

**SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT**  
**December 6, 2018**  
**3:30 P.M.**  
**2nd FLOOR COURTROOM**  
**BROOKS COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

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

**OPEN MEETING**-Judge Eric Ramos called the meeting to order at 3:34 PM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGANCE** -was led by Judge Eric Ramos

**ROLL CALL** -- Judge Eric Ramos called for roll call:

**Present:** Eric Ramos, County Judge,  
 Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1,  
 Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3,  
 Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4,  
 Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk (Not voting).

**Absent:** Vincent Vargas, Commissioner Precinct 2.

**Staff Present:** Missy A. Saavedra, Deputy County Clerk .

**Others Present:**

August Patroelj, County Auditor  
 Angie Saenz, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Auditor

**AGENDA**

**1. Public Comments** 

August Patroelj, County Auditor asked for a moment of silence for Gilbert Vela in his passing and him being a long time County employee. Judge Eric Ramos asked everyone to rise for a moment of silent for Mr. Vela past County Treasurer.

Judge Ramos stated not a member of the County but appropriate as well to mention for good thoughts and for appreciation for Mauricio Lopez a public servant and a member of the school board.

**2. Discuss, Consider, and Approve Order Restricting Outdoor Burning. (Submitted by County Judge, Eric Ramos)** 

Benny Ramirez, Fire Chief addressed the Court on the above matter.

**Motion:** to approve an Order Restricting Certain Fireworks in Unincorporated areas of Brooks County, Texas and an Order Restricting Outdoor Burning, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3. Motion passed unanimously. **(On file)**

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

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4.

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**3. Discuss, Consider, and Approve Order Restricting Certain Fireworks in Unincorporated areas of Brooks County, Texas (Submitted by County Judge, Eric Ramos)**

In conjunction with line Item#2.  
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**4. Discuss, Consider, and Approve the agreement between Jim Wells County and Brooks County to fund the 79<sup>th</sup> District Court (including the Judge's and Attorney's Offices) for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. (Submitted by County Judge, Eric Ramos)**

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the Court on the above matter in reference to the audit performed. Judge Ramos stated that in the State of Texas you are not allowed to amend the budget in declaring these an emergency situation, allows the County to amend the budget. Allowing the County to come up with an agreement for both the District Judge and the District Attorney. The District Judge is asking for \$30,000.00 additional to what is already sent to Jim Wells. It was discussed that the County Auditor will be sending a letter to the District Judge's office in reference to the monies asked and having the County take care of the disbursements. District Attorney's office is asking for \$78,000.00 to fund a part-time position, a full time Investigator and 30 % for an Attorney. Carlos Garcia, District Attorney also addressed the Court on the above issue. August Patroelj, County Auditor gave his recommendation on the situation on hand, recommending having the people in house and that the county controls our own finances.

**Motion:** to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4.  
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**6. Discuss, Consider and Establish Court Findings that the funds approved for the 79<sup>th</sup> District Court in 2018-2019 and the 2018 Cost of Living Adjustment will not increase the 2018-2019 budget expenses. (Submitted by County Judge, Eric Ramos)**

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the Court on the above matter stating that the district court would come from the fund balance and the cost of living will come from this year's budget. Have come up with a plan Cost of living will cost \$128,000.00 and so are going to establish as a court that will be committing will be staying within this year's but, and come June will sit down and review the budget and review that the expenses stay as should be.

**Motion:** to establish the finding that these expenditures will not increase the 2018-2019 budget expenditures, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4.

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**5. Discuss, Consider and Approve a Cost of Living Adjustment of \$1000.00 for all fulltime (Non-Elected) employees and \$700.00 for all part-time employees who regularly work 28 hours a week, (Part-Time employees who work under 28 hours a week will receive \$375.00) (Submitted by County Judge, Eric Ramos)**

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the Court that Full timer's will receive \$1,000.00, part time \$700.00, less than 28 hours will receive \$350.00; Commissioner Olivarez stated that Angela Escalante and Matilda Almanza need to be added to the list and will receive \$350.00.

**Motion:** to approve of Cost of Living Adjustment, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4.

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**7. ADJOURN**

**Motion:** to adjourn at 3:28 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

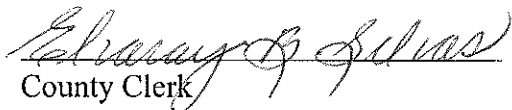
**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Jose Antonio "Tony" Martinez, Commissioner Precinct 4.

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The preceding minutes beginning on page 268 and ending on page 210, of the Commissioners' Court Minutes Volume 37, read and approved in the Honorable Commissioners' Court this 8th day of January, 2018, A.D.

**APPROVED:**

  
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County Judge

**ATTESTED:**

  
County Clerk