


**SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS COURT**  
**Thursday, July 27, 2023**  
**2:30 PM**  
**2nd FLOOR COURTROOM**  
**BROOKS COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this day, the Honorable Commissioners' Court of Brooks County, Texas met in Special 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 2:36 PM 

**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,  
Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3,  
Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4,  
Elvaray B. Silvas, County Clerk (Not voting).

**Absent:** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

**Staff Present:** Missy A Saavedra, Deputy Clerk

**AGENDA**

**1. Public Comments** 


There were no public comments.

**2. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$23,000.00 from line item 012-5-0512-8105 Jailers; to line item 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** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 4).


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

**3. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$7,000.00 from line item 012-5-0512-8105 Jailers; 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. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 4).

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


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**4. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$9, 200.00 from line item 012-5-0512-8105 Jailers; to line item 012-5-0560-8104 Deputies. (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 = 4).

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

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**5. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$3,000.00 from line item 012-5-0560-9070**


**Miscellaneous; to line item 012-5-0560-8129 Overtime. (Submitted by Jorge Esparza)** 

**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 = 4).

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


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**6. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$2,000.00 from 012-5-0435-5484 Crt Appt. Atty-Criminal; to 012-5-0435-9051 Grand Jury.**

**(Submitted by Carol Salinas, 79<sup>th</sup> District Court Manager)** 

**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 = 4).


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

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**7. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$100.00 from 101-5-0053-9070 Miscellaneous; to 101-5-0053-5000 Office Supplies. (Submitted by Ruby Allen)** 

**Motion:** to approve line item transfer, **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 = 4).


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

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**8. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$573.00 from 101-5-0053-5138 Operating Supplies, \$1,000.00 from 101-5-0053-5515 Radio Maintenance & Repair; to 101-5-0053-5136 Uniforms. (Submitted by Ruby Allen)** 

**Motion:** to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 4).

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


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**9. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$1,2050.00 from 101-5-0053-5550 Out of County Travel, \$2,000.00 from 101-5-0053-5812 Repairs & Maintenance; to 101-5-0053-5105 Oil & Gas. (Submitted by Ruby Allen)** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos made a correction to the line item stating that it should read \$1,250.00 and \$2,500.00.

**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 = 4).

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

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**10. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$1,000.00 from 101-5-550-5865 Equipment Rental, \$700.00 from 101-5-0053-5812 Repairs & Maint. Yard; to 101-5-0053-9088 Tire Disposal. Submitted by Ruby Allen)** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos made a correction to line item 101-5-550-5865 to read 101-5-0053-5865.


**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 = 4).

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

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**11. Discuss, Consider and Act on paying invoice #4863 in the amount of \$750.00 to Jaime's AC & Refrigeration.**

Skipped, action previously taken.

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**12. Discuss, Consider and Act on paying invoice #4951 in the amount of \$3,635.00 to Jaime's AC & Refrigeration.** 

**Motion:** to pay invoice, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 4).

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


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**13. Discuss, Consider and Act on a Burn Ban for Brooks County.**

**(Submitted by FVFD Chief Ruben Ramirez)** 

**Motion:** to approve a burn ban, **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 = 4).

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


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**14. Discuss, Consider and Act on allowing the 4H to use the County Property North of the Detention center to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Benefit skeet shoot. (Submitted by Nikolo Guerra)** 

Nikolo Guerra, Ex Agent addressed the Court with the plans of the skeet shoot and location of the event.

**Motion:** to allow usage of property, **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 = 4).

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


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**15. Discuss, Consider and Act on approving a monthly stipend of \$750 to John Gomez for technology work throughout the county.** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos addressed the Court, stating that this would start immediately.

**Motion:** to approve stipend, **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 = 4).

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

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**16. Discuss, Consider and Act on transferring \$1500 from 012-5-0435-5481 (Crt Appt Attys-Civil) to 012-5-0560-8104 (Deputies)** 

**Motion:** to approve line item transfer, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Eric Ramos, County Judge, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 4).

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

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION-** The Court went into Executive Session at 3:00 PM; the Court came back into open session at 3:12 PM; present same as before.

15 [17]. Request by Sheriff's Department to roll over Jail Supervisor's 2022-2023 vacation days as per Brooks County Employee Handbook Section 2: B-2 Vacation.

**OPEN SESSION**

**16.[18] Discuss, Consider and Act on rolling over the Jail Supervisor's 2022-2023 vacation days as per Brooks County Employee Handbook Section 2B-2 Vacation.**

**Motion:** to approve roll over of vacation days, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3, **Seconded by** Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1. Motion passed unanimously.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 4).

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

The Court discussed increases and decreases to the 2023-2024 fiscal year:

- Corrections to line items (**on file**)
- It was discussed to pay LAPC as contract labor
- Will need to look at the Road and Bridge closely to determine the amount given for road repairs for the commissioners and the possibility of changing it from \$120,000 instead of the \$240,000;
- Monies used for landfill clerks, will be used out of the health and sales use tax.
- Terri A. Silvas, Chief Deputy Tax assessor addressed the Court in reference to the preliminary values and had previously discussed that we had lost tax value; but in speaking with Chief Appraiser and has come to determine that we will not be losing on tax values and there will be a tax value increase of 2 million; discussed a tax debt rate of 0.102975
- Judge Ramos stated that last year employees received an increase, and the elected officials didn't due to not following the procedure of a salary increase, will be publishing in the newspaper this time if agreed upon; (**on file**) it was discussed to give an increase to the Tax Assessor Collector since increases are being made to elected official. it was discussed to go with proposal B, but to change commissioner salaries to \$51,000 and JP's to \$52,500
- It was discussed that notice needs to be given to the elected official and to the public of these increases.

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**18 [20] Adjourn.**

**Motion:** to adjourn the meeting, **Action:** Adjourn, **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 = 4).

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

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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.

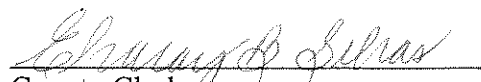
**APPROVED:**



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



**ATTESTED:**

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