


SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT
Monday, July 22, 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 1:11 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,
Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4,
Elvaray B. Silvas, County & District Clerk (Not voting).

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

AGENDA

1. Public Comments 

There were no public comments.

2. Approve of Bills 

Motion: to approve the bills as presented, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo 'Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4. 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, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4.

3. Discuss, Consider and Act on paying invoice #118882 AMG Printing in the amount of \$498.26 to paid out of line-item 012-5-0500-9040 Election Expense. (Submitted by

Anna Garcia) 

Motion: to pay invoice, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo 'Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo 'Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4.

4. Discuss, consider and act on selecting a medical insurance plan for the 2024-25 fiscal

year. 

Brian Neiser with the Texas Association of Counties on behalf of Clarissa Martinez addressed the Court on the above matter. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos also addressed the Court informing that the Committee met last week and that going fully funded is the best way to go (deductible less; covers brand name medicine.)

Motion: to adopt the TAC fully funded program as presented by the Insurance committee with no broker in the plan, **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 = 3).

Yes: Eduardo 'Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4.

5. Discuss, consider and act on approving and interlocal agreements with the Southern

Brooks Volunteer Fire Department regarding Brooks County property. 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the Court in reference to an old ambulance that is parked at the Copa Ranch that is being used by ROTC for training, an MOU had been approved with Southern Brooks to be used but have not been able to find it. Andrew Herrera addressed the Court informing them that this ambulance was used for training and would only be used to store fire equipment, not for transport. It was discussed in making an investment and making the ambulance road ready or just leaving it at the ranch.

Motion: to table, **Action:** Table, **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 = 3).

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

6. Discuss, consider and act on transferring \$5,000 from 012-5-0510-9500 (Capital Outlay) and \$12,000 from 012-5-0641-5457 (County-Out Patient expenses) to 012-5-

0409-5410 (Professional fees- auditing) 

August Patroelji, County Auditor made a correction to the line item 012-5-0510-9500 to 012-5-0510-9505. **Motion:** to approve line-item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

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

7. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$2,000.00 from 013-5-0033-5800 Repairs & Maint.-Warehouse to 013-5-0033-5136 Uniforms. (Submitted by David Guerra)



Motion: to approve line item transfer, **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 = 3).

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

8. Budget Workshop 

The Court discussed the following:

- The Court reviewed two documents: County Elected Officials proposed salary increase (stipend) which needs to be publicize in the paper and will need to be formally approved; summary of departments with very little changes.
- Show a deficit of \$343,914 for the 2024-2025 budget year and have a \$300,000 bond that the county will no longer pay for since it has been paid off, which will help with most of the deficit. In addition, the County doesn't have the final values and will be getting them on the 24th or the 25th of this month to finalize our budget.
- Discussed a possible tax increase due to the preliminary tax values. The Budget is currently being budgeted using the same tax current revenue as last year and won't be accurate until the county receives current values.
- August Patroelji County Auditor addressed the Court on the following topics: lowering the transfer from LCS by \$100,000 due to not housing that many inmates, but that they have increased their price per inmate and the County should do the same; Line item 012-4-4328 (Code Enforcement Officer) kept the same as last year (will be talking with the Sheriff)
- Honorable Judge Eric Ramos went over the projected revenues for the 2024-2025 budget year. August Patroelji, County Auditor informed the Court that we have 1 Million dollars in CD's for the General Fund and 1.3 Million dollars for the Road and Bridge.

 Commissioner Garza asked Honorable Ramos to go back and discuss line item #5 and take action.

Motion: to rescind the motion previously made, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo 'Eddie' Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Martin 'Marty' Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo 'Eddie' Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Martin 'Marty' Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4.

It was discussed that the motion is to approve the agreement and to get formal document afterwards and that the ambulance is not to leave the ranch due to insurance purposes.

Motion: to approve the Agreement, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo 'Eddie' Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Martin 'Marty' Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eduardo 'Eddie' Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Martin 'Marty' Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct 4.

9. Adjourn

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **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 = 3).

Yes: Eduardo 'Eddie' Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, 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 8th day of AUGUST, 2024, A.D.

APPROVED:



County Judge



ATTESTED:



County Clerk

