# 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: September 23, 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

Julie Morton

**County Treasurer** 

Sarah Vasquez

County Clerk

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

### 2. Invocation

Judge Henington 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 September 9, 2025

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commissioners Court meeting of September 9, 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

Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk, announced new legislation, SB 16, requires that anyone recording documents at the County Clerk's office must present a drivers license.

12. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding amended Interlocal Agreement between Brewster County and the Far West Texas Regional Public Defender's Office; Culberson County as fiscal agent for Brewster, Jeff Davis, Culberson, Presidio and Hudspeth Counties

A. Proposed Amended Interlocal Agreement - FY2026

James McDermott, Chief Public Defender of the Far West Texas Regional Public Defender, presented an update on their office services that have extended to Val Verde and Terrell counties. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve 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.

### 7. Recognition & Announcements

Commissioner Ortega recognized the successful fundraiser in Marathon. He also recognized the Road and Bridge Department for making the location beautiful.

Judge Henington recognized a successful Far West Texas County Judges and Commissioners conference in Terlingua.

Commissioner Colando announced a reminder for the public to be aware of bear activity increase due to weather changes and to lock up trash cans, etc.

Commissioner Westermann announced there was an overwhelming positive response at the Far West Texas County Judges and Commissioners conference to Brewster County's beauty.

# 8. County Judge Report - Information and Action Items

## A. Review, discuss and consider ratification of Opioid Agreement

Judge Henington presented the Opioid Agreement for ratification. These funds must be spent on opioid training and education. Commissioner Ortega moved to ratify the Opioid Agreement as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

# B. Review, discuss and take possible action to enter into a lease agreement with DSL, LLC for the use of land in Marathon, Texas for visitor kiosk

Judge Henington presented a lease agreement with DSL, LLC. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve moving forward with the lease agreement negotiations, with the removal of item #8. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### 9. Brewster County Project List - Discussion and Action

## A. Project List as of September 9, 2025

Judge Henington presented the Brewster County Project List. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the updated project list as presented. Judge Henington seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

# 10. Review, discuss and take action on 2026 Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service (SAVNS) grant in the amount of \$3,443.52

### A. 2026 SAVNS Contract

Judge Henington presented the 2026 SAVNS grant application in the amount of \$3,443.52. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the 2026 SAVNS grant application as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

11. Review, discuss and take possible action regarding the Interlocal Agreement between Presidio, Brewster, Jeff Davis, Culberson and Hudspeth Counties related to the financial administration of the 394th District Court

A. 394th Interlocal Agreement - FY 2026

Judge Henington presented the Interlocal agreement related to the financial administration of the 394th District Court for FY2026. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

## 13. 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

### 14. Emergency Management Department

### A. General Report - Emergency Management Coordinator

No report.

### 15. Treasurer's Office

### A. Financial Reports

Julie Morton, County Treasurer, presented the August monthly report. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Monthly Report as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Treasurer Morton presented the FY25 Investment Report for April, May, and June. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

## **B. Grant Approval & Administration**

1. Review, discuss and take action to accept Criminal Justice Grant # 5074302 - Body Worn Cameras

Commissioner Ortega moved to accept Criminal Justice Grant #5074302 as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

# 2. Review, discuss and take action to accept the application for the annual Solid Waste Grant offered through the Rio Grande Council of Governments

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the application for the Rio Grande Council of Governments Solid Waste Grant. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

C. Discussion, review, and appropriate action related to financial administration and policies None.

### 16. Brewster County Comptroller

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

### 2. Budget / Line-Item Adjustments

Malynda Richardson, Comptroller, presented the Fund 414 HIDTA grant. Commissioner Ortega moved to establish Fund 414 for the FY2025 HIDTA grant, as presented by the Comptroller. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the Budget Adjustments to Fund 414 as presented by the Comptroller. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

### 1. Payment of Expenses

Comptroller Richardson presented three packets of payment expenses. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Judge Henington presented the Mountain Zone invoice for an estimated \$9,000 and moved to approve the invoice. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Judge Henington presented an invoice from Marshal McClean in the amount of \$840 and moved to approve the invoice. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Judge Henington presented the Warren CAT lease purchase with an estimated down payment of \$150,000. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve up to \$175,000 as a downpayment for the CAT maintainer. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

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

Comptroller Richardson presented an update on the external audits.

C. Discussion, review, and appropriate action related to financial administration and policies None.

### 17. Brewster County Tourism

## A. Report from Robert Alvarez, Executive Director:

General update, travel shows, marketing, finances, visitation status, project reports and issues

No report. The next meeting of the Brewster County Tourism Council will be held at the Red Pattillo Community Center
on Monday, September 29, 2025 at 1:00 PM.

### 18. 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.

## 19. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on October 14, 2025, at 9:30 A.M.

Judge Henington announced the next Regular Meeting of the Commissioners Court on October 14, 2025 at 9:30 AM.

Judge also announced there will be a joint meeting of the County Commissioners and the City of Alpine Council Members on September 30, 2025, at 5:30 PM in the Commissioners Courtroom.

The judge also announced there will be a Special Commissioners Court meeting on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 9:30 AM in the Commissioners Courtroom.

### 20. Adjourn

Commissioner Westermann moved to adjourn. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:32 AM.

Greg P. Henington Brewster County Judge



Sarah Lujan

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).

