

**BREWSTER COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS COURT**

JIM WESTERMANN
Commissioner, Pct.1

RUBEN ORTEGA
Commissioner, Pct. 3



SARA ALLEN COLANDO
Commissioner, Pct. 2

MO MORROW
Commissioner, Pct.4

GREG P. HENINGTON
County Judge

Regular Commissioners Meeting: May 12, 2026, 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
Sarah Lujan	County Clerk

2. Invocation

Invocation led by Valynda 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 April 28, 2026

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the April 28, 2026, minutes. 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. Recognition & Announcements

Judge Henington recognized former Judge Val Beard and thanked her for coming to the meeting, and announced the full replacement of the courthouse roof has begun.

Commissioner Westermann announced a successful Cleanup Day in Alpine.

Commissioner Colando announced a successful Cleanup Day in Terlingua with over 80 visits.

7. 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. Presentation from Ladies Of the Lawn regarding courthouse lawn improvements. Discuss and take action as necessary

A. Report

Kirstin Moody, Ladies of the Lawn volunteer, presented a general report.

B. Proposed Gazebo plans

The Ladies of the Lawn presented a proposal to remove the 1982 gazebo and replace it on a different part of the courthouse lawn with a smaller, but more accessible gazebo.

Justin Gilmore, architect, answered the Commissioners questions via zoom call.

Valynda Henington, Ladies of the Lawn volunteer, spoke on possibly a band shell in the future plans.

Commissioner Ortega moved to get bids for the removal of the current gazebo and get bids for the new gazebo as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

9. Review, discuss and take possible action to approve funding for the construction of a new library facility in Study Butte, Texas; Report from the Big Bend Library

A. Proposal

Dale Weiss, Big Bend Public Library volunteer, presented a proposal to the court to build a new Public Library in Study Butte by the Terlingua School. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve allocating \$100,000 from LATCF for the project, subject to negotiated terms of agreement that will be presented for approval by the County. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

10. Review, discuss and take action to set a date, time and place for a Public Hearing to consider a petition for the formation of Emergency Services District in north Brewster County

Judge Henington announced the petition that was filed and proposed a public hearing on June 16, 2026, at 9:30 AM.

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the date and time for the public hearing. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

11. County Judge - Reports and Action Items

A. Report on Tax Sale conducted on April 7, 2026

Judge Henington reported on the Tax Sale.

B. Review, discuss and take action to ratify application to General Motors for Fleet Account

Commissioner Morrow moved to ratify the application to General Motors for Fleet Account. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

C. Review, discuss and take action to ratify 2026 contract with PermiaCare

Commissioner Westermann moved to ratify the 2026 contract with PermiaCare. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

D. Review, discuss and take action regarding entering into a non-binding Retainer Agreement with Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the retainer agreement with Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

E. Discuss and take possible action regarding Texas Health & Humans Services grant available to the Big Bend Regional Hospital District for the re-modeling and upgrade of the Alpine Emergency Services Building

Judge Henington presented the Texas Health & Human Services grant available, but the Big Bend Hospital District would need to own the land. Commissioner Morrow moved for Judge Henington to continue to investigate this possibility. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

F. Review, discuss and take action to donate 2018 Dodge Ram pick-up (Last 4 of VIN: 9480) formerly used by the Brewster County EMS to the Marathon Fire Department

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the donation of the 2018 Dodge Ram pickup to the Marathon Fire Department. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

G. Review, discuss and take possible action to grant authority for the County Judge's office to hold a county credit card in safekeeping for the sole purpose of being able to process de minimis charges (less than \$100) such as title registration, clerk fees and other administrative actions

Commissioner Ortega moved to approve a county credit card to the County Judge for de minimis charges. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

14. Treasurer's Office

A. Financial Reports / Updates

No report.

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

None.

C. Grant Approval & Administration

1. Review, discuss and take action to ratify/approve Memorandum of Agreement between Brewster County and U.S Immigration & Customs Enforcement. Approval of Resolution authorizing Brewster County's participation in Senate Bill 8

Sheriff Dodson presented a Memorandum of Agreement between Brewster County and U.S Immigration & Customs Enforcement, which is required by state law and will only apply to individuals already in custody in the Brewster County Jail. Commissioner Westermann moved to ratify the agreement. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

12. Road & Bridge Department

A. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Johnny Salcido presented the Road and Bridge department's general report.

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

None.

13. Emergency Management Department

A. General Report - Emergency Management Coordinator

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

15. Brewster County Comptroller

A. General Bills / Discussion and appropriate action regarding to

B. Invoices with Purchase Orders

Malynda Richardson, County Comptroller, presented the invoices with purchase orders. Judge Henington moved to approve as presented to pay the bills with POs. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

C. Invoices without Purchase Orders

Comptroller Richardson presented the invoices without purchase orders. Judge Henington moved to approve as presented to pay the bills without POs. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

D. Recurring Expenses

Comptroller Richardson presented the recurring expenses. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

E. Line-Item Adjustments

Comptroller Richardson presented the line-item adjustments and budget amendments. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Morrow seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

F. Budget Amendments

Previously covered on item #15E.

G. Other Reports

Judge Henington presented the Special Qualifications Pay policy. Judge Henington requested approval for all qualifications be paid in the following fiscal year so it can be budgeted correctly. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

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

None.

16. Brewster County Tourism

A. Report from Robert Alvarez, Executive Director:

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

No report.

17. 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.

Court recessed at 11:01 AM

Court reconvened at 11:19 AM

A. Deliberation Regarding Real Estate

Section 551.072 of the Government Code - Closed Meeting; Deliberation Regarding Real Estate A governmental body may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, if

deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiating with a third person.

Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the purchase agreement of 0.189 acres in Marathon for \$1. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Judge Henington requested that for the aforementioned purchase, the County will pay up to \$5,000 for the survey, title, and closing costs out of Tourism funds. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the payment of the closing costs as presented. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Colando moved to approve the purchase of 9.9 acres in Study Butte for \$39,836 from Tourism funds. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed.

Judge Henington presented a payment of earnest money in the amount of \$3983.60 from Tourism funds for the 9.9 acres in Study Butte. Commissioner Morrow moved to approve the earnest money to be paid to Ellyson Abstract Title as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

Judge Henington requested \$7500 be allocated from Tourism funds for closing costs associated with the purchase of 9.9 acres in Study Butte. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve the allocated funds as presented. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

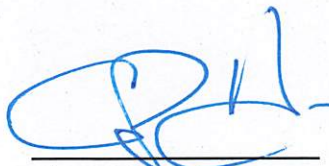
Comptroller Richardson requested a motion to combine the earnest pay and the closing costs under one purchase order. Commissioner Ortega moved to approve combining the \$3983.60 and the \$7500 allocated funds under a single purchase order out of Tourism funds. Commissioner Colando seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.

18. Schedule next Regular Commissioners Court Meeting on May 26, 2026, at 9:30 A.M.


Judge Henington announced the next regular Commissioners Court meeting on May 26, 2026, at 9:30 AM.

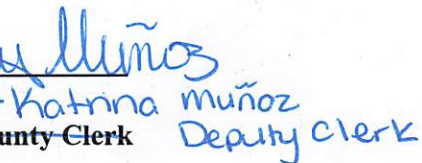
19. Adjourn

Commissioner Ortega moved to adjourn. Commissioner Westermann seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:24 A.M.


Greg P. Henington
Brewster County Judge




Sarah Lujan
Brewster County Clerk


Katrina Muñoz
Deputy 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).

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