratify Lease Agreement between Brewster County and U.S Army regarding the rental of a room at the Alpine Emergency Services Building for use as a sick bay**

### **A. Lease Agreement - between Brewster County and 1st US Army Battalion**

Judge Henington presented the Lease Agreement between Brewster County and the US Army. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

## **12. Discuss and take possible action to declare Brewster County a drought disaster county**

### **A. Drought Monitor**

### **B. Governor's Drought Disaster Declaration**

### **C. Brewster County Resolution**

Judge Henington and Chachi Hawkins presented the Resolution declaring a drought disaster in Brewster County, which has had over 40 weeks of drought conditions. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

## **13. Discuss and take action regarding final plat approval and requirements for Ranches at Well Creek subdivision**

### **A. Ranches at Well Creek subdivision requirements**

Judge Henington presented his suggested requirements before the plat to be approved and stated that the developers are agreeable to the requirements. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Well Creek subdivision final plat with requirements as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

## **14. Discuss and take action to approve a request for Unclaimed Property Capital Credits for 2025 from the State Comptroller**

### **A. Unclaimed Property Capital Credits Application**

Judge Henington presented the request for Unclaimed Property Capital Credits for 2025 from the State Comptroller. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the request as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

## **15. Discuss and take action to approve a \$5000 settlement to Finova Capital/Cascade Leasing for credit card processing equipment**

Judge Henington presented the \$5000 settlement to Finova Capital/Cascade Leasing for credit card processing equipment. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the settlement as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**16. Discuss and take possible action to approve revised contract for accounting services between Patty Roach, CPA and Brewster County**

**A. Engagement Letter**

Judge Henington presented the Engagement Letter with Patty Roach, CPA, and announced the FY22 Audit is nearly done, FY23 will be ready in late summer, and FY24 will be ready by the end of this fiscal year. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Engagement Letter as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**17. Discuss and take action regarding the application by Brewster County for the 2026 Colonia Grant**

**A. 2025 Colonia Grant Results**

Brewster County did not receive the 2025 Colonia Grant. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the application for the 2026 Colonia Grant. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**18. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve the purchase of a 2026 Western Star 47x Truck Cab to be used by Road & Bridge. Proposed amount is \$177, 240.82 under a Buy Board contract. Proposed funding source is LATCF**

**A. Quote for 2026 Western Star Cab**

Commissioner Ortega presented the quote for a 2026 Western Star 47x Truck Cab. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the purchase as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**19. Discuss and take action to approve contract between Permiacare and Brewster County in the amount of \$23,500 to assist in the funding of a mental health deputy for BCSO**

**A. Contract**

Judge Henington presented the contract with PermiaCare to assist in the funding of a mental health deputy and moved to approve the contract as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**20. Discuss and take action to approve a \$20,000 performance bond for the Brewster County Election Administrator**

Judge Henington presented the \$20,000 performance bond for the new Elections Administrator. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the bond as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**21. Discuss and take action to approve the following Agreements to Operate for 2025 Texas Community Block Grant:**

**A. Study Butte Water Supply Corporation**

Judge Henington presented the Agreement to Operate for the 2025 Texas Community Block Grant. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Agreement with Study Butte Water Supply Corporation as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Marathon Water Supply Corporation**

Judge Henington presented the Agreement to Operate for the 2025 Texas Community Block Grant. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Agreement with Marathon Water Supply Corporation as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**22. Discuss and take action on two separate proposals (TIPS buying cooperative) from Total Office Solution regarding printers and copiers for Brewster County**

**A. Pooled Copier Analysis**

Judge Henington presented the pooled copier analysis.

**B. Pooled Copier Contract**

Judge Henington presented the pooled copier contract with Total Office Solutions. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

### **C. 2025 Printer Analysis**

Judge Henington presented the printer analysis.

