

REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT

May 11, 2021

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:

OPEN MEETING-Judge Eric Ramos called the meeting to order at 10:10 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,
Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4,
Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk (Not voting).

Staff Present: Missy A Saavedra, Deputy County Clerk

AGENDA

1. Public Comments

Commissioner Gutierrez thanked everyone from Brooks County for the prayers, he stated that his wife and him had returned home a couple days ago.

Sgt Pena addressed the Court in reference to the moving of Trooper Garcia's monument to the Courthouse lawn.

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

Motion: to approve the minutes as presented (03-23-2021, 03-29-2021, 03-30-2021, 04-07-2021, 04-13-2021, 04-22-2021, and 04-27-2021), **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3.

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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

3. Approve of Bills and Claims

August Patroelj, County Auditor addressed the Court about adding a bill for \$75.00 to renew David Guerra's Vector License.

Motion: to approve the bills and claims as presented with the addition of the \$75.00 bill, **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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, 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
 - i. (Submitted by County Foreman)
 - ii. (Submitted by Brooks County Justice of the Peace Precinct 1-4)
 - iii. (Submitted by Brooks County Library Supervisor, Angelica Regalado)
 - iv. (Submitted by Ruby Allen, Landfill Supervisor)

Alan Hernandez, County Treasurer addressed the Court with his report for the month of April and March; Auditors Report was discussed; Terri A Silvas, Chief Deputy Tax Assessor Collector presented her report for the month of April;


Motion: to approve the monthly reports as presented, **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: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

5. Agrilife Extension reports (reports for information only) 

Information purposes only, no action made.

6. Discuss, Consider and Act on authorizing Brooks County to purchase cold mix asphalt and caliche in accordance with Section 262.0225 of the Local Government Code for TxDOT's CTIF grant. (Submitted by CJ Eric Ramos) 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that the County had advertised two bids in the newspaper and no bids were received; per GrantWorks we were advised to do this agenda item. Once approved GrantWorks will then go ahead and place phone calls to three different companies to get quotes for asphalt and caliche and then the Court will decide who to go with.

Motion: to approve the purchase of cold mix asphalt and caliche, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4. 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.


7. Discuss, Consider and Act on Order restricting certain Fireworks in unincorporated areas of Brooks County. (Submitted by CJ Eric Ramos) 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read Order in open Court.

Motion: to approve Order, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

8. Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing the Falfurrias Volunteer Fire Department to use the County Fairgrounds on June 9th -12th 2021 to cook the briskets for the Annual Watermelon Round Up. (Submitted by Ruben Ramirez) 

Motion: to allow the Fire Department to use the fairgrounds, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4. 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

9. Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing the Road & Bridge Department to Assist the Falfurrias Volunteer Fire Department on hauling the wood for the Water Melon Round up. (Submitted by Ruben Ramirez) 

Motion: to allow the Road & Bridge to help assist with the hauling of wood, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.


10. Discuss, Consider and Act on Approving payment for 2 missing gas receipts 

- a. Valero gas receipt \$46.42 purchase on 3/16/2021
- b. Valero gas receipt for \$36.92 on 3/16/2021

Motion: to approve payment for the 2 missing receipts, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

11. Discuss, Consider and act on offer to purchase tax sale property Suit No. 10-06-01859-Tx, Brooks County Independent School District, Brooks County and City of Falfurrias vs. Rodolfo Vela. Lot 4, Block "J", Maupin Addition, Original Town site to the City of Falfurrias, Brooks County, Texas. (Submitted by CJ Eric Ramos) 

Motion: to approve the offer from Raymond Castellano in the amount of \$2,000.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

12. Discuss, Consider and Act on offer to purchase tax sale property. Suit No. 03-02-01358-Tx; Brooks County, Brooks County Independent School District and City of Falfurrias vs. Francisco Garza, et al Acc. No 01200-000E-006-00; Lot 6, block 'E', Maupin Addition, an addition to the town of Falfurrias, as described in Volume 30, page 16, Deed Records of Brooks Count, Texas. (Submitted by CJ Eric Ramos) 

