


REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT
January 13, 2022
10:00 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 Eric Ramos opened the meeting at 10:02 AM 

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

Absent: Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2,
Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

AGENDA

1. Public Comments 

There were no public comments said at this time.

4. Approve Monthly Reports

- a. Treasurer's Monthly Report
- b. Auditor's Monthly Report
- c. Tax Assessor Collector Chief Deputy Monthly Report
- d. Approve Monthly Reports by Brooks County
 - i. (Submitted by County Foreman)
 - ii. (Submitted by Brooks County Justice of the Peace Precinct 1-4)
 - iii. (Submitted by Brooks County Library Supervisor)
 - iv. (Submitted by Ruby Allen, Landfill Supervisor)

The Court reviewed the Auditor's report for the months of October and November 2021

Commissioner Villarreal joined the meeting at 10:06 AM.

The Court continued to discuss item #4; Terri A Silvas, Chief Deputy Tax Assessor Collector presented her monthly report for the months of November and December 2021.

Commissioner Gutierrez joined the meeting at 10:08 AM.

Mrs. Silvas continued to present her report. **Motion:** to approve of the monthly reports as presented, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously. (on file)

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

1. Approve of Bills and Claims

Motion: to approve of the bills and claims as submitted, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Eric Ramos, County Judge. Motion passed unanimously. (on file)

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

2. Approve of Regular and Special Commissioners' Court minutes.

Item passed by the Court.

5. Agrilife Extension Reports 

Informational only.

14. Discuss, Consider and Act on Collaboration with Brooks County Independent School

District to assist with housing for Educators. (Submitted by CJ Eric Ramos) 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that Superintendent Dr. Casas has spoken with him and looking into the possibility of selling or gifting of foreclosed properties to the school district to offer housing to educators. Judge Ramos stated that this hasn't been presented to the other entities but have spoken to Linebarger if this was possible. Steven Saucedo with Linebarger addressed the Court stating that there are options: 1) take over as trustee and take ownership of the property and pay full price, or 2) put an offer for less of the full amount and require authorization of all entities involved. Judge Ramos stated that this is the just preliminary and will be having meetings soon to discuss this issue.

Motion: to table and get some answers, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

6. Discuss, Consider and Act on Joint Primary Election Services contract between Brooks


County & both the Democratic and Republican Parties. 

Motion: to approve contract, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2. Motion passed unanimously. (on file)

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

7. Discuss, Consider and Act on renewing, retroactively the Stipend to Anna Garcia for 911

Address Services for the 2021-2022 Fiscal year. 

The Court discussed the above matter and was discussed, in discussing the above matter in Executive Session. Item was passed for the moment.

8. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$2, 7000.00 from line item 012-5-0512-8105 Jailers to line to line item 012-5-0512- 5135 Supplies-other. (Submitted by Jorge Esparza)



Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

9. Discuss, Consider and Act Opening and awarding Roof bids for the Ed Rachal Library.



Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the court stating that we only received one bid from Jesse's Roofing in the amount of \$62,000.00. Commissioner Williams stated that someone else was turning in a bid, but the courthouse was closed. Judge Ramos informed Commissioner Williams that the Courthouse was closed due to covid, but that the library was open, and that the deadline has expired to except new bids. Marissa Utley-Trevino and Gilbert Garza addressed the Court in reference to an expected finish date. Mr. Garza stated that once approved it will take 3-4 weeks to receive the material and 4 weeks to complete the project. Commissioner Gutierrez also addressed Mr. Garza and expressed his concerns on the completion of the project. Commissioner Villarreal asked Mr. Garza if they were bonded, Mr. Garza stated yes, they are.

Motion: to award bid to Jesse's Roofing, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2. Motion passed unanimously. (on file)

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

10. Discuss, Consider and Act on accepting a \$1,000.00 donation from Williams for General Operating Support to Brooks County Emergency Management.

(Submitted by Ruben Ramirez) 

Motion: to accept donation, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2. Motion passed unanimously.

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


Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

11. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$880.00 from 012-5-0409-9070 Misc, to 012-5-0409-9000 Official Bonds 

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

12. Discuss, Consider and Act on lowering the truck weight on Brooks County Roads, Sign on all County Roads or placing a "NO Thru Trucks". 

Commissioner Williams addressed the Court on the above matter, but his concerns were with County Road 401 and FM 3066 and wanted to place a sign on both ends of the road. David Guerra, Road and Bridge Foreman also addressed the Court on the above matter, stating that the road is starting to damage since trucks started using this road. Sgt. Jimmy Braswell, DPS (Weight and scale) addressed the Court in reference to tractor trailers weight limits on county roads and having to be weighed, with the possibility of being cited. Honorable Judge Ramos asked for the Commissioners to review the attachment in their packets and would be set approval at the next meeting.

Motion: to go with lowering the truck weight for County Road 401, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **None seconded.**

Commissioner Williams stated that he wanted to change his wording of his motion to include all County roads.

Motion: to lower the truck weight limit for all county roads, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **None seconded.** Motion died for lack of second.

Item was passed.

13. Discuss, Consider and Act on passing a Resolution asking Law Enforcement to patrol County Roads for overweight trucks.

Item was passed by the Court.

15. Discuss, Consider and Act on rescinding the COVID-19 sick policy, except for first Responders.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that when COVID began a COVID policy was accepted and still following this policy. Judge Ramos stated that the discussion today is to decide we stop the

COVID policy or continue with it. Judge Ramos did mention that if we rescind the action, we will still need to offer it to our law enforcement. Commissioner William expressed his concerns on this policy; Commissioner Villarreal stated that he believes that it is still too early to get rid of this policy. Beto Muniz, Maintenance Supervisor addressed the Court and suggests that the Court continue to protect them. Commissioner Garza suggests in leaving the policy as it is now. Katy Salinas HR also addressed the Court on the above matter, stating that they keep tabs on the issue. Benny Ramirez, EMC/Fire Chief also addressed the Court on the above matter.

Motion: to keep the policy as is, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 3, No = 2, Abstain = 0).

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

No: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

17. Discuss, consider and act on modifying the job descriptions for maintenance positions to include carpentry and other responsibilities and duties.

Motion: to modify the job descriptions for maintenance, **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 = 5).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-

The Court went into executive session at 11:34 AM. Discussed Item #7; back into open session at 11:47 AM

The Court discussed line item #7; **Motion:** to approve stipend for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, **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 = 5).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

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

OPEN SESSION-

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

Motion: , **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 = 5).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

16. Discuss, Consider and Act on Approving Avenu Agreement for Information Technology Products and Services. (Submitted by County Clerk Elvaray Silvas)

Motion: to approve agreement with Avenu, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

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

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

20. Adjourn


Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 11:49 AM, **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 = 5).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, 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 14th day of July, 2022, A.D.

APPROVED:



County Judge

ATTESTED:



County Clerk