### **D. 2025 Printer Replacement Analysis**

Judge Henington moved to approve replacing all printers in the courthouse. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

### **23. Discuss and take action to approve the following Interlocal Agreements for 2025 Tax Collections:**

**A. City of Alpine**

**B. Alpine ISD**

**C. Marathon ISD**

**D. Terlingua CSD**

**E. San Vicente ISD**

**F. Big Bend Regional Hospital District**

Judge Henington presented the Interlocal Agreements for 2025 Tax Collections and said they are late from the fall but the county has been following the contracts. Judge Henington moved to approve all the Interlocal Agreements as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

### **24. Road & Bridge Department**

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

No permits.

#### **A. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Johnny Salcido presented a general report for the Road & Bridge Department.

### **25. Emergency Management Department**

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

James Etchison, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented a General Report.

Commissioner Ortega left the meeting at 10:43 am.

### **26. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the March 2025 Financial Report. Judge Henington moved to approve the monthly report as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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

None.

**C. Discuss and take action to approve updated Brewster County Employee Policies & Manual**

Treasurer Morton presented an updated Brewster County Employee Policies and Manual. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the Employee Manual as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### **27. Brewster County Comptroller**

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

**1. Budget Amendments**

**2. Line-Item Adjustments**

Comptroller Malynnda Richardson presented General Bills. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the general bills as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Comptroller Richardson presented a Budget Amendment. Judge Henington moved to approve the budget amendment as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

## **B. Financial Reports / Updates**

Comptroller Richardson presented an update on the software transition to Tyler Technologies.

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

None.

## **28. 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 Brewster County Tourism report. Judge Henington is acting as Interim Chair of the Tourism Council in Bill Ivey's absence.

### **B. Discuss and take action to approve updated By-Laws for Brewster County Tourism Council**

Judge Henington presented and moved to approve the updated Brewster County Tourism Council By-Laws. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### **C. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve BCTC contract for Drink, Tea, Travel social media influencers on Basin closure subject**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Drink Tea & Travel contract as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### **D. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract for Blues on the Green concert sponsorship in Austin**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Blues on the Green contract as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

## **29. 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 a closed meeting which has properly been noticed in compliance with Chapter 551 Government Code of Texas.

### **A. The Brewster County Commissioners Court will recess into a Closed Meeting referencing Section 551.072 of the Government Code which states *"A governmental body may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person."***

Court recessed at 11:22 am

Court reconvened at 11:30 am

## **30. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding real estate matters discussed in Closed Session related to the construction of a Visitor's Center in Marathon, Texas**

Judge Henington moved to approve the real estate contract as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

## **31. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on May 27, 2025 at 9:30 A.M.**

Judge Henington announced the next regular Commissioners Court meeting on May 27, 2025 at 9:30 AM in Alpine, Texas.

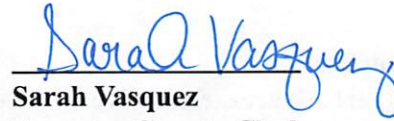
### 32. Adjourn

Commissioner Colando moved to adjourn. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.



**Greg P. Henington**  
Brewster County Judge

**ATTEST:**



**Sarah Vasquez**  
Brewster County Clerk

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:** The Brewster County Commissioners Court reserves the right to conduct an executive/closed meeting session to discuss and deliberate any of the items listed on the agenda instrument posted for this meeting, as permitted by law, including all applicable open meeting exceptions recognized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code ("Chapter 551," the Texas Open Meetings Act), or other applicable statute, including without limitation the following Chapter 551 exceptions: §§ 551.071 and 551.129 (consultation with attorney); § 551.072 (deliberation regarding real property); § 551.0725 (deliberation regarding contract being negotiated); § 551.073 (deliberation regarding prospective gift); § 551.074 (deliberation regarding personnel matters); § 551.0745 (deliberation regarding personnel matters affecting county advisory board); § 551.076 (deliberation regarding security devices or security audits); § 551.0785 (deliberations involving medical or psychiatric records of individuals); and § 551.087 (deliberation regarding economic development negotiations).