

**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

Regular Commissioners Meeting: January 28, 2025, 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 9:31 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 Morton	County Treasurer
Sarah Vasquez	County Clerk

2. Invocation - Oscar Cobos

Invocation by Oscar Cobos.

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

B. Special Commissioners Court Meeting of December 19, 2024

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Minutes of December 19, 2024. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

A. Commissioners Court Meeting of January 14, 2025

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Minutes of January 14, 2025. 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.

7. Presentation and discussion - Update on Sul Ross State University; Dr. Carlos Hernandez, President

Dr. Carlos Hernandez, President of Sul Ross State University, presented the university enrollment and updated all plans and projects within the community. Dr. Hernandez will testify in front of the legislature next week.

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

Rick Stephens, Ward 5 City Council Member, presented an update from the City of Alpine.

8. Recognition & Announcements

None.

9. County Judge Report - for informational purposes only

None.

10. Discuss and take possible action regarding plans, budget and construction of a bunkhouse for South Brewster County Emergency Services and a visitor center to be located in Study Butte. Presentation by Justin Gilmore of Level 5 Architecture

Justin Gilmore, President of Level 5 Architecture, presented an update on the bunkhouse plans for South Brewster County Emergency Service and the Visitor Center in Study Butte. Judge Henington suggested a Commissioners workshop to discuss presentations for the bunkhouse and visitor center.

11. Discuss and take possible action regarding board position appointment to the Central Appraisal District of Brewster County; report by Commissioner Morrow

Commissioner Morrow presented the procedure to appoint the Central Appraisal District of Brewster County for Marathon ISD. Commissioner Morrow moved to nominate Betty Joe Rooney for the position on the CAD Board for Marathon ISD. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Ortega stepped out during the vote.

12. Discuss and take action to approve the members of the Brewster County Historical Committee for 2025

A. Proposed Member List

Elizabeth Lewis, co-chair of the Brewster County Historical Committee, presented the proposed member list for 2025. Judge Henington moved to approve the list of all active members presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

13. Review and take action to approve Bond & Oaths for the following county Officials:

A. Ruben Ortega - County Commissioner - \$3,000

Judge Henington moved to approve Ruben Ortega's Bond and Oath. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0

B. Sylvia Vega - County Tax Assessor - \$22,000; payable to Governor of the State of Texas

Judge Henington moved to approve Sylvia Vega's Bond and Oath. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0

14. Discuss and take action to approve the following contracts:

A. UniFirst contract for Road & Bridge uniforms in the amount of \$47.35/month; this contract will supersede current contract of \$111.55/month

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

B. Grant Administration Services for Project Management/Implementation Services under USDA - Forestry Services, Community Wildfire Defense Grant

Judge Henington moved to approve the grant application as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

15. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to declare certain items in the District Clerk's office as salvage

A. Images

Commissioner Morrow moved to declare items salvage, as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

16. Kayse Muratori, 9-1-1 GIS Coordinator:

A. Review, discuss and take appropriate action on adding the following roadways to the MSAG database:

- **"BEARKAT CANYON ROAD" located off STATE HWY 118**
- **"LONGHORN ROAD" located off newly created "BEARKAT CANYON ROAD"**
- **"COUGAR ROAD" located off newly created "BEARKAT CANYON ROAD"**

Kayse Muratori, 911 GIS Coordinator, presented roadways for BEARKAT CANYON ROAD, LONGHORN ROAD, and COUGAR ROAD. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the private roadways BEARKAT CANYON ROAD, LONGHORN ROAD, and COUGAR ROAD as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to add the following to the MSAG database:

- **"BIG HORN ROAD" located off NORTH COUNTY ROAD**
- **"EAST ELNA ROAD" located off THORNE ROAD**

Ms. Muratori presented roadways for BIG HORN ROAD. Judge Henington moved to approve the private roadway BIG HORN ROAD as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Muratori presented roadways for EAST ELNA ROAD on Terlingua Ranch. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the private roadway EAST ELNA ROAD as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Muratori announced the Eagle View Platform is officially online. She is able to give a login for any County official or employee who needs access to the software.

17. Road & Bridge Department

A. Superintendent's Report

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

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

Commissioner Ortega announced he will be ordering a generator cover due to weather.

18. Emergency Management Department

A. General Report - Emergency Management Coordinator

James Etchinson, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented a general report update on the Emergency Management Department.

19. Treasurer's Office

A. Financial Reports / Updates

D. Monthly Financial Report - October - December, 2024

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the Monthly Report for December 2024. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the report as read. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

C. 1st Quarter, Fiscal Year 2025 Investment Report

Treasurer Morton presented the FY25 Investment Report. Commissioner Colando moved to improve the FY25 Investment Report as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

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

Judge Henington presented the workers compensation policy. No action.

20. Brewster County Comptroller

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action regarding to

1. Budget Amendments

2. Line-Item Adjustments

Malynda Richardson, County Comptroller, presented the general bills. Judge Henington moved to approve general bills as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

Comptroller Richardson presented a Line-Item Adjustment. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve Line-Item Adjustment as presented for the Judge's office. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Comptroller Richardson presented a Line-Item Adjustment for StoneGarden. Judge Henington moved to approve the Budget Amendments as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Comptroller Richardson presented a Budget Amendment for Insurance. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Budget Amendments as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

B. Financial Reports / Updates

Comptroller Richardson presented a financial update.

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

None.

21. 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 for Brewster County Tourism.

B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract for San Antonio Fox TV

Commercials surrounding Super Bowl - \$15,000

Executive Alvarez presented a contract for the Super Bowl advertising. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the contract for \$15,000. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

22. 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.

23. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on February 11, 2025, at 9:30 A.M.

Judge Henington announced the Special Commissioners Court Meeting on February 11, 2025, at 9:30 AM in Terlingua and the next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on February 25, 2025, at 9:30 AM in Alpine.

24. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:59 AM.

ATTEST:

Greg P. Henington
Brewster County Judge

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).