


REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT
December 12, 2017
9:00 A.M.
2ND FLOOR COURTROOM
BROOKS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this day, the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Brooks County, Texas met in Regular Term 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 9:01 AM 

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,
Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk (Not voting).

Absent: Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3.

Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

August Patroelj, County Auditor
Rodney Belasquez, Internal Auditor

At this time 9:02 AM Honorable Judge Imelda Barrera asked for a quick break since she will be attending a meeting and will return by 9:30 AM. Judge Barrera stated that Commissioner Olivarez should be present at that time.

The Court resumed pursuant to recess at 9:36 AM, present same as before.

1. Public Comments 

Victor Cantu and Celia Salinas, Ag Extension Agents addressed the Court and thanked them in behalf of the 4-H, and presented them with a small token of appreciation for their participation for the year 2017, and they also handed a cookbook to each member of the Court.

Honorable Judge Imelda Barrera shared some information on the meeting that she had just attended. She attended a meeting with the US Department of Labor- Equal Opportunity

Committee Meeting, on a project that's being worked on, that should be completed by November 11, 2018.

AGENDA

2. Approve of Regular and Special Commissioners Court minutes.

(November 14, 2017 and November 28, 2017) 

Motion: to approve the minutes as presented, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously. **(On file)**

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.

3. Approve of Bills, Claims and Payroll. 

August Patroelj, County Auditor addressed the Court on the above matter.

Motion: to approve the bills and claims with a total of \$70, 193.29, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously. **(On file)**

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.


4. Approve Treasurer's Monthly Report. 

Horacio Villarreal III, County Treasurer addressed the Court on the above matter.

Motion: to approve the monthly report, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously. **(On file)**

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.

5. Approve Auditor's Monthly Report. 

August Patroelj, County Auditor addressed the Court on the above matter.

Motion: to approve the monthly report, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously. **(On file)**

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.

6. Approve County Foreman's Monthly Report. 

David Guerra, Road and Bridge Foreman addressed the Court on the above matter.

At this time 9:47 AM Commissioner Olivarez joined the meeting

Motion: to approve the foreman's monthly report, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2, **Seconded by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1. Motion passed unanimously. **(On file)**

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 5).

Yay: Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2, Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3.


7. Approve Tax Assessor Collector Chief Deputy Monthly Report. 

Terri Silvas, Chief Deputy Tax Assessor Collector addressed the Court on the above matter.


Motion: to approve the monthly report with a total county remittance of \$1,291,553.56; with 56.62 percent collections, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3. Motion passed unanimously. **(On file)**

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 5).

Yay: Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2, Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3.

8. Approve Monthly Reports by Brooks County. 
(Submitted by Brooks County Justice of the Peace Precinct 1-4)
(Submitted by Brooks County Library, Angelica Regalado)

Pass until the judges are present, no action taken at this time.


9. Discuss, Consider and Approve on hiring a part-time clerk for the Road and Bridge department to work as needed at \$10.00 @ hour. She will be under the supervision of the foreman, David Guerra. (Submitted by Commissioner Garza) 

David Guerra, Road and Bridge Foreman addressed the Court on the above matter.

It was discussed that part-timer would work as needed and part-timer would be Berta Nino and would work no more than 28 hours a week. **Motion:** to approve the clerk that had already been hired at \$10.00 an hour and will work no more than 28 hours a week, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3. Motion passed unanimously.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 5).

Yay: Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2, Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3.

10. Discuss, Consider and vote on hiring a part-time Agenda Clerk who will be subject to the Commissioner's Court control. She will work 40 hours a month @ \$8.50 an hour. She will be paid from the General Fund (Commissioners' Court budget). She will be stationed at the Road and Bridge Department. (Submitted by Commissioner Garza) 

David Guerra, Road and Bridge Foreman, Katy Salinas, HR Department addressed the Court on the above matter.

It was discussed that she would be issued two checks one from the Road and Bridge Fund and one from the General Fund.

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

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yay = 4, Ney = 1, Abstain = 0).

Yay: Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2 Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3.

Ney: Imelda Barrera, County Judge.

11. Discuss, Consider and Approve on line item transfer of \$500.00 from 012-05-0401-9000 Official Bonds and \$2,500.00 from 012-0401-9010 Dues to 012-05-0401-8107 Part Time.

(Submitted by Commissioner Garza) 

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.(On file)

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yay = 3, Ney = 2, Abstain = 0).

Yay: Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

Ney: Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Imelda Barrera, County Judge.

12. Discuss, Consider and Act on the Brooks County 4H asking permission for the utilization of the Brooks County Fairgrounds through the 2018 year (including shooting sports practices, county programs/clinics, stock show project validations and 4H County level events), any other profitable events will be brought before Commissioners' Court.



Victor Cantu, Ag Ext Agent addressed the Court.


Motion: to approve the usage of the fairgrounds for the 2018 year, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1. Motion passed unanimously.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 5).

Yay: Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

13. Discuss Landfill Audit. (Submitted by August Patroelj, County Auditor) 


At this time 10:05 AM the Court decided to address this line item in Executive Session. The Court came back into open session at 10:56 AM; it was discussed in open court to follow the recommendations. No action taken, discussion only.

14. Consider and Act upon presentation by Rolando Rios regarding the upcoming 2020 redistricting and possible approval of retainer contract. (Submitted by Rolando Rios) 
Rolando Rios addressed the Court on the above matter with a short presentation.

Motion: to approve the retainer contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously. (**On file**)

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 5).

Yay: Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.


15. Discuss, Consider and Approve adding December 22, 2017 to holiday schedule, to be off half a day. (Submitted by Brooks County Judge Imelda Barrera and Sheriff Benny Martinez) 

Sheriff Benny Martinez addressed the Court on the above matter.

Motion: to add December 22, 2017 as a half day to the 2017 holiday schedule, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1. Motion passed unanimously.


Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 5).

Yay: Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

16. Discuss Brooks County Jailers as Law Enforcement officers according to policy and their salaries. 

Sheriff Benny Martinez, Commander Jorge Esparza, August Patroelj, County Auditor, and Katy Salinas, HR Department addressed the Court on the above matter.

Commander Esparza presented to the Court on the classification of the Jailers not being treated as law enforcement and their salaries being previously cut and wanting to see about giving them a 5% or 10 % salary increase. It was discussed that Sheriff Martinez would meet with the Auditor to discuss maybe a solution and placing back on the agenda. No action taken, discussion only.

17. Discuss and approve line item transfer in the amount of \$3,000.00 from 5-012- 0510-8131 Custodian/Maint to 5-012- 0510-8107 Part timers. 

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously. (**On file**)

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 5).

Yay: Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

18. Adjourn

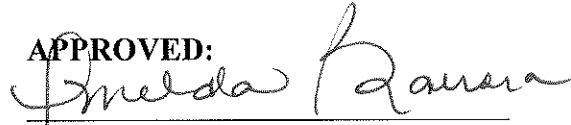
Motion: to adjourn at 11:35 AM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3. Motion passed unanimously.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yay = 5).

Yay: Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Imelda Barrera, County Judge, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

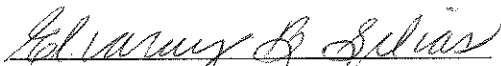
The preceding minutes beginning on page _____ and ending on page _____, of the Commissioners' Court Minutes Volume _____, read and approved in the Honorable Commissioners' Court this 9th day of January, 2018, A.D.

APPROVED:



Imelda Barrera, County Judge

ATTESTED:



Elvaray B. Silyas, County Clerk