


**SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT**  
**SEPTEMBER 26, 2022**  
**8:30 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 opened the meeting at 8:41 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,  
Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2,  
Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3,  
Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4,  
Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk (Not voting).

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


**AGENDA**

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**1. Public Comments** 


Honorable Judge Eric Ramos asked for any public comments, none were said.

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**2. Approve of Bills and Claims**


Item was passed by the Court, there are no bills and claims for approval.

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**3. Discuss, consider, and act on rescinding the motion to increase the salaries of the Brooks County Treasurer's Assistants for the FY 2023 (agenda item #3) approved on September 15, 2022.** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos asked for a motion being none, item was passed by the Court.

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**4. Discuss, consider, and act on rescinding the motion to increase the salaries of the Brooks County Dispatchers by \$5,200 (agenda item #13) approved on September 15, 2022.** 


Honorable Judge Eric Ramos asked for a motion, questions or comments being none, item was passed by the Court.

**5. Discuss, consider, and act on rescinding the motion to provide a COLA of \$1,500 to all employees who did not receive a minimum of a \$1,500 raise for FY 2023 (Agenda item #5) approved on September 21, 2022.** 

**Motion:** to rescind the COLA, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **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.

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**6. Discuss, consider and act on approving a minimum of a \$3,000 salary increase for all Brooks County employees** 

Commissioner Villarreal asked if this line item and line item #7 be discussed together since they intertwine with each other. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated there is a choice between giving a \$3,000.00 raise across the board or giving a COLA. It was also suggested that the part timers hadn't been considered and that the COLA included them.

Commissioner Williams suggested in creating a pay scale for County employees and feels that the employees deserve a raise.

August Patroelj, County Auditor addressed the Court in reference to 152.013 Local Government Code, based on the law the Elected officials will not be able to receive the COLA nor Salary increase due to the Court needing to have followed the requirements of said code.

**Motion:** to approve a \$3,000 raise excluding anyone who hasn't received a raise already, **Action:** Approve, **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:** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.


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

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**7. Discuss, consider, and act on approving a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) of \$2,250 for all full-time employees who did not receive a minimum of a \$3,000 pay increase for FY2023 and \$1,000 for all part time employees.**

**Motion:** to approve COLA of \$2,250.00 for full time employees (pending TAC's decision on elected officials) and \$1,000.00 for part timers, **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 = 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.

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**8. Discuss, consider, and act on transferring \$300 from 012-5-0400-9010 (Membership dues), \$300 from 012-5-0400-9070 (Miscellaneous), and \$200 012-5-0400-9080 (Registration Fees) to 012-5-0400-5550 (Out-of-County Travel)** 

**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 = 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.

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**9. Discuss, consider, and act on adopting the Tax Rates for fiscal year 2022-2023 to include the following language. (Submitted by Chief Deputy Terri Silvas)** 


**Motion:** to table until tomorrows recess, **Action:** Table, **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.

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**10. Discuss, consider, and act on adopting the Brooks County Budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.** 


Item was discussed and was stated that would recess to figure out salaries and to enter them to compete the budget.

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**11. Discuss, consider, and act on transferring \$830 from 012-5-0409-8202 (County Medical Insurance to 012-5-0510-5204 (Building Repair)** 

**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 = 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.

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**12. Discuss, consider, and act on transferring \$3,000 from 012-5-0409-8202 (County Medical Insurance) to 012-5-0409-9500 (technology)** 

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


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**13. Discuss, consider, and act on transferring \$2,000 from 012-5-0409-8202 (County Medical Insurance) to 012-5-0409-9499 (Technology Ogan Contract)** 


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

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**14. Discuss, consider, and act on transferring \$1290 from 012-5-0475-9107 (Part timer) and \$700 from 012-5-0409-5600 (Bidding & Notices) to 012-5-0475-8105 (Secretary)**


  
Item passed by the Court.

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**15. Discuss, consider, and act on transferring \$1500 from 012-5-0409-8202 (County Medical Insurance) to 012-5-0510-8107 (Part-timers)** 

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

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**16. Discuss, consider, and act on transferring \$2100 from 012-5-0409-8202 (County Medical Insurance) to 012-5-0630-9070 (Misc.)** 

**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.

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**Motion:** to recess till tomorrow at 3 PM, **Action:** Enter Recess, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **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.

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The Court reconvened pursuant to recess on Thursday, September 27, 2022

**OPEN MEETING** -Judge Eric Ramos opened the meeting at 3:06 PM

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

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

**Absent:** Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk.

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

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**10. Discuss, consider, and act on adopting the Brooks County Budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year** 


Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that that the only thing different is that the Supervisor that handles Fund 110 has asked that his employees will not be getting the \$3,000.00 raise but will be getting the COLA instead.

**Motion:** to adopt the budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

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

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

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

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**9. Discuss, consider, and act on adopting the Tax Rates for fiscal year 2022-2023 to include the following language. (Submitted by Chief Deputy Terri Silvas)** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read the Order in Open Court for the above matter. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos also moved that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.889010, which is effectively a 5.96 percent increase in the tax rate.

**Motion:** to adopt an Order for the Tax Rates for fiscal year 2022-2023, **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.

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**17. Adjourn** 

**Motion:** to adjourn the meeting, **Action:** Adjourn, **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.

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**Motion:** to rescind the adjournment due to unfinished business, **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 = 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.

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The Court went back to discuss line item 10 to read the Order adopting the budget in open Court. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read the order in open court.

**Motion:** to approve the Order adopting the Budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal year, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. (**on file**)

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

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

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

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**Motion:** to adjourn the meeting at 3:16 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **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).

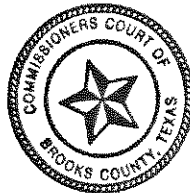
**Yes:** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

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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 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023, A.D.

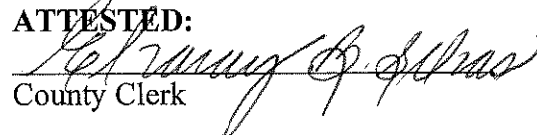
**APPROVED:**



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



**ATTESTED:**



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