


REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT
May 9, 2024
9:00 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 9:05 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,
Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4.

Absent: Elvaray B. Silvas, County & District Clerk.

Staff Present: Missy A Saavedra, Deputy Clerk

AGENDA

1. Public Comments 

There were no public comments.

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

3. May 25, 2023, April 11, 2024 April 17, 2024

** Honorable Judge Eric Ramos referred to a numbering issue on the agenda and corrected the numbering issue.


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

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 4, No = 0, Abstain = 1). **Commissioner Cabrera abstained only for the Minutes of 05-25-2023, due to it being prior to him being appointed.

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.
Abstain: Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4

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

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

4. [3] Approve of Bills and Claims 

Motion: to approve the bills and claims as presented, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4. 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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

5. [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)
- Motion:** to approve the monthly reports as presented, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, 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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

6. [5] Agrilife Extension Reports 
Informational item, no action taken.

17. [16] Consideration and possible action to authorize a contract with TADCO Roofing and Waterproofing, LLC for the Re-roofing and HVAC Replacement on the Blumer Building in Falfurrias, Texas. The contract shall include the Base Bid and Bid Alternates Number 1 & 2 for the fixed cost of three hundred and fourteen thousand and five hundred dollars. (\$314,500.00). 

Mr. Wilson addressed the Court in reference to the above matter, discussing the readvertising/tabling of bids at a last meeting; have received 3 bids for this project and recommends TADCO Roofing and Waterproofing. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos asked the Court to table the this item. **Motion:** to table till the next meeting, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

20. [19] Discuss, Consider and Act on paying invoices to Bill T. Wilson, Architect LLC for work done on Blumer Building. 

It was discussed to pay these invoices out of Fund 112.

Motion: to pay invoices, **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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

7. [6] Discuss, Consider and Act on a Resolution regarding a contract for the purpose of financing Tasers. 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read resolution in open Court. It was discussed to include the wording in the resolution, that the funds will be paid out of the Sheriff's special fund.

Motion: to approve resolution and that the funds are to come out of the Sheriff's special fund, **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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

8. [7] Discuss, Consider and Act on a Resolution regarding a contract for the purpose of financing Body armor radios and ticket writers. 

Jorge Esparza, Commander addressed the Court on the above matter. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read the resolution in open Court.

Motion: to approve resolution and monies to come out of the Sheriff's special fund, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.


At 9:37 AM Elvaray B. Silvas, County and District clerk joined the meeting.

9. [8] Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing the Falfurrias Volunteer Fire Dept to use the JM Alaniz fairgrounds to cook the Briskets for the 58th Annual Watermelon Roundup.
(Submitted by Ruben Ramirez)

Motion: to allow usage of fairgrounds, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, 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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

10. [9] Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing Road & Bridge to assist the Falfurrias Volunteer Fire Dept. on hauling the wood for the Watermelon Round up. **(Submitted by Ruben Ramirez)** 

Motion: to allow the Road and Bridge to assist, **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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

11. [10] Discuss, Consider and Act on Approved Resolutions for Texas Department of Agriculture Colonia Study Grant 

A. Resolutions A1014 - Regarding Civil Rights Compliance

B. A1002 - Code of Conduit

C. A1003 - Excessive Force Policy

D. A1004 - Sample Section 504 Policy Against Discrimination based on Handicap and Grievance Procedures

E. A1013 - The County of Brooks Citizen Participation Plan Texas Community Development Block Grant Program.


F. Fair Housing Policy A1015

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the Court that there is a study being done and since we are the main housing entity for this grant, the County is being awarded \$25,000 for being the financial administrator of this grant. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read a resolution in open Court.

Motion: to approve the resolution, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **Seconded by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. 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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

12. [11] Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$2,000.00 from line item 012-5-0456-8105 Secretary to 012-5-0456-5000 Office Supplies. **(Submitted by Oralia Morales)** 

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

13. [I21] Discuss, Consider and Act on paying the City of Kingsville for garbage disposal in the amount of \$2,125.00 PO #041747. (Submitted by Ruby Allen) 

Motion: to approve invoice, **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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

14. [I31] Discuss, Consider and Act on compensating two technicians (R. Ramirez and J. Gomez) for their work on the Brooks County Communication Tower & Radio System. 

Motion: to table till next week, **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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Marty "Martin" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

15. [I41] Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing the Brooks County maintenance or Road & Bridge Department to clean land designated for the future Public Safety Complex. 

Motion: to approve the maintaining of the land, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, 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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

16. [I51] Discuss status of Blumer Building. 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the Court that the foundation is sustainable; the only issue was the inside, but no work needed; there is an option from the Ed Rachal Foundation to purchase the building and fix it, with the option to purchase it back or to lease it from them. Or for the County to do the repairs and continue with the funding by the County for the roof repairs. No action taken, discussion only.

19. [I81] Discuss, Consider and Act on opening RFO's BC1021 and appointing Engineer. 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the Court that this Engineer will be used for when the County has to go out for bids for road projects. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos received two RFO's and opened them in open Court (R. Gutierrez Engineering Corporation and Hanson Engineering).

Motion: to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, 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, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

20 [21] Discuss the closing of the Rural Trash Route. 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the Court that we are having a shortfall in employees especially a CDL Driver; and the possibility at budget time to do an increase of salaries; August Patroelj, County Auditor suggested the possibility to purchase the trash truck we are currently leasing; it was discussed to look for a resolution to keep the rural trash route. Ruby Allen, Landfill Supervisor addressed her concerns on this issued. No action taken, discussion only.

The Court took a quick recess at 10: 20 AM; the Court came back into open session 10:23 AM; Present: same as before.

At 10:28 AM Commissioner Villarreal left the meeting.

18. [17] Discuss, Consider and Act on revised sections C-1: County Property usage and C-2: County Vehicle usage of the Brooks County Employee Handbook 

Discussions were made on how to correct the language, in adding the personal usage of vehicle; excluding law enforcement; supervisors can take vehicles home; primary usage of Tahoe, is for county employees only.

Motion: to table, **Action:** Table, **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 = 4).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- Item was passed by the Court.

22. [21] Discuss Employment/Resignations/Retirements and other Personnel Issues.

OPEN SESSION

23. [22] Discuss, Consider, and Act on Employment/Resignations/Retirements.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the Court that we have received a plaque from Texas Association of Counties for 50 years of Membership(Workers Comp).

24. [23] Adjourn 

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 AM, **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 = 4).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

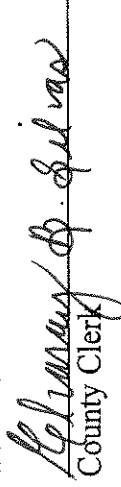
The preceding minutes beginning on page _____ and ending on page _____, of the Commissioners' Court Minutes Volume _____, read and approved in the Honorable Commissioners' Court this 8th day of August, 2024, A.D.

APPROVED-


County Judge



ATTESTED:


County Clerk

