

**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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**Special Commissioners Meeting: August 26, 2025, at 9:30 A.M.**  
**Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom**  
**201 West Ave. E Alpine, Texas 79830**

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**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

Katrina Muñoz was present on behalf of Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk.

**2. Invocation**

Judge Henington gave an invocation.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge were led by Judge Henington.

**To discuss and Take Action as Appropriate**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2026 BREWSTER COUNTY BUDGET**

**1. Review of FY 2026 Proposed Budget**

Judge Henington presented the FY 2026 Proposed Budget.

**2. Public Comment regarding FY 2026 Proposed Budget**

None.

**3. Discussion among Members of Commissioners Court and Public**

None.

**4. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn the public hearing on the proposed FY 2026 Brewster County budget. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. The public hearing adjourned at 9:33 AM.

## **PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING TAX YEAR 2025 TAX RATE AND RELATED MATTERS**

### **1. Public Hearing regarding the Proposed Tax Year 2025 Tax Rate**

<b>A.</b>	<b>Maintenance &amp; Operation</b>	<b>0.352263</b>
	<b><u>Interest &amp; Sinking</u></b>	<b><u>0.017744</u></b>
	<b>Total Rate Proposed</b>	<b>0.370007</b>

Judge Henington presented the proposed Tax Year 2025 tax rate.

### **B. Public Comment regarding 2025 Tax Rate**

None.

### **C. Discussion among Members of Commissioners Court and Public**

None.

### **2. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn the public hearing regarding the Tax Year 2025 Tax Rate. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. The public hearing adjourned at 9:36 AM.

## **Regular Commissioners Court Meeting Agenda**

### **1. Matters concerning adoption of FY 2026 Budget**

#### **A. Discussion and Adoption or other appropriate action concerning FY 2026 Budget, including, Elected Officials, employee salaries, expenses and other allowances**

Judge Henington moved to adopt the FY 2026 Brewster County Budget as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion and Judge Henington called a record vote.

Commissioner Westermann - Aye;  
Commissioner Colando - Aye;  
Commissioner Ortega - Aye;  
Commissioner Morrow - Aye;  
Judge Henington - Aye.

The motion passed 5-0 and the FY2026 Budget was adopted.

#### **B. Discussion and action to ratify increase in property tax revenue**

Judge Henington moved to approve an increase in property tax revenue. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion and Judge Henington called a record vote.

Commissioner Westermann - Aye;  
Commissioner Colando - Aye;  
Commissioner Ortega - Aye;  
Commissioner Morrow - Aye;  
Judge Henington - Aye.

The motion passed 5-0 and the increase in property tax revenue was ratified.

### **2. Matters concerning adoption of Tax Year 2025 Tax Rate**

#### **A. Discussion and appropriate action to set the Tax Year 2025 Maintenance and Operation tax rate**

Judge Henington moved to set the Tax Year 2025 Maintenance and Operation tax rate at 0.352263. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion and Judge Henington called a record vote.

Commissioner Westermann - Aye;  
Commissioner Colando - Aye;  
Commissioner Ortega - Aye;  
Commissioner Morrow - Aye;  
Judge Henington - Aye.

The motion passed 5-0 and the Tax Year 2025 Maintenance and Operation tax rate was set at 0.352263.

**B. Discussion and appropriate action to set the Tax Year 2025 Interest and Sinking tax rate**

Judge Henington moved to set the Tax Year 2025 Interest and Sinking tax rate at 0.017744. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion and Judge Henington called a record vote.

Commissioner Westermann - Aye;  
Commissioner Colando - Aye;  
Commissioner Ortega - Aye;  
Commissioner Morrow - Aye;  
Judge Henington - Aye.

The motion passed 5-0 and the Tax Year 2025 Interest and Sinking tax rate was set at 0.017744.

**C. Adopt Tax Rate Order**

Judge Henington read the Tax Rate Order into the record. Commissioner Colando moved to approve and adopt the Tax Rate Order as read. Commissioner Westerman seconded the motion and Judge Henington called a record vote.

Commissioner Westermann - Aye;  
Commissioner Colando - Aye;  
Commissioner Ortega - Aye;  
Commissioner Morrow - Aye;  
Judge Henington - Aye.

The motion passed 5-0 and the Tax Rate Order was adopted, setting the combined 2025 Tax Rate at 0.370007.

**3. Discussion and appropriate action to set alternate hearing and/or adoption dates if necessary**  
None.

**4. Review, discuss and take necessary action to approve previous meeting minutes**

**A. Commissioners Court Meeting of August 12, 2025**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commissioners Court meeting of August 12, 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.

**6. Report from City of Alpine representative; discussion only, no action required**  
Rick Stephens, Ward 5 City Council Member, presented a report from the City of Alpine.

**7. Recognition & Announcements**

Commissioner Morrow announced the first human case of New World Screw-worm Fly in the U.S., in Maryland.

