


REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT
April 13, 2023
3:00 P.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 3:17 PM 

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,
Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4,
Elvaray B. Silvas, County 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 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos asked for any public comments for items that were not on the agenda:

Celeste Huff with the office of Monica de la Cruz stated that they will be coming to their office in Brooks County starting in April and will be open to the public.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos asked for any public comments for items on the agenda:

Elisa Torres and Gregory Sharp addressed the Court on, line item #7 and not just their county roads but all the other roads and have not been able to get these roads fixed. She has had these issues since 2022; and has not been able to get a hold of her commissioner. Mrs. Torres expressed her issues due to this; causing damage to her vehicle, FedEx not wanting to drop off packages.

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

None presented, item passed.

3. Approve of Bills and Claims 

Motion: to approve the bills and claims as presented, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

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)

The Court reviewed the monthly report for the County Treasurer for the months of February and March 2023; Teresa A. Silvas, Chief Deputy Tax Assessor Collector presented her report for the month of March 2023;

Motion: to approve the monthly reports as presented, **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 = 3).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

5. Agrilife Extension Reports 


Informational purposes only.

6. Discuss, Consider and Act on approving a Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month. 

Motion: to approve proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

7. Discussion on scheduling of maintenance of County Roads, including County roads 308 & 309 

Elisa Torres and Homar Perez addressed the Court on the above matter. Mr. Perez on his concern and the fire department that some of these roads need some fixing. David Guerra also addressed the Court stating that he only has 15 men and has a schedule he follows to do county

maintenance. Road and Bridge Foreman David Guerra informed the Court that they will be fixing all roads in Encino and won't leave until they are done. Discussion only, no action taken.

8. Discuss, Consider and Act on paying the Sheriff's Office gas cards prior to Commissioners Court and prior to the due date. (Submitted by Sheriff's Office) 

Motion: to approve agenda item #8, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.


9. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$10,000.00 from line item 012-5-0512-8105 Jailers; to line item 012-5-0512-8129 (Overtime) to cover payroll for time worked.

(Submitted by Sheriff's Office) 

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

10. Discuss, Consider and Act on paying Exxon receipt for \$46.77 from one of the Sheriff's Office special accounts. (Submitted by Sheriff's Office) 

Motion: to pay the \$46.77, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. (**on file**)


Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 2, No = 1, Abstain = 0).

Yes: Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

No: Eric Ramos, County Judge.

11. Discuss status of Grants 

Commissioner Williams addressed the Court in reference to the GrantWorks grant for road repairs, Judge Ramos stated that a bid posting will be placed and will be scheudleing for opening of bids.

12. Discuss, Consider and act on approving going out for bids for the foundation work at the Blumer Building 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that his project will exceed the \$50,000, so will be going out for bids.

Motion: to go out for bids for the foundation work at the Blumer Building, **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 = 3).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

13. Discuss, Consider, and act on approving to go out for roof bids at the Blumer Building.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the Court that he spoke with an Architect in reference to the roof and would like to continue to go with them.

Motion: to go out for roof bids at the Blumer Building, **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 = 3).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

14. Discuss, Consider and Act on approving the state mileage rate of \$0.65 cents per mile for Out of County Travel. (Submitted by Auditors Office)

Motion: to approve state mileage rate, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

Addendum

1. Discuss, Consider and Act on using Fund 31 to support a Pilot First Responders Program.

Ruben Ramirez Emergency Management Coordinator/Fire Chief addressed the Court stating that that this person will be under the Ambulance Department but funded by the County and stationed at the fire department with an annual salary of \$35,000. It was discussed that this person will also be the safety person for the county and will be able to offer CPR classes to county employees; this person will be able to respond to 911 calls that don't require transportation and be able to do triage.

Motion: using Fund 31 to support a Pilot First Responders Program with a cap of \$50,000, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.


2. Addendum

1. Discuss, Consider and Act on the Authorization of a Surplus/Salvage Property sale on May 13, 2023, at Brooks County Road & Bridge, 326 W. Travis St. Falfurrias, Texas Commencing at 10:00 AM (Submitted by the Auditor's Office)

Motion: to authorize surplus sale, **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 = 3).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

2. **Discuss, Consider and Act on a Resolution for FY 2024 Border Star Grant number 30001908. (Submitted by Sheriff's Office)** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read resolution in open Court.

Motion: to approve the resolution, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

3. **Discuss, Consider and Act on a Resolution for the FY 2024 Operation Stone Garden Grant number 3221008 to be operated for the 2023-2024. (Submitted by Sheriff's Office)**




Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read resolution in open Court.

Motion: to approve Addendum #2 line item 3, **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 = 3).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

4. **Discuss, Consider and Act on an Interlocal Agreement between Brooks County, Brooks County Sheriff's Office, and the Falfurrias Police Department. (Submitted by Sheriff's Office)** 

Commander Jorge Esparza addressed the Court on how this will allow the City of Falfurrias to apply for Stone Garden Funds under the Counties grant.

Motion: to approve interlocal agreement between Brooks County, Brooks County Sheriff's Office and the Falfurrias Police Department, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, 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, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

5. **Discussion of audit on Vacation and Comp. time** 

August Patroelj, County Auditor addressed the Court on the above matter stating that the County has some issues and that the County policy isn't being followed. It was discussed that solution be made and talk to the department heads and see what reprecussion can be held if they are not met.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-No Executive Session, item passed.

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

OPEN SESSION

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

17. **Adjourn** 

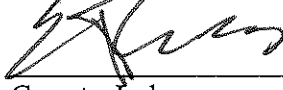
Motion: to adjourn the meeting 4:38 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

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 23rd day of February, 2024, A.D.

APPROVED:



County Judge



ATTESTED:



County Clerk