

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **4th day of April A.D., 2022**, the Commissioners Court convened in **Special Session** at the Victoria County Courthouse in the City of Victoria, Victoria County, Texas, with His Honor, Ben Zeller, County Judge, presiding and the following Commissioners attending:

Danny Garcia,	Commissioner Precinct No. 1
Kevin M. Janak,	Commissioner Precinct No. 2
Gary Burns,	Commissioner Precinct No. 3
Clint C. Ives,	Commissioner Precinct No. 4
and	
Heidi Easley,	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk

and the following orders were passed:



COUNTY OF VICTORIA

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF VICTORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2022, 10:00 AM, SPECIAL TERM

VICTORIA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

115 N. BRIDGE ST., ROOM 241, SECOND FLOOR, VICTORIA, TX

1. Call to Order.

(1-0:00)

1. April 4, 2022. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, April 4, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. April 4, 2022. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting with prayer and the reciting of the Pledges of Allegiance of the United States of America and the State of Texas.

3. Citizens Communication.

(3-1:14)

3. April 4, 2022. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Cynthia Ramirez, Community Liaison with the East Region of Belong presented the Court with a blue lapel pin in honor of April being Child Abuse Awareness Month. Mrs. Ramirez asked for the Court's support this month.

Michael Vonderau of 2204 E. North Street, Victoria, Texas, voiced his concerns about dog issues at the East North Mobile Home Park.

Sheriff Justin Marr stated that he received notice late Friday from the Commission on Jail Standards that the Victoria County Jail is now in full compliance.

Mr. H.R. Mallory of 238 Cobble Stone, Victoria, Texas, informed the Court that April is Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month. Mr. Mallory explained autism to the Court and provided the diagnosis rates for the past years. He also asked for individuals to be an ally for individuals with autism spectrum disorder. Mr. Mallory stated the Department of Public Safety has ID cards for individuals with autism, which will inform law enforcement that the individual has autism. He also stated the County Tax Office has a Vehicle Registration Communication Impediment. He encouraged County offices to make their offices more accessible for individuals with autism spectrum and stated the Vine School has a branch out program and they will be having their Top Chef fundraiser on April 22, 2022.

Judge Zeller stated the 1892 Courthouse tour will be held on April 19, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. and to contact Heritage Director Jeff Wright to register for the tour.

Commissioner Burns stated the first meeting for the Animal Control Advisory Committee was held last week and he appreciates Public Health Director David Gonzales, Sheriff Justin Marr, and Chief Deputy Will Franklin for attending.

Commissioner Danny Garcia stated he attended the Vietnam Veterans Day event last week and it was very well attended and thanked Commissioner Burns for the great job he has done with Patriot Park.

Hearing no further comments, Judge Ben Zeller continued to the next agenda item.

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-11:52)

4. April 4, 2022. Moved by Kevin Janak and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on March 28, 2022. Motion adopted.

5. Consider approval of accounts payable and take appropriate action.

(5-12:07)

5. April 4, 2022. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Clint Ives, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Becky Smiley, First Assistant County Auditor.

Regular Accounts	4/4/2022	\$179,466.97
Supplemental Accounts	3/25/2022 – 3/31/2022	\$27,241.48

Motion adopted.

6. Receive monthly and quarterly reports from various county officials and departments and take appropriate action.

(6-12:31)

6. April 4, 2022. None. No action taken.

7. Consider approval of bond forfeiture releases and take appropriate action.

(7-12:46)

7. April 4, 2022. None. No action taken.

8. Consider approval of CMC Interim vendor payments and take appropriate action.

(8-13:05)

8. April 4, 2022. Moved by Clint Ives and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable and interim vendor payments for Citizens Medical Center dated March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$529,690.74 and the ACH report dated March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$1,916,243.09. Motion adopted.

9. Receive and discuss the budget calendar for FY 2023 Budget Year and take appropriate action.

(9-13:35)

9. April 4, 2022. County Judge Zeller reviewed the 2023 budget calendar with the Court. Judge Zeller stated there is one new addition to the calendar in May, which is a planning workshop, if needed. He stated the Commissioners Court budget workshops would be held the week of August 8, 2022 and the budget and tax rate would be adopted on September 12, 2022. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Clint Ives, the Commissioners Court received the budget calendar for FY 2023 Budget Year. Motion adopted.

