

# SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT

September 15, 2020

10:30 A.M.

Through teleconference with ZOOM

Meeting ID: 860 4578 0813

Password: 016141

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this day, the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Brooks County, Texas met in a Special Term through Teleconference through ZOOM.

**OPEN MEETING-** Judge Eric Ramos opened the meeting at 10:35 AM

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

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

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**AGENDA**

**1. Public Comments**

Judge Ramos called for public comments there were none stated.  
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**ACTION ITEMS**

**5. Discuss, consider and act on selection of Electricity Supplier for Brooks County**  
**(Submitted BC Judge Eric Ramos)**

Johnny Padilla, Entrust addressed the Court with a short presentation on the agreement we currently have which ends in February 2020, which if renewed will begin October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Drew Thornton, Tradition Energy addressed the Court with a short presentation combining all 57 ESI's.

County Auditor asked a question about the average price changing, sometimes up to 20 cents. Mr. Padilla explained the reason for the change in amounts, being that its all the additional charges.

Dan Montgomery from Tradition Energy also addressed the Court in reference to the quote presented.

Both Companies argued their differences in the quotes presented.

**Motion:** to table for further information, **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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## **2. Discuss and Approve County Treasurer Report.**

Alan Hernandez, County Treasurer addressed the Court on the above matter, stating that his report was submitted at the Regular meeting but had trouble with his audio.

**Motion:** to approve County Treasurers report, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1. 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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## **3. Discuss, consider and act on Presidential Memorandum deferring Payroll Tax Obligations. (Submitted by BC Treasurer Alan Hernandez)**

Alan Hernandez, County Treasurer addressed the Court on the above matter, stating that he sent an email to all the Commissioners and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Hernandez recommends that the County not participate in the Tax Referral, due to the accruing penalties to the employees if the deferment is done.

**Motion:** to not participate in the deferral, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1. 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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## **4. Discuss Texas Ranger update on Tax Office Investigation. (Submitted by Commissioner Pct. #4 Ernesto Williams)**

Commissioner Williams addressed the Court in asking if the Ranger was available. Judge Ramos stated that this was his Item, and the Ranger should have been called by him. The Court continued to discuss the above matter a little further.

Rick Soliz, addressed the Court with his opinion on the above matter.

No action taken, discussion only.

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## **6. Discuss, consider and act on the Resolution to enter into an Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the County Transportation Infrastructure Fund (CTIF) grant program. (Submitted by BC Judge Eric Ramos)**

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that this is connected to the Road improvement grant. Judge Ramos read resolution in open Court.

**Motion:** to enter into an Agreement, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1. 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.

7. **Discuss, consider and act on abolishing Current Curfew Order for Brooks County.**

The Court discussed the above matter.

**Motion:** to abolish the curfew, **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:** 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.

Mr. Rick Soliz, addressed the Court with his opinion on the abolishing of the curfew and that he believes that the curfew should start during the day instead of during the night, if a curfew is to be in place again.

8. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$20,500 from 012-5-0409-8202 (Group Medical Insurance) and \$5,000 from 012-5-0409-5417(Grant Matching) to 012-5-0440-8113 Investigator.**

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the Court of the reason for this item, stating that this is an item for the next budget year. The Item was discussed previously in the budget workshops but was left out on the transferring of monies.

**Motion:** to approve line item transfer, **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:** 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.

9. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$300 from 012-5-0512-5000 (Supplies) to 012-5-0512-5135 (Supplies-Other).**

Honorable Judge Ramos stated this is a line item transfer due to end of the fiscal year and suggested if the following items could be approved together.

County Clerk Elvaray B. Silvas, stated yes, they could. Judge Ramos read line items 9-18 in open court.

**Motion:** to approve line item transfers for line items 9-18, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, **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.

- 10. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$2,170 from 012-5-0409-5410 (Prof. Fees-Acct & Auditing) to 012-5-0409-5460 (Appraisal District).**

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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11. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$200 from 012-5-0562-5000 (Office Supplies) to 012-5-0562-5135 (Supplies – Other)**

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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12. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$7,800 from 012-5-0409-5410 (Prof. Fees-Acct. & Auditing), \$6500 from 012-5-0409-5417 (Grant Matching), \$12,330 from 012-5-0410-8101 to 012-5-0409-9500 (Technology)**

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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13. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$4,675 from 012-5-0435-5484 (Crt Appt. Attys – Criminal) to 012-5-0435-5481 (Crt APPT Attys – Civil)**

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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14. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$691 from 012-5-0410-8203 (Retirement) to 012-5-0409-5600 (Bidding & Notices)**

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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15. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$250 from 012-5-0426-9050 (County Petit Juror) to 012-0510-5832 (Pest Control)**

Judge Ramos referred to a correction to the line item being 012-5-0510-58329Pest Control)

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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16. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$1500 from 012-5-0426-5484 (Crt. Appt. Attys – Criminal), \$614 from 012-5-0410-8201 (Social Security) to 012-5-0409-5505 (Internet Exp.)**

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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17. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$461 from 012-5-0426-9087 (JP Petit Jurors) to 0125-5-0409-9023 (Law Enforcement Liab)**

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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18. **Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$8550 from 012-5-0435-5484 (Crt. Appt. Attys – Criminal) to 012-5-0409-5451**

Line item was in conjunction with line item #9  
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**EXECUTIVE SESSION** -Item was passed by the Court.

19. Discuss Employment/Resignations/Retirements and other Personnel Issues.

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OPEN SESSION -Item was passed by the Court.

20. Discuss, consider and act on Employment/Resignations/Retirements.

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21. Adjourn


**Motion:** to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 AM, **Action:** Adjourn, **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:** Yes = 5).

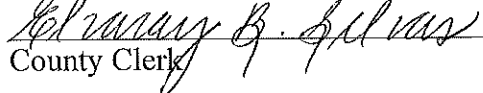
**Yes:** Armando Olivarez, Commissioner Precinct 3, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Gloria Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

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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 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020, A.D.

**APPROVED:**

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

**ATTESTED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk