

SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT
October 28, 2021
1:30 PM
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 opened the meeting at 1:37 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-was led by Judge Eric Ramos

ROLL CALL-Judge Eric Ramos called for roll call:

Present: Eric Ramos, County Judge,
Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1,
Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4.

Absent: Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2,
Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3,
Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk.

Staff Present: Missy A. Saavedra, Deputy

AGENDA

1. Public Comments

Commissioner Williams addressed the Court in reference to the Oil Trafficking roads grant that need to be done by TxDOT.

2. Approve of Bills and Claims

Commissioner Williams addressed the Court in reference to two bills in the amount of \$1000 from TAC, in wanting to know what they were for.

Motion: to approve of the bills and claims as presented, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 3).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4.

9. Discuss, consider and act on approving the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the County Brooks, Texas; City of Mission, Texas; and the Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority

At 1:42 PM Commissioner Villarreal joined the meeting

Dr. Armando O’Cana, Mayor of Mission, Texas addressed the Court on the above matter, stating that this interlocal agreement is asking to do a feasibility study in order to do right of ways. It was discussed that this train project (passenger/freight) will be to build a train station in our County making this a 3-nation connection. The intent is to start construction in 2025 and to be completed by 2027, making Brooks County a stop either towards Hebronville or Alice. Judge Ramos had a question on the agreement, in reference to it reading that the County would accrue some cost. Dr. Armando O’Cana stated that this would be at no cost to the County, any cost would be covered by the City of Mission. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read resolution in open Court.

Motion: to approve Interlocal Agreement with the correction on wording that it would cost Brooks County nothing., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

3. Discuss, Consider and Act on Approving Texas Per Diem rates to \$59.00 per day and \$0.56 Mileage rate for Out of County Travel.

The Court addressed the above matter in open Court.

Motion: to go ahead and generic follow the formula as per the Texas Comptroller and .56 cents for mileage, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

4. Discuss Roof Construction at Brooks County Jail.

It was discussed to have Commissioner Williams attend a meeting and if needed to be placed on the next agenda for discussion. It was discussed that they are 60% complete; Commander Jorge Esparza also addressed the Court with a quick explanation on the delay being due to some bars in the roof. No action taken, discussion only.

5. Discuss, consider and act on approving going out for bids for a competitive Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Professional Architectural and Engineering Services associated with preparation of grant applications and construction technical design and implementation of Economic Development Administration (EDU), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and other Federal and/or State funding streams as a available.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that FEMA/TDEM has put out two possible grants 1 for mitigation (generators) and the other for flood construction (BRIC grant). Judge Ramos stated that we are ready to move forward and prepare for a grant in reference to alter the flow of a creek, in connecting Palo Blanco and Cibolo Creeks. Benny Ramirez, EMC also addressed the Court on the above matter in

reference to the Grant and possible routes; purpose of this is to do a study for the best route. It was discussed that this is a fully funded grant. It was discussed to go out for bids for both Architectural and Engineering Services and Professional General Management Services for the BRIC Grant.

Motion: to go out for bids, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" 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 = 4).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

6. Discuss, consider and act on approving going out for bids for a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) for Professional General Management Services associated with preparation of grant applications and program management and implementation of Economic Development Administration (EDU), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and other Federal and/or State funding streams as a available.

In conjunction with line item #5.

7. Discuss, consider and act on hiring a Library Supervisor.

Motion: to table and to do interviews, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Eric Ramos, County Judge.

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 3, No = 1, Abstain = 0).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

No: Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4.

County Clerk Elvaray B. Silvas joined the meeting at this time.

8. Discuss, consider and act on the funding sources for law enforcement personnel.

The Court discussed the following positions and funding line items:

- Ruben Ramirez Emergency Coordinator and Joey Lopez, Part timer to be paid out of Fund 120;
- John Gomez, Robert Castanon Jr, Brandon Lemus and open slot to be paid out of Fund 130;
- John Medina, Security officer will be paid 4 months out of the Fund 12 and 7 months out of fund 130;
- \$38,000 salary for a second lead patrol person to be paid out of Fund 12;
- Investigators Vince Lopez and Lamar Villarreal out of Fund 12;
- Commander Esparza is to be paid out of Fund 12;
- Patrol officer E. Pompa and Sam Rosas are to be paid out of Fund 12, and
- Jose Garcia is to be paid out of Fund 12

Motion: to approve funding sources for personnel, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously. (**on file**)

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

10. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$600.00 from 012-5-0401-9080 Registration, to 012-5-0409-5505 Internet Exp.

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

11. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$9,575.25 from County Medical Insurance, to 012-5-0409-5860 Copier/Lease Exp.

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

12. Discuss, Consider and act on transferring \$3,600.00 from 012-5-0409-8202 County Medical Insurance, to 012-5-0409-5460 Appraisal.

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

13. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$1,300.00 from 012-5-0401-5553 Commissioner #2 Out of County Travel, to 012-5-0510-5201 BLDG Repair –Annex/ Other

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

14. Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$1,500 from 022-5-0041-5105 (Oil and Gas) and \$1500 from 022-5-0041-5871 (Wrecker Fees) to NEW ACCOUNT 022-5-0041-8118 (Stipend.)

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" 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 = 4).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

EXECUTIVE SESSION the Court went into Executive session at 2:25 PM

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

OPEN SESSION-the Court came into open Session at 2:37 PM; Present same as before.

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

Discussed several issues, no action taken.

17. Adjourn

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 2:38 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

At 2:38 pm commissioner court reopened the meeting to correct a motion.

The Court went back to item #3

Motion: to go ahead and follow the formula as per the Texas Comptroller and .56 cents for mileage; effective immediately, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

The Court went back to line item #8

The court stated that this would take effective on the first semi-monthly in November 1st.

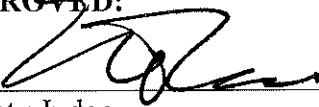
Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

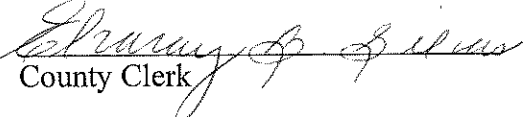
The preceding minutes beginning on page _____ and ending on page _____, of the Commissioners' Court Minutes Volume _____, read and approved in the Honorable Commissioners' Court this 11th day of November, 2021, A.D.

APPROVED:



County Judge

ATTESTED:



County Clerk