10. Consider Proclamation designating April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month and take appropriate action.

(10-17:43)

10. April 4, 2022. Criminal District Attorney Constance Filley Johnson gave a background on child abuse and stated that April 8, 2022 is Go Blue Day. Mrs. Johnson asked County employees to wear blue this Friday in support of Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness month. Meagan Burrow with Hope of South Texas thanked the County for the Child Safety Fee that was allocated to them and stated how it has helped their organization. Tim Hornback, Executive Director of CASA thanked Victoria County for supporting the Proclamation and Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness month. Mr. Hornback provided information on CASA services and stated the volunteers work many hours. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the Proclamation designating the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in Victoria County, Texas and encourages all residents to participate in Go Blue Day on Friday, April 8, 2022. Motion adopted.

11. Consider approval of the following related to the burn ban issued on March 29, 2022 and take appropriate action:

a. Ratify order enacting a burn ban.

(11a-26:03)

11a. April 4, 2022. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kevin Janak, the Commissioners Court ratified the order enacting a burn ban issued on March 29, 2022. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following related to the burn ban issued on March 29, 2022 and take appropriate action:

b. Order lifting the burn ban effective April 4, 2022.

(11b-26:03)

11b. April 4, 2022. Fire Marshal Richard Castillo explained the reason for the short-term burn ban. Fire Marshal Castillo thanked the public relations individuals for relating the information to everyone. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kevin Janak, the Commissioners Court approved the order lifting the burn ban effective April 4, 2022. Motion adopted.

12. Consider approval of the following items for the Fire Marshal's Office and take appropriate action:

a. Request from J&J Fireworks to open their stands for fireworks sales during the Memorial Day holiday.

(12a-30:09)

12a. April 4, 2022. Fire Marshall Castillo spoke on the fireworks sales and stated that if Victoria County is in a burn ban during the fireworks sales period, then they will not be able to open their stands. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kevin Janak, the Commissioners Court approved the request from J&J Fireworks to open their stands for fireworks sales during the Memorial Day holiday. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following items for the Fire Marshal's Office and take appropriate action:

b. Order No. 2022-0036 Authorizing Memorial Day fireworks sales.

(12b-30:09)

12b. April 4, 2022. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kevin Janak, the Commissioners Court approved Order No. 2022-0036 authorizing Memorial Day fireworks sales beginning May 25th, 2022 and ending at midnight on May 30th, 2022. Motion adopted.

- 13. Consider approval of an IDCU/COVID-19 revised Contract No. HHS000812700032 Amendment No. 4 with the Department of State Health Services and take appropriate action.**

(13-31:48)

13. April 4, 2022. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kevin Janak, the Commissioners Court approved the IDCU/COVID-19 revised Contract No. HHS000812700032 Amendment No. 4 with the Department of State Health Services for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

- 14. Consider approval of a Professional Services Agreement with H2O Partners Inc. for the Victoria County FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan and take appropriate action.**

(14-32:49)

14. April 4, 2022. Emergency Management Coordinator Rick McBrayer provided information to the Court. Moved by Kevin Janak and seconded by Clint Ives, the Commissioners Court approved the Professional Services Agreement with H2O Partners Inc, for the Victoria County FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion adopted.

- 15. Consider approval of Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Grant award, Office of the Governor (OOG), Grant No. 4394701, and take appropriate action.**

(15-33:47)

15. April 4, 2022. Sheriff Justin Marr provided information to the Court and stated the Victoria County Sheriff's Office has received a donation from the Victoria 100 Club in the amount of \$9,841.50 to be utilized toward the local grant match requirement. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Commissioner Janak questioned the server space and Sheriff Marr and IT Director John Sestak responded to his question. Moved by Kevin Janak and seconded by Clint Ives, the Commissioners Court approved the grant award from the Office of the Governor (OOG) for the FY22 Body-Worn Camera (BWC) program for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office. Motion adopted.

- 16. Receive the 2022 First Quarter Request Report from the County Engineer and take appropriate action.**

(16-39:22)

16. April 4, 2022. Compliance Specialist Sarah Hamman provided information to the Court. Moved by Clint Ives and seconded by Kevin Janak, the Commissioners Court received the 2022 first quarter Plat Exemption Request report. Motion adopted.

- 17. Reject all bids for the Victoria County Annual Road Material Contract - Cold Mix**

Limestone Rock Asphalt, for all precincts and take appropriate action.

(17-40:13)

17. April 4, 2022. Sarah Hamman, Compliance Specialist, provided two options to the Court for the bids for Cold Mix Limestone Rock Asphalt. The Court held a discussion on the bids and products. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Clint Ives, the Commissioners Court rejected all bids for Cold Mix Limestone Rock Asphalt and the bid specs will be modified to include materials ASPPM 9202 and Type AA and then will go out for rebid. Motion adopted.

18. Consider approval of Final Plat for Castaway Boat & RV Storage Subdivision in Precinct No. 2 and take appropriate action.

(18-46:27)

18. April 4, 2022. Compliance Specialist Sarah Hamman provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the Final Plat for Castaway Boat and RV Storage Subdivision in Precinct No. 2. Motion adopted.

19. Consider approval of plat exemption request from Clay and Lacy Kolle for 2649 J-2 Ranch Road located in Precinct No. 4, and take appropriate action.

(19-46:50)

19. April 4, 2022. Compliance Specialist Sarah Hamman addressed the court on the request for plat exemption. Moved by Clint Ives and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the request for plat exemption from Clay and Lacy Kolle for 2649 J-2 Ranch Road, Inez, Texas in Precinct No. 4. Motion adopted.

20. Consider approval of the Detention Contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice/Detention Facility and Cass County and take appropriate action.

(20-47:30)

20. April 4, 2022. Moved by Kevin Janak and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention contract between the Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice/Detention Facility and Cass County. Motion adopted.

21. Consider approval of the following 2022 budget amendments and take appropriate action:

(21-47:55)

21. April 4, 2022. Moved by Clint Ives and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the 2022 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Expenditures – Line item transfer
- b. National School Lunch Program, Revenues and Expenditures - Increase

Motion adopted.

22. Consider approval of personnel changes and take appropriate action.

(22-48:24)

22. April 4, 2022. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Clint Ives, the Commissioners

Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

- a. Clint Ives, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4 - Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 4:
 - 1. Employment of Thorbin Briones, Courtesy Station Operator, at a rate of \$16.00 per hour, Budget Code 204-614-1120, effective April 5, 2022.
- b. Ashley Hernandez, Tax Assessor Collector - County Tax Office:
 - 1. Employment of Mary Kathleen Peebles Kopecky, Clerk III, at a rate of \$16.50 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106, effective April 5, 2022.
- c. David Gonzales, Public Health Director - Victoria County Public Health Department:
 - 1. Salary change for Elisa Salazar, Clerk III, from a rate of \$15.71 per hour, Budget Code 810-633-1107 to a rate of \$16.50 per hour, effective March 26, 2022.
 - 2. Salary change for Jessica Carrillo, Clerk III, from a rate of \$13.75 per hour, Budget Code 810-633-1107 to a rate of \$14.50 per hour, effective March 26, 2022.
 - 3. Resignation of Cynthia Valenzuela, CSA IV, effective March 29, 2022.
- d. Pama Hencerling, Chief Probation Officer - Juvenile Detention:
 - 1. Employment of Fabian Anthony Soria, Juvenile Supervision Officer, at a rate of \$16.14 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1156, effective April 5, 2022.
- e. Danny Garcia, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1 - Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1:
 - 1. Salary change for Kenneth Karnei, Sr. Equipment Operator, from a rate of \$23.69 per hour, Budget Code 201-611-1108 to a rate of \$24.05 per hour, effective April 9, 2022.
 - 2. Salary change for John "Rusty" Knezek II, Sr. Equipment Operator, from a rate of \$23.69 per hour, Budget Code 201-611-1108 to a rate of \$24.05 per hour, effective April 9, 2022.
 - 3. Salary change for Patrick Pribyl, Sr. Equipment Operator, from a rate of \$23.18 per hour, Budget Code 201-611-1108 to a rate of \$24.05 per hour, effective April 9, 2022.
 - 4. Salary change for Marcus A. Salinas, Sr. Equipment Operator, from a rate of \$22.66 per hour, Budget Code 201-611-1108 to a rate of \$23.34 per hour, effective April 9, 2022.

Motion adopted.

23. Adjourn.

(23-48:48)

23. April 4, 2022. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of April 4, 2022.