


**REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT**  
**May 11, 2023**  
**2:00 PM**  
**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 2:10 PM 

**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 Clerk


**AGENDA**

**1. Public Comments** 

Homor Perez, addressed the Court in reference to an item that was supposed to be on the agenda but was not. Mr. Perez thanked Commissioner Williams, Commissioner Villarreal and Judge Ramos for going out there and seeing the streets. Mr. Perez informed the Court that the Road and Bridge has been fixing the streets but doesn't like the way the work is being done.

Beltrando Soliz lives on FM 755, he addressed the Court in reference to the streets that he uses a lot on CR 310.

Elisa Torres who lives on CR 308 addressed the Court in reference to her requests for the road log and accounting reports for Precinct 3 and still hasn't received anything. Mrs. Torres complained to the Court in reference to the work being done on her road and the big rocks being left behind.


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

**3. Approve of Bills and Claims** 

**Motion:** to approve the bills and claims 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 = 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.


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**13. Discuss, Consider and Act on the updated status of previous Inventory audit for the County, excluding Road and Bridge Department (Submitted by August Patroelji)** 

Esmeralda Alaniz addressed the Court in reference to update on unaccounted items at the Sheriff's Office being found.

**Motion:** to approve updated status of previous Inventory audit for the County, excluding the Road and Bridge Department, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1.

**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.


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**14. Discuss, Consider and Act on the Inventory audit completed for the County, Road and Bridge Department. (Submitted by August Patroelji)** 

Esmeralda Alaniz presented an audit to the Court informing them that 6 items have not been accounted for.

**Motion:** to approve the recommendations as provided by the auditor, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **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.

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**22. Discuss, Consider, Act on approving the 2019-2020 Brooks County Audit as presented by independent auditor.** 

Raul Hernandez CPA addressed the Court on the above matter stating that the audit is an unmodified audit (clean). Mr. Hernandez stated the reason for being behind was due to the new system acquired by the auditors offices and the fixes that were needing to be done, in order for him to do this audit. Mr. Hernandez reviewed with the Court the following pages: 22, 23.

**Motion:** to approve the audit, **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.

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**21. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$12,000 from 012-5-0510-8115 (Maint Supervisor) to**

**012-504090-5410 (Prof. fees- ACCT & Auditing)** 

**Motion:** to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **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:** 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)
  - iv. (Submitted by Ruby Allen, Landfill Supervisor)

Terri A. Silvas, Chief Deputy Tax Assessor Collector presented her monthly report for the month of April 2023; Mrs. Silvas informed the Court in reference to the Preliminary values (with an estimated total increase of \$24,355.26).


**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 = 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** 


Informational only, no action taken.

**6. Discuss, Consider and Act on a Proclamation for Children's Mental Health Acceptance Month. (Submitted by Coastal Plains Community Center)** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read the proclamation in open Court; **Motion:** to approve the proclamation, **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 = 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. Discussion of Precinct 3 Revenue (Submitted by Joe R. Escalante)** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the public that he hasn't found a way to separate revenue for just Precinct 3, that our accounting system doesn't allow us to do that. But, that he will find a way to get this information as requested. Judge Ramos stated that he was just handed a report to help him figure out some numbers and will get something available soon. The Court discussed several aspects of how revenue is used within the County.

**8. Discuss, Consider and Act on approving the 4H Club to use the Alaniz Fair Grounds on July 1, 2023, to host a rodeo, and possible carnival, music, and vendors.**

**(Submitted by Nikolo Guerra)** 

**Motion:** to allow the usage of the fairgrounds, **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.

**9. Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing the Falfurrias Volunteer Fire Dept to use the JM Alaniz fairgrounds to cook the Briskets for the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Watermelon Roundup.**

**(Submitted by Ruben Ramirez)** 

**Motion:** to allow the usage of 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.

**10. Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing Road & Bridge to assist the Falfurrias Volunteer Fire Dept. on hauling the wood for the Watermelon Round up.**

**(Submitted by Ruben Ramirez)** 

**Motion:** to allow Road and Bridge to assist in hauling of wood, **Action:** Approve, **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:** 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 transferring \$2,500.00 from line item 012-5-0403-8104**

**Deputies; to 012-5-0403-5000 Supplies. (Submitted by Elvaray Silvas)** 

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

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**12. Discuss, Consider and Act on a MOU Between Cameron County and Brooks County and The LRGV TPDES Stormwater Task Force Partnership.** 

**Motion:** to accept the MOU, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **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.


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**15. Discuss, consider, and select an engineering firm to complete application and project implementation for the Texas Infrastructure Fund program through the Texas Department of Transportation.** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos informed the Court that he would like to table the line item.

**Motion:** to table, **Action:** Table, **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.

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**16. Discuss, Consider and Act on Transferring \$12,000.00 from line item 012-5-0512-8105 Jailers; to 012-5-0512-8129 Overtime. (Submitted by Jorge Esparza)** 

**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.

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**17. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$8,000.00 from line item 012-5-0512-8105 Jailers; to line item 012-5-0560-5820 Repair and Maintenance. (Submitted by Jorge Esparza)** 

**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.

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**18. Discuss, Consider and Act on accepting bids for the Ed Rachal Library.** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos, did call Mr. Zambrano in reference to the bid turned in and the amount bid was for the entire work.

**Motion:** to approve bid from Zambrano Roofing, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **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.


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**19. Discuss, Consider and Act on the purchase of 1,500 yards of caliche from L.O**

**Construction for \$19,440.00 delivered to the Road and Bridge.** 

**Motion:** to approve purchase of caliche, **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.

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**20. Discuss, Consider and Act on paying invoice #47511 to Shoreline Plumbing Company for \$235.00 to be paid out of AARP funds.** 

**Motion:** to pay invoice, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2. 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.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION-** At 3:14 PM the Court went into Executive Session

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

**OPEN SESSION** – At 3:26 PM the Court came back in Open Session; Present same as before. No action taken, discussion only.

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

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**25. Adjourn** 

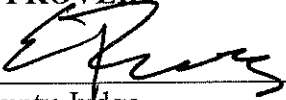
**Motion:** 3:27 PM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1, **Seconded by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4. Motion passed unanimously.

**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.

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 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023, A.D.

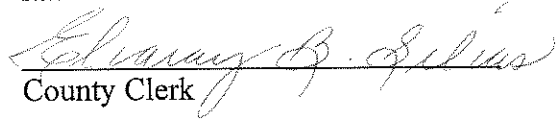
**APPROVED:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
County Judge



**ATTESTED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk