

REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT
August 14, 2025
10:00 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:

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that due to District Court being held in the Courtroom, meeting was held in the Library, Judge Ramos advised since there is no mics to speak louder.

OPEN MEETING -Judge Eric Ramos opened the meeting at 10:15 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,
Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3,
Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4,
Elvaray B. Silvas, County & District Clerk (Not voting).

AGENDA

1. Public Comments

Noel Esquivel, 911 Program Coordinator for Coastal Bend Council of Governments addressed the Court in reference to equipment/reimbursement for dispatcher needs (cyber security training) in regarding line item #10.

Elvira Lopez addressed the Court in reference to USC Amendment 14, asking the public official not to break the law, also addressed Clause 1, Amendment 5 and has a notice that she would like to put up.

Irma Menchaca addressed the Court in reference to 8,000 sq ft mansion in Encino that are not being taxed and there is different ways to go out there (drones, helicopters).

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

Item passed by the Court, no minutes presented.

3. Approve of Bills

Motion: to accept the bills, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

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 Department Heads
 - 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)
- v. (Submitted by Ana Garcia, Elections Administrator)
- vi. (Submitted by Philip Morones, Health and Indigent Care Coordinator)
- vii. (Submitted by Ruben Ramirez, Emergency Management Coordinator.)

Higinio Garcia, County Auditor presented his monthly report. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos made a compliment to the Auditor on finding several mistakes from previous years and correcting them.

Item was passed at this time.

6. Information by Mr. Flores from TxDot on the 4-year Project plan for Brooks County

Danny Flores gave an update on projects currently working:

- Closing out seal coat from 281 (755) to County line
- On 281 provides bigger signs at the intersection on 3066 for safety, process of closing out
- Overlay project: starting at Jim Wells County Line going south of County line about 5/6 miles

Upcoming jobs:

- FM 754 surface treating/seal coat markings
- SH 285 to the end of the state line (north and south)
- Freddy and his staff are keeping up with the signs and prep work for the upcoming seal coats

Commissioners expressed their concerns on roads and asked for assistance on debris pick up on CR 430 on a State ROW. Discussed law enforcement on dumping and enforcing it. Mr. Flores addressed on the County Assistance program, there is material available to who ever is interested, reach Sandra Flores for these millings. Discussion only, no action taken.

16. Presentation by Aoka on a Permitting Process

Roque Rodriguez with Aoka did a quick presentation on the above matter. Informing the Court that they provide planner view, building, and fire view. They have a 60-person team (10 master code professionals) and are typically on as needed basics no long-term contract. They provide assistance with inspections, planner views, and help with writing ordinances or reviewing planning and zoning. Guarantee response in 5 days or sooner, plan review project under 5 million dollars, local office in San Antonio and have inspectors/plan reviewers working in Kingsville. They help set up a building department and help educate and train staff. Commissioner Trevino asked about prices, Mr. Rodriguez stated that he can provide prices but can say they are fair and affordable. They don't do collection of fees, but can help set that up, they also have a program. Judge Ramos stated that in 2009 a law passed and has certain limits for Counties, has checked through research and there are 8/9 counties that do permitting around that law and checking to see how they are doing permitting. So that we can do the same and move forward. Judge Ramos stated that one of the issues in the community is not having a certified inspector. David T. Garcia addressed the Court on needing to pass an ordinance, asked in the language for the ordinance. Mr. Rodriguez informed that they have language and could help assist with the ordinance. Presentation only, no action taken.

9. Discuss, Consider and Act on a Resolution Authorizing County Grant Program Year 2026 Texans Feeding Texans. (Submitted by Community Action)

Mark Gonzalez addressed the Court on the above matter. Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read resolution in open Court.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **Seconded by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

5. Agrilife Extension Reports

Information Item only, no action taken.

