


REGULAR COMMISSIONERS COURT
October 12, 2023
9:00 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 opened the meeting at 9:09 AM 

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-was led by Judge Eric Ramos

ROLL CALL-Judge Eric Ramos called for roll call:

Present: Eric Ramos, County Judge,
Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2,
Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4,
Elvaray B. Silvas, County & District Clerk (Not voting).

Absent: Eduardo "Eddie" Garza, Commissioner Precinct #1,
Horacio Villarreal III, Commissioner Precinct #3.

Staff Present: Missy A Saavedra, Deputy Clerk

AGENDA

1. Public Comments

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos asked for any public comments:

Irma Menchaca addressed the Court in reference to her being here, and that is to Back the Blue and that they should be honored all the time.

Fern McClaugherty, informed the Court that she is with a Group called O.W.L.S., an organization that is a voluntary group that supports all members of the Law Enforcement.

Xavier Saenz is asking the Court to look into the resolution like the one that was passed in Hidalgo County in reference to the Deer disease. Judge Ramos stated that a resolution was approved at a previous meeting.

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

Item was passed by the Court.

3. Approve of Bills and Claims 

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

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, 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)

Katy Salinas presented her HR Report to the Court for the months of July-September.

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


Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

5. **Agrilife Extension Reports** 

Informational only.

6. **Information from Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation** 

Item was passed by the Court.


7. **Discuss, Consider and Act on fence replacement at the Landfill on the Northside front of the Clean Brush disposal area located to include East towards the front of the entrance gate of the Landfill . Total 4,040 feet. Replacing old/rusted falling down fence line. (Submitted by Ruby Allen)** 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos asked Ms. Allen to get a quote on the cost of the replacement.

Motion: to table so that the item can be re-worded to include going out for bids, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2. 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, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

8. **Discuss, Consider and Act on adding Election Workers & Elected officials to be eligible for workers comp benefits when injured on the job. (Submitted by Katy Salinas)** 

Katy Salinas HR addressed the Court stating that in there being a change of Administration at TAC, they are asking for this to be voted on by the Court.

Motion: on adding Election Workers & Elected officials to be eligible for workers comp benefits when injured on the job, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **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, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

9. Discuss, Consider and Act on a Resolution for the 2024 Indigent Defense Grant Program.



Honorable Judge Eric Ramos read resolution in open Court.

Motion: to approve resolution, **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 = 3).

Yes: Eric Ramos, County Judge, Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

11. Discuss, Consider and Act on Contributions to local nonprofits from ARPA Funds. 

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that the Court has a deadline of December 31st to spend the ARPA Funds (approximately \$100,000 left of funds) \$50,000 to the VFW; \$37,000 to BHOLD and \$7,500 to the Salvation Army (Local Chapter).

Ric Rubio, Commander stated that they are looking forward to the \$50,000 to help with the renovation of the VFW.

Judge Ramos stated that these local contributions will bring the balance down to \$0.

Motion: to accept the contributions final expense of the ARPA, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2. 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, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:37 AM the Court went into Executive session to discuss personnel issues and possible litigation.

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

OPEN SESSION – The Court came back at 9:53 AM; same present as before.

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

No discussion was made in open Court.

10. Discuss, Consider and Act on opening and awarding bids for the road repairs within the city limits.

Honorable Judge Eric Ramos stated that the County received 2 bids: One from Danny's Paving with a total bid of \$ 607,480.00; The other from CK Newberry LLC with a total bid of \$479,820.00. Commissioner Williams suggested to table the item until all the Commissioners are present to discuss as a whole and asks that a representative be present for discussion.

Motion: to table, **Action:** Table, **Moved by** Ernesto "Pepe" Williams, Commissioner Precinct #4, **Seconded by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2. 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, Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2.

14 Adjourn


Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 10:11 AM, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Rolando Gutierrez, Commissioner Precinct #2, **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, 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 23rd day of February, 2024, A.D.

APPROVED:



County Judge



ATTESTED:


County Clerk