SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT Tuesday, September 17, 2024 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 9:12 AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-was led by Judge Eric Ramos

ROLL CALL-Judge Eric Ramos called for roll call:

Present: Eric Ramos, County Judge,

Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Elvaray B. Silvas, County & District Clerk (Not voting).

Absent: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

Staff Present: Missy A Saavedra, Deputy Clerk

AGENDA

. Public Comments

Nikolo Guerra addressed the Court in reference to his agenda items and asked if they could wait on the beer ban lifting until all Commissioners are present.

2. Approve of Bills

Item was passed by the Court.

3. <u>Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing the use of the Alaniz Fairgrounds for a Fall Festival on November 2, 2024, hosted by Brooks County, City of Falfurrias and Texas A&M Agrilife Extension. (Submitted by Nikolo Guerra)</u>

Motion: to allow the use, Action: Approve, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

 $\hat{\mathbf{Vote}}$: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 3).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

4. <u>Discuss, Consider and Act on lifting the Beer Ban at the Alaniz Fair grounds for the duration of the Fall Festival to be held November 1st-3rd 2024.</u>

(Submitted by Nikolo Guerra).

Motion: to table, Action: Table, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

5. Discuss, Consider and Act on correcting the minutes of Special Commissioners' Court of August 1, 2024, Line Item #5 to change the voting of Eduardo" Eddy Garza Commissioners Precinct #1 to reflect Martin "Marty Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

(Submitted by Elvaray Silvas)

Motion: to approve corrections, Action: Approve, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Eric Ramos, County Judge.

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 2, No = 0, Abstain = 1).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

Abstain: Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

6. Discuss, consider and act on correcting the Minutes of Special Commissioners' Court meeting of June 3, 2024 Line Item #9 change Action of Adjourn to reflect Approve.

(Submitted by Elvaray Silvas)

Motion: to approve agenda item #6, Action: Approve, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

7. Discuss, Consider and Act on correcting minutes of Regular Commissioners' Court Meeting of March 14, 2024, Special Commissioners' Court Meeting of March 22, 2024, and Regular Commissioners' Court Meeting of April 11, 2024, to change the spelling of Commissioner Precinct 34 from Marty "Martin" Cabrera to reflect Martin 'Marty'

Cabrera, (Submitted by Elvaray Silvas)

Motion: to approve corrections, Action: Approve, Moved by Eric Ramos, County Judge, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

8. <u>Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$25.00 from line item 012-5-0403-5000 (Office Supplies); to line item 012-5-0403-9080 (Registration fees)</u>

(Submitted by Elvaray Silvas)

Motion: to approve agenda litem #8, Action: Approve, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

9. <u>Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$465.00 from line item 012-5-0403-5000</u> (Office Supplies), to 012-5-0403-5550 (Out of County Travel)

(Submitted by Elvaray Silvas)

Motion: to approve agenda item #9, Action: Approve, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

10. <u>Discuss, Consider and Act on Applying for the USDOT Charging and fueling</u> infrastructure <u>Discretionary Grant Program.</u>

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that there was a couple of questions at the last meeting; and that there is no county match but that this is a reimbursement grant.

Motion: to table agenda item #10, Action: Table, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

11. <u>Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$2,500.00 from 013-5-0033-9066 (Civil Defense) to line item 013-5-0033-9070 (Miscellaneous) (Submitted by David Guerra)</u>

Motion: to table, Action: Table, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

12. <u>Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$952.00 from 101-5-0053-5550 (Out of County Expense)</u>, \$313.00 from line item 101-5-0053-9070 (Miscellaneous) to line item 101-5-0053-9063 Trash Landfill Fee. (Submitted by Ruby Allen)

Motion: to approve line item transfer, Action: Approve, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

13. Discuss, consider and act on allowing the Brooks County Auditor's Office to pay FY 2024 (previous year) expenses that arrive after September 30, 2024, as appropriate.

Motion: to approve, Action: Approve, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

14. Discuss, consider and award the Architect/Engineering services for the EPA Climate Change Grant.

Motion: to table, Action: Table, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

15. Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$800 from 012-5-0400-9010 (Membership dues) to 012-5-0409-5505 (Internet Expense)

Motion: to approve, Action: Approve, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

16. Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$15,000 from 013-5-0033-5105 (Oil & Gas) to 013-5-0033-5417 (Grant Matching)

Motion: to approve, Action: Approve, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

17. Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$1,000 from 012-5-0409-9066 (Civil Defense) to 012-5-0409-5860 (Copiers - Lease & Maint.)

Motion: to approve, Action: Approve, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

18. <u>Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$10,000 from 012-5-0641-5457 (County Out-Patient)</u>, \$6,000 from 012-5-0510-5700 (Electricity), and \$2,100 from 012-5-0426-5458

(CRT APPT ATTY- Criminal) to 012-50409-5417 (Grant Matching)

A correction was made to the line item 012-50409-5417 to 012-5-0409-5417.

Motion: to approve, Action: Approve, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

19. <u>Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$5,000 from 012-5-0409-9066 (Civil Defense),</u> \$5,000 from 012-5-0510-5720 (Utilities - Water), \$3,500 from 012-5-0435-5584 (Petit Jury), \$1,500 from 012-0650-5000 (Office Supplies), \$1,500 from 012-5-0644-5550 (Out of County Travel), \$1,400 from 012-5-0475-9514 (Capital Outlay), and \$1,400 from 012-5-0630-5550

(Out of County Travel) to 012-5-0409-9500)

Motion: to approve, Action: Approve, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

20. Discuss, consider and act on adopting the Tax Rates for the fiscal year 2024-2025 to include the following language.

THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE *MORE* TAXES *FOR* MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.

THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 5.43 PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$70,21

Honorable Judge stated that the budget workshop needed to be discussed before this item, passed at this time and will return.

21. Budget Workshop

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos handed out some final documents and compared with the Budget worksheet (fund 12) and reviewed department by department:

• Discussed allocating \$5,000.00 more to repairs for the Jail within their budget

Fund 14

• Discussed the allocating of monies for each Commissioner for road repairs would need to get from the fund balance of \$703,086; if they don't, they would only need \$223,086; August Patroelj County Auditor suggested leaving the fund balance alone and getting a bond for road repairs.

22. Approval of 2024-2025 Budget

Motion: to approve the General Fund-Fund 12 as presented with a \$5,000.00 transfer to the Jail and for Fund 13 a total expenditure of 1, 544,086.00 (to zero out the four accounts for Commissioner Road Construction) and to use \$223,086 from the Fund balance to balance out Fund 13, Action: Approve, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

The Court went back to discuss line item#20

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read Order in open Court.

Motion: to approve, Action: Approve, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, 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 = 3).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.

The Court went back to discuss line item #22 Motion: to amend the motion to include the County Judges Order, Action: Amend, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, 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 = 3). Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.
EXECUTIVE SESSION -item was passed by the Court.
23. Discuss Employment/Resignations/Retirements and other Personnel issues.
OPEN SESSION
24. Discuss, consider and act on Employment/Resignations/Retirements
25. Adjourn Motion: to adjourn at 10:13 AM, Action: Adjourn, Moved by Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Seconded by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously. Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 3). Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4.
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 day of 10, 2025, A.D.
APPROXED: County Judge
ATTESTED: County Clerk Sul us

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