7. Discuss, Consider and Act on order approving of Special Election on November 4, 2025, in Brooks County.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read order in open Court.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

8. Discuss, Consider approving Loma Blanca Soil & water Conservation District's request letter for annual contribution (FY2026)

Sherry Garcia addressed the Court on the above matter, stating that there is a new DC Mr. Cortez.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

10. Discuss, Consider and act on an Interlocal agreement for 9-1-1 Public Safety answering point services.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

11. Discuss, Consider and Act on Professional services contract for Forensic Pathologist to provide Autopsy and related services at contracted Funeral Home Facility.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

12. Discuss, Consider and Act on paying invoice from Duro-Last in the amount of \$7,070.55.

Motion: to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, 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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

13. Discuss, Consider and Act on the submittal Resolution for TDHCA HOME housing project.

Honorable Judge read resolution in open Court. Informing the Court that this is not a matching grant and just to show that there's monies available if awarded.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

14. Discuss, Consider and Act on publication of public hearing notice for TDHCA HOME housing project

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, 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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

15. Discuss, Consider and Act on Texas Department of Transportation Airport project participation agreement FY 2026 Ramp Grant. (Submitted by Auditor's office)

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos that he still hadn't received any information on any specific project unless Auditor has. Higinio Garcia, County Auditor that the only thing is for a service of a new beacon that cost \$71,051.28, this is a 90/10 match would get reimbursed \$64,700. Judge Ramos says he still feels uncomfortable since he has hadn't received anything. Mr. Garcia stated that this needs to be approved by August 25th. Judge Ramos stated that this is the first time the County will pay due to a group that was created and would pay this cost and is no longer available.

Motion: to table, **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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

17. Discuss, Consider and Act on returning \$26,374.03 to the Texas comptroller for unspent SB22 funds for the prosecutor's office.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

18. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$1000 from 101-5-0053-8204 (Workers Compensation) to 101-5-0053-9070 (Miscellaneous) to purchase new fire extinguishers.

A correction was made to the line-item amount being \$2,000 not \$1,000.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, 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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

19. Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing the County Auditor to increase a line item by \$71,051.28 without a transfer to pay the Texas Department of Transportation for the RAMP Grant.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, 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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

Motion: to recess at 11:40 AM for a 5 minute recess, **Action:** Enter Recess, **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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

The Court came back into open session at 11:52 AM present same as before.

20. 2025-26 Budget Workshop.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the Court on a package given; numbers have changed as follows:

- Corrections to current taxes to \$4,229,735.00 going with 90 cent tax rate, NNR to \$4,156,059; 4th page to \$7,750,735 (94 percent tax collection) revenue expected surplus of \$510,398
- Discussed several line items (increases/decreases) **(on file)**
- Add \$6,000 for Blumer Building expense
- Anna Garcia addressed the Court on the cut and it is almost impossible for 1 person to work and asks to reconsider; is looking into combining voting precincts to just one except Encino.
- Contract with the School for school officer; school is not reimbursing and it is not working
No action taken discussion only.

21. Discuss, Consider and Act on approving the Proposed 25-26 Brooks County Budget to submit to the Brooks County County/District Clerk's office.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

22. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$1,500 from 012-5-0409-5600 (Bidding and Notices) to 012-5-0510-5830 (A/C System – Maintenance.)

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

23. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$750 from 012-5-0475-9514 (Capital Outlay) and \$6,325 from 012-5-0475-8101 (Secretary) to 012-5-0510-5201 (Building Repairs-Annex & others.)

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, 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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

24. Discuss, Consider and Act on approving the certification of 2024 excess debt collections and the 2025 anticipated collection rate.

Terri A Silvas, Chief Deputy Tax Assessor Collector addressed the Court on the above matter by reading 2 certificates, she also discussed losses and increases in values.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, 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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

25. Discuss, Consider and Act on accepting certified total appraised, assessed and taxable values of all property and total taxable of new property in Brooks County as

certified by the Brooks County Appraisal District, the Governing Body Summary #1A and #2A, and the 2025 Planning calendar.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously. **(on file)**

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

26. Discuss and Act on tax rate, if proposed tax rate will exceed the voter approval rate or the no new revenue tax rate (whichever is lower), take record, vote and schedule public hearings.

Motion: to approve the proposed tax rate of 0.900847 and to schedule public hearing on September 3rd., **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- No discussion, item passed by the Court.

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

OPEN SESSION- No discussion, item passed by the Court

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

29. Adjourn

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 1:03 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **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: Aaron Trevino, Commissioner Precinct #4, Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Nora Salinas, Commissioner Precinct #3, 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 28th day of January, 2026, A.D.

APPROVED:



County Judge



ATTESTED:



County Clerk