


# SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT

January 28, 2020

10:30 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 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 10:35AM. 

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**-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,  
Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2,  
Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3,  
Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4.

**Absent:** Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk (Not voting).

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

**Others Present:** August Patroelj, County Auditor

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### AGENDA

#### 1. Public Comment

No public comments were said at this time.

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### ACTION ITEMS

#### 2. Discuss, consider and act on Budget Amendments to pay for mold restoration project.

(Submitted by BC Judge Eric Ramos) 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the court that the insurance covered the damage to the documents and not the damage for the building. It was discussed that the money be taken from the fund balance. County Auditor stated that he would be getting with the TAC on the proper wording for the agenda item. It was stated that since there are no monies budgeted for this since it was unforeseen, would have to cover the cost with the County ending fund balance.

**Motion:** to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**3. Discuss, consider and act on status of 2019/2020 Revenues.**

**(Submitted by BC Judge Eric Ramos)** 

Oralia V Morales, Nora Salinas, David T Garcia, and August Patroelj addressed the Court on the above matter.

- Discussed the funding from GEO of \$250,000.00
- Discussed litigation on taxes owed
- Discussed hiring freeze saving around \$75,000.00; position at the County auditor hoping Judge Terrell doesn't fill position; freeze only affects fund 12
- Discussed JP revenues from October 2018-December 2019; not receiving the amount of work as usual

10:46 AM County Clerk joined the meeting


- If needed on the hiring freeze could do part timers for the positions needed to be filled; County Auditor and County Attorney agreed that just by placing a hiring freeze doesn't restrict the elected official to spend the budget unless a budget amendment is done

**Motion:** institute a hiring freeze but allowing part timers for the JP office and District Clerk office, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2, **Seconded by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1.

**Vote:** Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 4, No = 0, Abstain = 1).

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.


**Abstain:** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4.

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**4. Discuss, consider and act on adding speed bumps County Road 220. (Submitted by County Commissioner Roland Gutierrez Pct. 2)** 

**Motion:** to add speed bumps with no cost to the County, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously.

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


**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**5. Discuss, consider and act on requesting a Grant writer for Brooks County. (Submitted by County Commissioner Roland Gutierrez Pct. 2)** 

Commissioner Gutierrez stated that the court has talked about the hiring of a grant writer abut have not hired one. Judge Ramos stated that the Court currently uses eGrants for free, but the grant needs to be submitted to them for submission.

**Motion:** to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, **None seconded.** Motion died due to lack of second

Item failed to lack of motion, no action taken item was passed.


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**6. Discuss, consider and act on adopting 1,600 feet of abandoned road on County Road 216. (Submitted by County Commissioner Roland Gutierrez Pct. 2)** 

**Motion:** to do more research, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 4, No = 1, Abstain = 0).

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

**No:** Eric Ramos, County Judge.


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**7. Discuss, consider and act on a Joint Resolution for the Primary Election. (Submitted by Anna Garcia Election Administrator)** 

Anna M Garcia, Election Administrator addressed the Court on the above matter.

**Motion:** to approve joint resolution, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously. (**On file**)

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


**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**8. Discuss, consider and act on payment to Exxonmobil for one transaction on 12/04/2019 for fuel in the amount of \$10.05. (Submitted by Sheriff's Department)** 

**Motion:** to approve payment, **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:** Yes = 5).

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**9. Discuss, Consider and act on payment to Exxonmobil for one transaction on 12/10/2019 for fuel in the amount of \$19.75. (Submitted by Sheriff's Department)** 

**Motion:** to approve payment, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION-** 11:42 AM the Court went into Executive Session

- 10. Discuss Employment/Resignations/Retirements and other Personnel Issues.**  
**11. Employee(s) to address court regarding keeping vacation days beyond one year.**  
**12. Discuss lease/sell agreement for local property.**

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**OPEN SESSION-** at 12:02 PM the Court came back into open session, Present: same as before.

**13. Discuss, consider and act on Employment/Resignations/Retirements.** 

No action was made. Item was passed.

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**14. Discuss, consider and act on employees request on vacation days.** 

No discussion was made, **Motion:** to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**15. Discuss, consider and act on lease/sell agreement for local property.** 

No discussion was made, **Motion:** to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3.

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

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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**16. [15] Adjourn**


**Motion:** to adjourn at 12:06 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, 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 11th day of February, 2020, A.D.

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Judge

**ATTESTED:**

  
County Clerk