

**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: July 22, 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 9:30 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
Julie Morton	County Treasurer

Sarah Vasquez absent in Ft Stockton for Elections Training- Katrina Muñoz stand in

2. Invocation by Vicar Philip Frank from Redeemer Lutheran Church

Vicar Phillip Frank from Redeemer Lutheran Church gave the invocation.

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 July 08, 2025

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commissioners Court meeting of July 08, 2025. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

B. Special Commissioners Court Meeting of July 15, 2025

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commissioners Court meeting of July 15, 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

Christopher Craven Turner, Boy Scout, gave an update on the Alpine Community Garden.

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 recognized Michael Lewis on winning his belt buckle from the Prude Ranch Summer Camp.

8. Report and discussion from Marathon Water Supply Corporation; update on activities and financials

Elizabeth Lewis, Board Member of Marathon Water Supply Corporation, thanked the Court and introduced Marathon Water Supply representatives. Becky Garcia, Office Manager of the MWSC presented an update on financials and other general activities. Tim Roberts presented an update on the use of Grant money that was provided by Brewster County.

17. Treasurer's Office

C. Review, discuss and take action related to Depository Services for Brewster County and the Terlingua Common School District / Approval; two year extension to the bank Subdepository contract with West Texas National Bank

Regan Reed, Superintendent for the Terlingua Common School District requested a 2 year extension with West Texas National Bank. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the two year extension to the bank Subdepository contract with West Texas National Bank. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

9. County Judge Report and Action Items

A. Review, discuss and take possible action on any item related to FY 2026 budget

Moved to the end of the meeting

B. Review, discuss and take action to approve fee schedule for:

1. District Clerk Fee Schedule-

Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the District Clerk Fee Schedule as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

2. County Clerk Fee Schedule - ortega/ colando

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the County Clerk Fee Schedule as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

10. Review, discuss and take necessary action to approve 2025 electric rate contract with Public Power Pool for Brewster County electric utility needs

A. 2025 Contracts and Proposed Rates

Judge Henington presented that current rate is going from 5.41 cents per kWh to 5.73 cents per kWh, which will go into effect January 1st, 2026.

11. Review, discuss and take possible action on the following sales for strike out properties:

A. Consider and take possible action on a bid received from Raul Perez in the amount of \$5,550.00 for the purchase of trust property R14714 described as SE/4 of the SE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 8, Block 216, T & St. L. Ry. Co., Brewster County, Texas, being 10.00 acres, also known as a portion of Tract 4819, Terlingua Ranch (R14714)

B. Consider and take possible action on a bid received from Dominique Williams in the amount of \$5,501.00 for the purchase of trust property R16224 described as NW/4 of the SW/4 of the NW/4 of Section 3, Block 217, T & St. L. Ry. Co., Brewster County, Texas, being 10.00 acres, also known as Tract 8920, Terlingua Ranch (R16224)

Hedge Henington presented the bids for strike out properties. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the sale of both properties. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

12. Review, discuss and take action regarding renewal of Regional Public Defenders Interlocal Agreement

A. 2025 Regional Public Defenders Interlocal Agreement

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the renewal of the Regional Public Defenders Interlocal Agreement. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

13. Review, discuss and take action regarding the Interlocal Agreement between the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) and the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP - Brewster County)

A. Interlocal Agreement between RPC and PSAP (Brewster County) 14. Brewster County Project List

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) and the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP - Brewster County). Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

14. Brewster County Project list

Judge Henington presented the Brewster County Project list and recommended that a new pickup truck for the Road and Bridge Department be added to the list, in the amount of \$49,500. Commissioner Colando moved to approve adding the purchase of a R&B department pickup truck. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

15. Road & Bridge Department

A. Superintendent's Report

Commissioner Ortega 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.

16. Emergency Management Department

A. General Report - Emergency Management Coordinator

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

B. Review, discuss and take possible action to renew or modify the Brewster County Burn Ban from July 16, 2025, through August 29, 2025

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the renewal of the Brewster County Burn Ban from July 16, 2025, through August 29, 2025. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

17. Treasurer's Office

A. Financial Reports / Updates

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the fees of office report.

B. Review, discuss and take action to approve financial statements, fund balances and investments through May 31, 2025

D. Review, discuss and take action on accepting the Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc. (CASI) check in the amount of \$500.00

No approval; it was not a donation but the fee for the mass gathering permit application.

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

Treasurer Morton gave an update on the new employee portal.

18. Review, discuss and take action regarding engagement letter with Singleton, Clark & Company, PC - Certified Public Accountants for FY 2024 external audit

A. Proposed engagement letter with Singleton, Clark

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the engagement letter with Singleton, Clark & Company, PC - Certified Public Accountants for FY 2024 external audit. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

19. Brewster County Comptroller

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

1. Payment of Expenses

Paty Saenz, Assistant Comptroller, presented the Expenses. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the expenses as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

2. Budget / Line-Item Adjustments morrow/ ortega

Ms. Saenz presented the Budget / Line-Item Adjustments. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the Budget / Line-Item Adjustments as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

B. Financial Reports / Updates

None.

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

None.

20. 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 AMP Sales & Marketing Solutions

Mr. Alvarez presented the contract for AMP Sales & Marketing Solutions for the San Antonio television. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

C. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract from KTCK Dallas radio agreement for Ticketstock 2026

Executive Alvarez presented the contract for KTCK Dallas radio agreement for Ticketstock 2026. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

D. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract for Road Trippin' Big Bend National Park Contract 2025

Mr. Alvarez presented the contract for Road Trippin' Big Bend National Park Contract 2025 for the airing of the Big Bend episode. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

9. County Judge Report and Action Items

A. Review, discuss and take possible action on any item related to FY 2026 budget

Judge Henington presented an update on the budget. Opened discussion to the commissioners for ideas for an increase in revenue

21. Closed meeting of Commissioners Court

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.

A. The Brewster County Commissioners Court will convene into a Closed Meeting pursuant to Section 551.074 (PERSONNEL MATTERS; CLOSED MEETING) of the Texas Government Code.

(a) This chapter does not require a governmental body to conduct and open meeting: 1) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or 2) to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee. 2b) Subsection (a) does not apply if the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing

Judge Henington called a recess at 11:10 AM.

22. Return to Open Meeting

Judge Henington reconvened the meeting at 11:38 AM.

A. Review, discuss and take possible action related to discussion in Closed Meeting related to Section 551.074 (PERSONNEL MATTERS) of the Government Code

Judge Henington moved to place Melissa Bergstrom on Administrative Leave with pay until August 22nd and accept her resignation that had previously been submitted. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

23. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on August 12, 2025, at 9:30 A.M.

Judge Henington announced the next meeting on August 12, 2025.


24. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

ATTEST:



Greg P. Henington
Brewster County Judge


Sarah Vasquez *Katrina Muñoz, Deputy Clerk*
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).