


# EMERGENCY COMMISSIONER'S COURT MEETING

July 20, 2017

3:00 P.M.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR COURTROOM BROOKS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this day, the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Brooks County, Texas met in an Emergency Meeting therein the City of Falfurrias in the 2nd floor Courtroom of the Brooks County Courthouse:

**OPEN MEETING**-Judge Imelda Barrera called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM 

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGANCE** -was led by County Judge Imelda Barrera

**ROLL CALL** – Judge Imelda Barrera called for roll call:

**Present:** Imelda Barrera, County Judge,  
Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1,  
Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2,  
Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4.

**Absent:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3,  
Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk

**Staff Present:**


Chaya Garza, Administrative Assistant  
Missy A. Saavedra, Deputy Clerk

**Others Present:**

August Patroelj, County Auditor  
Rodney Belasquez-Internal Auditor


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GOVERNMENT CODE  
TITLE 5. OPEN GOVERNMENT; ETHICS  
SUBTITLE A. OPEN GOVERNMENT  
CHAPTER 551. OPEN MEETINGS  
SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Brooks County governmental body has determined under Texas Local Government Code Sec. 551.045 Exception to General Rule: Notice of Emergency Meeting due to imminent threat to public health and safety. The Brooks County Sheriff Department Jail Division is currently in an unfavorable situation which can cause imminent threat to public health and safety, such as a

violent disturbance, riot, escapees, etc., due to the ratio of the current employees to inmates. Therefore, prompting this Emergency Meeting. 

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**1. PUBLIC COMMENT** 

No public comments at this time

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**2. Discuss and Approve the hiring of temporary trained and certified Correctional Officers as contract labor until fully staffed.** 

Commander Jorge Esparza addressed the Court on the above matter.

Stating that he currently has 8 full time employees including the Jail Administrator and Lieutenant, currently has inmates being housed at GEO which is incurring charges for those inmates. It was discussed to hire GEO correctional officers as contract labor to help with the jail or with medical runs. They would be paid at a jailer's salary until fully staffed, which would be in a month in a half. On the liability issue, each officer is responsible for any accidents, the County, the Department nor Geo or as an individual would be held responsible.

**Motion:** to approve the hiring of temporary trained and certified Correctional Officer as contract labor, to become effective today, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 4).

**Yay:** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**3. Discuss and Approve a liability waiver for the temporary hires.** 

**Motion:** to approve the liability waiver, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 4).

**Yay:** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**4. ADJOURN**

**Motion:** to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 P.M., **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 4).

**Yay:** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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The preceding minutes beginning on page \_\_\_\_\_ and ending on page \_\_\_\_\_, of the Commissioners' Court Minutes Volume \_\_\_\_\_, read and approved in the Honorable Commissioners' Court this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017, A.D.

**APPROVED:**

*Imelda Barrera*

Imelda Barrera, County Judge

**ATTESTED:**

*Elvaray B. Silvas*

Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk