


REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT
Thursday, September 12, 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: 14 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

1. **Public Comments** 

There were no public comments made.

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

Item was passed by the Court.

3. **Approve of Bills and Claims** 

Motion: to approve the bills and claims as presented, **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.

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)


Terri A. Silvas, Chief Deputy Tax Assessor Collector presented her monthly report for the month of August, 2024.

Motion: to approve the Tax Assessor Collector report, **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.

5. Agrilife Extension Reports 
Informational item only.


6. Discuss, Consider and Act on a Proclamation to Commemorate National GEAR UP Week. 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read the proclamation in open Court.

Motion: to approve proclamation, **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.

7. Discuss, Consider and Act on offer to purchase tax sale property Suit No.09-5-01828-TX; Brooks County Independent School District, Brooks County and City of Falfurrias vs Teresita L. Duarte and Jake Duarte ACCT> NO 01000000500800, Lots 8,9,and 10, Block 5, La Colonia Addition, an addition to the City Of Falfurrias, Brooks County, Texas as described in Volume 155, Page 575, Official Records of Brooks County, Texas. 

Motion: to approve offer to purchase tax sale property in the amount of \$2000.00, **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 = 3).


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

8. Discuss, Consider and Act on offer to purchase tax sale property Suit No. 17-01-02225-TAX; Brooks County Independent School District and Brooks County vs James T. Miller and Carolyn Miller ACCT. No 09000000A00802; 10.00 acres, more or less out of Tract 8, Rulo Grande Vineyards La Alameda Subdivision 'A', a subdivision in Brooks County, Texas, as described in the deed dated November 5, 1985, from J.R. Scott, Jr. etux to Josephine Williams =, in Volume 14, Page 306, Deed Records of Brooks County, Texas. 

Motion: to approve offer to purchase tax sale property in the amount of \$13,100.00, **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 = 3).


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

9. 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) 

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.

10. 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. (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.

11. Discuss, Consider and Act on Loma Blanca Soil & Water Conservation District's Request letter for Annual Contribution of FY 2025.

Motion: to approve contribution of \$2,500.00, 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.

12. 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 B Silva)

Motion: to table line items 12-14, Action: Table, Moved by Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, Seconded by Eric Ramos, County Judge. Motion passed unanimously.

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.

13. Special Commissioners' Court meeting of June 3, 2024m Line Item #9 change Action of Adjourn to reflect Approve. (Submitted by Elvaray B Silva)

Line item was in conjunction with line item #12.

14. 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 B Silva)

Line item was in conjunction with line item #12.

15. Discussion on Applying for the USDOT Charging and fueling infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that this was a discussion item to see how the Court felt. Judge Ramos stated that this is a 20% match and that 2 industrial companies were willing to pay. No action taken discussion only.

16. Discuss, consider and act on approving paying the approved mileage rate Veteran Services Officer Ismael Ortiz for a training he attended in April, 2024.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- item was passed

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

OPEN SESSION

18. Discuss, Consider, and Act on Employment/Resignations/Retirements.

19. Budget Workshop

The Court discussed increases and decreases to the 2024-2024 budget as follows:

Fund 12:

- Stated that it is a balance budget- Fund 12
- Includes a Traffic Control deputy
- Some minor changes were made, just need to reflect

Fund 13:

- In the read \$703,000
- 1.5 million in fund balance; if they take half of it now will be able to sustain
- Discussion was made on assigning monies to fix roads per Commissioners
- Judge Ramos stated that Commissioner Gutierrez has some ideas on how to make revenue; one of them being to remove stipend for CDL Drivers per Commissioner Gutierrez (saving \$17,000)

No action taken, discussion only.

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

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.

21. Adjourn

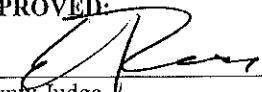
Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 AM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Martin "Marty" Cabrera, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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.

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 10th day of December, 2024, A.D.

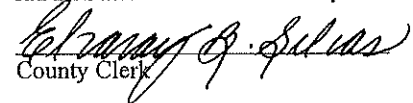
APPROVED:



County Judge



ATTESTED:



County Clerk