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: March 11, 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

Sarah Vasquez

County Clerk

William "Mo" Morrow, Commissioner Pct. 4, was absent.

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 February 25, 2025

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Court Meeting of February 25, 2025. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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. Recognition & Announcements

Commissioner Colando announced the Chihuahua Races are this Saturday in the Terlingua Ghost Town.

8. County Judge Report - for informational purposes only

Judge Henington announced the new health clinic arrived on Sunday, March 9, 2025. An estimated time schedule is as follows: Installation this week, medical equipment next week, possible soft opening in early April, and a ribbon cutting in early May. The health clinic will be open 5 days a week.

Judge Henington announced the county received money from TAC Healthy County, estimated around \$3000.

9. Brewster County Project List

Commissioner Ortega reported that insulating the Marathon VFD building should be finished by tomorrow.

11. Discuss and take action regarding Preliminary Plat Application for Ranches at Well Creek subdivision - Lajitas, Texas

A. Plat Application

Scott Beasley, Lajitas Golf Resort, presented the Preliminary Plat Application for the Ranches at Well Creek subdivision.

B. Proposed Plat

Mr. Beasley presented the proposed plat for the Ranches at Well Creek subdivision to the Commissioners Court.

10. Review and take possible action regarding Brewster County's Tax Collection Law Firm

Judge Henington opened the discussion about Brewster County's delinquent tax collection law firm, Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP.

Sheriff Ronny Dodson commented in support of changing firms.

Sarah Martinez, District Clerk, commented in support of changing firms.

Tom Jacobs, Terlingua Ranch property owner, commented in support of changing firms.

The Commissioner Court discussed the options of how the contract is written. More information will be brought to the court. No action taken.

12. Discuss and take possible action to fund \$12,071.13 for Brewster County's share of the cost of a second assistant in the 394th District Court

A. Payroll Calculation for 2nd Assistant in 394th District Court

Judge Henington presented the cost estimate of a second assistant in the 394th District Court.

District Judge Monty Kimball announced the new assistant started on March 10th.

Commissioner Colando moved to approve Brewster County's cost share of 37% in accordance with the formula used. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

13. Discuss and take action regarding annual dump day projects for Terlingua and Marathon

A. Grant approval letter

Judge Henington announced an \$8000 grant was approved by the Rio Grande Council of Governments for the annual Brewster County Cleanup Days. Terlingua's Cleanup Day will be held on April 5, 2025, and Marathon's Cleanup Day will be held on April 26, 2025.

14. Discuss and take action regarding autopsy and cremation contracts between Brewster County and Alpine Memorial Funeral Home

Judge Henington presented the autopsy and cremation costs. No action taken.

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

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

1. "ELK LOOP" Located off State Highway 118

Kayse Muratori, 911 GIS Coordinator, presented the ELK LOOP private road. Commissioner Colando moved to approve adding the private roadway ELK LOOP into the MSAG database as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

2. "DESKO DRIVE" Located off US Highway 90

Kayse Muratori, 911 GIS Coordinator, presented the DESKO DRIVE private road. Commissioner Ortega moved to

approve adding the private roadway DESKO DRIVE into the MSAG database as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

B. Program Updates/ Discussion only

16. Review, discuss and take possible action on Brewster County Dark Sky Week Proclamation

A. Brewster County Dark Sky Week Proclamation

Chris Ruggia, Dark Sky Reserve board member, presented the Dark Sky Week Proclamation. Commissioner Colando moved to approve the Dark Sky Proclamation. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

17. Elections Department

A. Review, discuss and take appropriate action on approval of Election Agreement between the City of Alpine and Brewster County Election Administrator for Limited Services of the May 3, 2025 General Election

Lora Nussbaum, Elections Administrator, presented the Election Agreement between the City of Alpine and Brewster County Election Administrator for Limited Services. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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.

18. Road & Bridge Department

A. Superintendent's Report

Commissioner Ortega presented a general report for the Road & Bridge Department on behalf of Superintendent Johnny Salcido.

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

20. Treasurer's Office

A. Financial Reports / Updates

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, has no reports today.

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

Judge Henington reported that the FY2021 external audit has been promised by Friday, March 14th, 2025.

21. 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. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve general bills as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Ortega abstained from Pinnacle Propane.

Comptroller Richardson and Treasurer Morton presented Budget Amendments including grants. Comptroller Richardson presented a Line-Item Adjustment. Judge Henington moved to approve the Budget Amendments and Line-Item Adjustments as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

B. Financial Reports / Updates

Comptroller Richardson suggested a six month review to prepare for the upcoming budget.

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

22. 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 update for Brewster County Tourism Department.

- B. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract for Vector Media Holding Corp
- C. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract for 2025 Viva Big Bend
- D. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract for Bird Watcher's Digest
- E. Review, discuss and take appropriate action to approve contract for 2025 Airstream Life Insertion Order Commissioner Ortega moved to approve all four contracts as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

19. Emergency Management Department

A. General Report - Emergency Management Coordinator

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

23. 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.

None.

24. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on March 25, 2025, at 9:30 A.M. Skipped.

25. Adjourn

Commissioner Oretga moved to adjourn. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:54 AM.

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 security devices or security audits); § 551.0785 (deliberations involving medical or psychiatric records of individuals); and § 551.087 (deliberation regarding economic development negotiations).