Motion: to approve the offer from Harley D Villarreal in the amount of \$1,000.00, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

13. Discuss, Consider and Act on Approving line item transfers of the following monies:



- a. Transfer \$800.00 from line item 012-5-0560-5000 (Office Supplies) to line Item 012-5-0560-5820 Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles
- b. Transfer \$800.00 from line item 012-5-0560-5135 Other Supplies, to line item other Supplies, to line item 012-5-0560-5820 Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles.
- c. Transfer \$500.00 from line item 012-5-0560 Out of County Travel to; line item 012-5-0580-5820 Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles.
- d. Transfer \$1500.00 from line item 012-5-0560-5515 Radio Maintenance Repairs to; line item 012-5-0560-5515 Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles.

(Submitted by Jorge Esparza)

Motion: to approve line item transfers a-d, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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).

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Item passed by the Court.

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

OPEN SESSION-Item passed by the Court

19. Discuss, consider and act on Employment/Resignations/Retirements.

20. Discussion of Cares Act Reimbursement Funds.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos discussed the monies received from the Cares Act and that the remaining balance left would be for the preparation of hurricane season.

21. Discussion of Money Provided by American Rescue Plan, 2021

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos made reference to half of the monies requested, should have been received yesterday but we still haven't received them hopefully soon. Judge Ramos stated that the monies received should be spent by 2024 and had a brief discussion on the usage of the monies. Discussion only, no action taken.

22 Discussion of Regional Workforce Skills Resiliency Project 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the Court on the above matter; Judge Ramos stated in reference to dropping down the building in front of the Courthouse Annex and the possibility of building a new building that will hold classes for La Mestena Academy, Workforce facility, housing of the Extension office, the rebuilding of the kitchen area and the only responsibility the County would have, would be a 22% incline match but could use the property as collateral.

23. Adjourn

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 AM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4. 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.
(Commander Esparza made reference to a correction to line item d should read 012-5-0560-5820 Repairs & Maintenance Vehicles)

14. Discuss, Consider and Act on approving salary increase for full time Dispatchers.

See increase attachment. (Submitted by Jorge Esparza) 

Commander Esparza addressed the Court on the above in reference to the salary increase;

Motion: to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2, **None seconded.** Motion died.


Motion: to approve of salary increase , **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1.

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 4, No = 1, Abstain = 0).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

No: Eric Ramos, County Judge.

15. Discuss, Consider and Act on approving line item transfers of the following monies:

- a. Transfer \$6,570.00 from line item 012-5-0560-8140 Deputies; to line item 012-5-0562-8136 Dispatchers. (Submitted by Jorge Esparza) 

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

16. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$5,500.00 from line item 012-5-0435-5484 CRT Appt Attys Criminal to; 012-5-0435-5481 Crt Appt Atty- Civil. (Submitted by BC Auditor's Office.

Judge Eric Ramos changed the Amount on the line item transfer to \$10,000 per change in item request.

Motion: to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3.

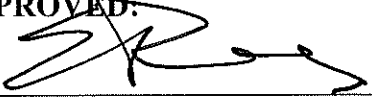
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct 1, Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct 4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct 3, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct 2.

17. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$3,220.00 from 012-5-0409-9000 Official Bonds; to 012-5-0409-5451- Autopsy.

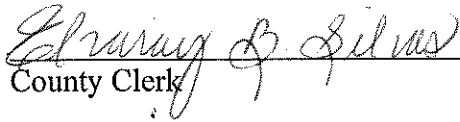
The preceding minutes beginning on page _____ and ending on page _____, of the Commissioners' Court Minutes Volume _____, read and approved in the Honorable Commissioners' Court this 8th day of June, 2021, A.D.

APPROVED:



County Judge

ATTESTED:



County Clerk