

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **6th day of February A.D., 2023**, 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
Jason Ohrt,	Commissioner Precinct No. 2
Gary Burns,	Commissioner Precinct No. 3
Kenneth Sexton,	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, FEBRUARY 6, 2023, 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. February 6, 2023. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, February 6, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. February 6, 2023. 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.

(3-1:20)

3. February 6, 2023. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Michael Vonderau of 2204 E. North Street thanked Animal Services for the trap they provided him and informed the Court of dog issues at the East North Mobile Home Park. Mr. Vonderau also thanked HIDTA Task Force for the arrests in Queen City this past weekend.

Sarah Hamman, Compliance Specialist, informed the Court and the public that the Public Information Act portal is now live and answered questions from the Court.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-6:36)

4. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on January 30, 2023. Motion adopted.

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

(5-6:52)

5. February 6, 2023. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Michelle Samford, County Auditor.

Regular Accounts	02/06/2023	\$523,801.59
Supplemental Accounts	01/27/2023-02/02/2023	\$14,073.81

Motion adopted.

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

(6-7:22)

6. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Judge; County Commissioner, Precinct No. 1; County Commissioner, Precinct 2; County Commissioner, Precinct No 3; County Commissioner, No. 4; Fire Marshal; Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. Two; and Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 3. Motion adopted.

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

(7-7:43)

7. February 6, 2023. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the release of the following bond forfeiture judgments from the Court:

- a. Cause No. CIV1-20549: The State of Texas vs. Christina DeLeon, Defendant & Christopher Embrey, Executor of the Estate of Bruce E. Embrey d/b/a A-Action Bail Bonds, Surety.
- b. Cause No. CIV1-20551: The State of Texas vs. Christina DeLeon, Defendant & Christopher Embrey, Executor of the Estate of Bruce E. Embrey d/b/a A-Action Bail Bonds, Surety.
- c. Cause No. CIV1-20842: The State of Texas vs. Michael Angelo Gonzalez, Defendant and Financial Casualty & Surety Inc, Albert Saenz agent d/b/a AA-Best Bail Bonds Surety.
- d. Cause No. CIV1-20674: The State of Texas vs. Daniel Gloria, Defendant and Bankers Inc. Co., Albert Saenz Agent d/b/a AA-Best Bail Bonds, Surety.
- e. Cause No. CIV2-20892: The State of Texas vs. Christopher Michael Rosales Defendant and A&A Bail Bonds, Surety.
- f. Cause No. CIV2-20264: The State of Texas vs. Jamien Ray Vasquez, Defendant and Bankers Inc. Co., Albert Saenz Agent d/b/a AA-Best Bail Bonds, Surety.

Motion adopted.

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

(8-8:01)

8. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payments for Citizens Medical Center dated February 2, 2023 in the amount of \$853,302.93 and the ACH report dated February 2, 2023 in the amount of \$1,648,134.13. Motion adopted.

9. Consider the following from Victoria County Animal Services and take appropriate action:

a. Approval of a new Logo from Building Brands Marketing.

(9a-8:37)

9a. February 6, 2023. Animal Director Mark Sloat discussed the logos and thanked the Court for their support. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the new logos from Building Brands Marketing for Victoria Animal Services. Motion adopted.

Consider the following from Victoria County Animal Services and take appropriate action:

b. Hear an update from Animal Services Director, Mark Sloat.

(9b-8:37)

9b. February 6, 2023. Mark Sloat, Director of Animal Services, informed the Court about the current intake of dogs, adoptions, cleaning techniques, and staff training at Victoria Animal Services. Mr. Sloat answered questions and held a discussion with the Court. No action taken.

10. Approve updates to the Commissioners Court Liaison Program and take appropriate action.

(10-28:46)

10. February 6, 2023. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the updates to the Commissioners Court Liaison Program. Motion adopted.

11. Consider an update of the following for the 1892 and 1967 Courthouse Entry Step Preservation Project and take appropriate action:

a. Authorize John Johnston, County Engineer to execute any related project documents.

(11a-30:28)

11a. February 6, 2023. The Commissioners heard an update from John Johnston, County Engineer. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved to authorize John Johnston, County Engineer to execute any related project documents regarding the 1892 and 1967 Courthouse Entry Step Preservation Project. Motion adopted.

Consider an update of the following for the 1892 and 1967 Courthouse Entry Step Preservation Project and take appropriate action:

b. Permit application and Preliminary plans.

(11b-30:28)

11b. February 6, 2023. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the Permit Application and Preliminary Plans regarding the 1892 and 1967 Courthouse Entry Step Preservation Project. Motion adopted.

12. Consider approval of Application Submission and Resolution No. 2023-0022 for 2024

Bloomington Safe Neighborhood Project Grant No. 4716901, Office of the Governor (OOG), and take appropriate action.

(12-33:18)

12. February 6, 2023. Sheriff Justin Marr and provided information and answered questions from the Court. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling also answered questions from the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Application Submission and Resolution No. 2023-0022 for the 2024 Bloomington Safe Neighborhood Project Grant No. 4716901, Office of the Governor (OOG). Motion adopted.

13. Receive for the record the fully executed amended professional services contract with Stridde, Callins, and Associates, Inc., and take appropriate action.

(13-37:17)

13. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the fully executed amended professional services contract with Stridde, Callins, and Associates, Inc. Motion adopted.

14. Receive for the record the Re-Inspection Report and Certificate of Compliance from The Texas Commission on Jail Standards and take appropriate action.

(14-37:42)

14. February 6, 2023. Sheriff Marr commended the Detention Unit for their hard work. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Re-Inspection Report and Certificate of Compliance from the Texas Commission on Jail Standards for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office. Motion adopted.

15. Reschedule the public hearing on the application for tax abatement from Prairie Energy to March 20, 2023, and take appropriate action.

(15-39:02)

15. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved to reschedule the public hearing on the application for the tax abatement from Prairie Energy to March 20, 2023. Motion adopted.

16. Consider the following items by the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

a. Approval of Family Connects Program Agreement for 2023.

(16a-40:28)

16a. February 6, 2023. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the 2023 Family Connects Program Agreement for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider the following items by the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

b. Approval of Family Connects International Business Associate Agreement for 2023.

(16b-40:28)

16b. February 6, 2023. David Gonzales, Public Health Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the 2023 Family Connects International Business Associate Agreement for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider the following items by the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

c. Receive a fully executed contract for the Victoria College Emerging Technology Complex.

(16c-40:28)

16c. February 6, 2023. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court received the fully executed contract for the Victoria College Emerging Technology Complex for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

17. Confirm appointments to the Victoria Regional Airport Steering Committee and take appropriate action.

(17-41:36)

17. February 6, 2023. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved to appoint Victoria County Judge Ben Zeller, Commissioner Gary Burns, and Kevin D. Cullen to the Victoria Regional Airport Steering Committee. Motion adopted.

18. Consider approval of the Department of Justice Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification for the Victoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office and take appropriate action.

(18-42:26)

18. February 6, 2023. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Department of Justice Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification for the Victoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office. Motion adopted.

19. Receive the 24th Judicial District Community Supervision and Corrections Department Financial Statement for 2022 and take appropriate action.

(19-43:12)

19. February 6, 2023. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received the 24th Judicial District Community Supervision and Corrections Department Financial Statement for 2022. Motion adopted.

20. Consider the following items regarding the Request for Proposal for a Bank Depository Contract and take appropriate action.

a. Authorization to advertise.

(20a-43:40)

20a. February 6, 2023. County Treasurer Paige Foster provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the authorization to advertise for the Request for Proposal for a Bank Depository Contract. Motion adopted.

Consider the following items regarding the Request for Proposal for a Bank Depository Contract and take appropriate action.

b. Appoint a selection review committee

(20b-43:40)

20b. February 6, 2023. County Treasurer Paige Foster provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved to appoint County Tax Assessor Collector Ashley Hernandez, County Clerk Heidi Easley, First Assistant County Auditor Becky Smiley, Chief Accounting Officer for Citizens Medical Center Carolyn Zafereo, Citizens Medical Center Business Office Manager Greg Czapansky, and County Treasurer Paige Foster to the Selection Review Committee for the Bank Depository Contract. Motion adopted.

21. Consider approval of the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Nacogdoches County and take appropriate action.

(21-48:26)

21. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Nacogdoches County. Motion adopted.

22. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2023-0021 for a donation in the amount of \$200 to Victoria County Animal Services and take appropriate action.

(22-48:52)

22. February 6, 2023. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, pursuant to Local Government Code §81.032, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2023-0021 for a donation from Daniel Jaeckle in the amount of \$200.00 to be utilized for and dedicated to the Victoria County Animal Services. Motion adopted.

23. Consider approval of a request for payment in connection to the Rehabilitate and Widen Roadway Project for McCoy Road and Bayer Road in Pct. No. 1 for Union Pacific Railroad in the amount of \$38,745.52 and take appropriate action.

(23-49:50)

23. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the request for payment to Union Pacific Railroad in the amount of \$38,745.52 in connection to the Rehabilitate and Widen Roadway Project for McCoy Road and Bayer Road in Precinct. No. 1. Motion adopted.

24. Ratify the Rider 45-McCoy & Bayer Rd. CSJ:0913-27-085 project closeout documents and take appropriate action.

(24-50:58)

24. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court ratified the closeout documents for the Rider 45-McCoy & Bayer Rd. CSJ:0913-27-085 project. Motion adopted.

25. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2023-0023 for a road donation in Pct. 3 from

Victor Garcia for installation of a pipe culvert to improve drainage on 4829 Old Goliad Rd., Victoria, Texas in the amount of \$1,079 and take appropriate action.

(25-51:26)

25. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2023-0023 for a road donation from Victor Garcia in the amount of \$1,079.00 for installation of a pipe culvert at 4829 Old Goliad Road, Victoria, Texas, in Precinct No. 1 to improve drainage. Motion adopted.

26. Consider approval of the following for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office and take appropriate action:

a. Grant a Discretionary Bid Exemption pursuant to Local Government Code 262.024(a)(2) for an item necessary to preserve or protect the public health and safety of residents of the County and approve an agreement with Cobweb.

(26a-52:04)

26a. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, pursuant to Local Government Code 262.024(a)(2), the Commissioners Court approved to grant a Discretionary Bid Exemption for an item necessary to preserve or protect the public health and safety of residents of the County and an agreement with Cobweb. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office and take appropriate action:

b. Grant a Discretionary Bid Exemption pursuant to Local Government Code 262.024(a)(2) for an item necessary to preserve or protect the public health and safety of residents of the County and approve an agreement with Cellebrite, Inc.

(26b-52:04)

26b. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, pursuant to Local Government Code 262.024(a)(2), the Commissioners Court approved to grant a Discretionary Bid Exemption for an item necessary to preserve or protect the public health and safety of residents of the County and an agreement with Cellebrite, Inc. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office and take appropriate action:

c. Approve an agreement with Motorola Solutions for dispatch equipment.

(26c-52:04)

26c. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved an agreement between Victoria County Sheriff's Office and Motorola Solutions for dispatch equipment. Motion adopted.

27. Consider approval of the following 2023 budget amendments and take appropriate action:

(27-53:09)

27. February 6, 2023. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the 2023 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund, Various Departments, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- b. Sheriff's Donation Fund, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

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

(28-53:39)

28. February 6, 2023. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

- a. Paige Foster, County Treasurer - County Treasurers' Office:
 - 1. Public Funds Investment Act 2023 Certificate of Course completion from the County Treasurers' Association of Texas for Lori Paige Foster, Treasurer.
 - 2. Employment of Kaci Crawford, Payroll Assistant, at a rate of \$17.89 per hour, Budget Code 100-497-1104, effective February 7, 2023
- b. Danny Garcia, Commissioner, Precinct No.1 - Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1:
 - 1. Salary Change for Rudy Ramirez, Sr. Equip Operator, from a rate of \$20.00 per hour, Budget Code 201-611-1108 to a rate of \$21.50 per hour, effective January 28, 2023.
- c. Justin Marr, Sheriff- Sheriff's Office
 - 1. Employment of Austin Christensen, Detention Tier 1, at a rate of \$18.53 per hour, Budget Code 100-565-1116, effective February 22, 2023.
 - 2. Employment of Marlina Flores, Detention Tier 1, at a rate of \$18.53 per hour, Budget Code 100-565-1116, effective February 22, 2023.
 - 3. Employment of Adrian Tovar, Detention Tier 1, at a rate of \$18.53 per hour, Budget Code 100-565-1116, effective February 14, 2023.
 - 4. Dismissal of Richard Williams, Courts/Extrad Tier 3, with 80.0 PTO and 5.25 Compensatory hours due, effective February 1, 2023.
 - 5. VCSO Salary Adjustment Certification for Chris Garcia, to be paid Intermediate Certificate Pay of \$23.08 per pay period, effective February 17, 2023. Certification date for Chris Garcia is August 2, 2022. Budget Coding: Detention Certificate Pay 100-565-1137. Remarks: Deputy Garcia was hired with his Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate.
- d. David Gonzales, Public Health Director, Victoria County Public Health Department:
 - 1. Dismissal of Autumn White, Nurse, effective January 31, 2023.

Motion adopted.

29. Adjourn.

(29-54:25)

29. February 6, 2023. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of February 6, 2023.