**8. Review, discuss and take action to approve Cynthia Cox as the Brewster County Elections Administrator as recommended by the Brewster County Election Commission**

**A. Cynthia Cox Resume**

Judge Henington introduced Ms. Cynthia Cox as the Election Commission's recommended candidate for Elections Administrator. Ms. Cox presented her resume, highlighting her work with local and state government. Judge Henington moved to approve Cynthia Cox as the Brewster County Elections Administrator. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**9. Elections Department**

**A. Review, discuss and take appropriate action on approving the Amended Order of Election for November 4, 2025**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Amended Order of Election for November 4, 2025. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action on approving the Notice of Consolidated Precinct for Precinct 2 and Precinct 8**

Judge Henington moved to approve the Notice of Consolidated Precinct for Precinct 2 and Precinct 8 for the November election only. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**C. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve the Notice of Consolidated Precinct for Precinct 5, Precinct 6, and Precinct 7**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Notice of Consolidated Precinct for Precinct 5, Precinct 6, and Precinct 7 for the November election only. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**12. Kayse Muratori, 9-1-1 GIS Coordinator:**

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

**1. CINNABAR ROAD; located between FM 170 & ALLEN LANE**

Judge Henington moved to approve the addition of CINNABAR ROAD, located between FM 170 & ALLEN LANE to the MSAG database. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**2. TRES PALMAS; located off AGUA FRIA ROAD**

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the addition of TRES PALMAS, located off AGUA FRIA ROAD to the MSAG database. Judge Henington seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**3. Big Bend National Park (BBNP) roadway FOSSIL DISCOVERY ROAD; located off PARK ROUTE 11**

Judge Henington moved to approve the addition of Big Bend National Park (BBNP) roadway FOSSIL DISCOVERY ROAD; located off PARK ROUTE 11 to the MSAG database. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**4. B.B.N.P. roadway RGV CAMPGROUND ROAD; located off BERKLEY COTTAGE ROAD**

Judge Henington moved to approve the addition of BBNP roadway RGV CAMPGROUND ROAD; located off BERKLEY COTTAGE ROAD to the MSAG database. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Program Updates / Discussion Only**

Kayse Muratori, 911 GIS Coordinator, presented a general update.

**10. County Judge Report & Action Items**

**A. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding the updating of Brewster County Subdivision Regulations**

Judge Henington presented that he is working on Subdivision Regulations updates, which were on hold until Legislature has been set, and suggested Commissioner Colando and himself to head up the project.

**B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action on the Proposed Commissioner Court Meetings / Holiday Calendar for FY 2025-2026**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Proposed Commissioner Court Meetings / Holiday Calendar for FY 2026 as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**C. Review, discuss and take action to establish a "rainy day" fund in the amount of \$150,000 from General Fund Surplus.**

Skipped.

**D. Review, discuss and take action to transfer \$300,000 from LATCF fund to Road & Bridge fund.**

Judge Henington moved to approve the transfer of \$300,000 from LATCF to the Road & Bridge fund for FY2026. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**11. Brewster County Project List**

Skipped.

**13. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding Sheriff's & Constable Fees for FY 2026**

**A. Sheriff and Constable Fee Schedule - FY 2026**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Sheriff's & Constable Fees for FY 2026. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**14. Review, discuss and take action regarding easement on County Property A. Easement**

Rescinded.

**15. Road & Bridge Department**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Johnny Salcido presented the Road and Bridge Department general report.

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

None.

**C. Review, discuss and take possible action to purchase and/or finance 2025 Caterpillar 140SW Motor Grader.**

Judge Henington moved to approve the purchase and/or finance 2025 Caterpillar 140SW Motor Grader as presented from quote, with first payment out of LATCF, \$150,000.00 down with a 5 year lease plus the first year payment. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**16. Emergency Management Department**

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

None; EMC James Etchison is at training.

**B. Review, discuss and take possible action to renew or modify the Brewster County Burn Ban from August 29, 2025, through October 13, 2025**

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the extension of the Brewster County Burn Ban from August 29, 2025, through October 13, 2025. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**17. Treasurer's Office**

**A. Financial Reports / Updates**

Commissioner Ortega extended his condolences to Treasurer Julie Morton. Judge Henington moved to approve the Treasurer's June and July monthly reports as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

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

None.

**18. Brewster County Comptroller**

**A. Review, discuss and take action on items related to:**

**1. Payment of Expenses**

Comptroller Malynda Richardson presented the payment of an invoice from Kempner Equipment of \$7800-\$7900 for truck equipment, to be paid out of the leftover Brewster County Project List funds. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the invoice from Kempner Equipment. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**2. Budget / Line-Item Adjustments**

Comptroller Richardson presented the line-item adjustments and budget adjustments. Judge Henington moved to approve the Payable, Receipt, and Budget Amendment registers as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

**B. Financial Reports / Updates**

Comptroller Richardson presented general updates.

**C. 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**

Judge Henington announced the next Brewster County Tourism Council meeting will be held today at 1:30PM at the Val Beard Conference Room.

**20. 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.

**21. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on September 09, 2025, at 9:30 A.M.**

Judge Henington announced the next Regular Commissioners Court meeting on September 9, 2025 at 9:30 AM.

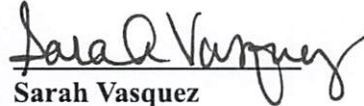
**22. Adjourn**

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:47 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).

