

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **5th day February A.D., 2024**, 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 5, 2024, 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 5, 2024. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, February 5, 2024, at 10:01 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. February 5, 2024. 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.

(3-2:05)

3. February 5, 2024. 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 spoke about the participation in the Mayoral race. He also thanked Victoria Animal Services for handling the dog situation in Bloomington and informed the Court about issues at the East North Mobile Home park.

(49:00) Commissioner Gary Burns spoke about discrepancies and misunderstandings in regard to private property flooding and how the owners build up their property and divert the water to surrounding landowners. Commissioner Burns spoke about information he found out on how to handle this situation.

Mr. Cecil Crouch of 400 Cowboy Road informed the Court of how flooding affects his property and surrounding properties.

Commissioner Sexton read Texas Water Code Section 11.086 to the Court.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes, including project and planning workshop minutes, and take appropriate action.

(4-4:35)

4. February 5, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on January 29, 2024, and the project and planning meeting held on January 30, 2024. Motion adopted.

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

(5-4:57)

5. February 5, 2024. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Michelle Samford, County Auditor.

Regular Accounts	2/5/2024	\$294,103.33
Supplemental Accounts	1/26/2024 – 2/1/2024	\$83,075.62

Motion adopted.

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

(6-5:28)

6. February 5, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Judge; County Commissioners, Precincts Nos. 1-4; and Constable, Precinct No. 3. Motion adopted.

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

(7-6:01)

7. February 5, 2024. None. No action taken.

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

(8-6:20)

8. February 5, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payment for Citizens Medical Center dated February 1, 2024, in the amount of \$474,734.86 and the ACH report dated February 1, 2024, in the amount of \$1,420,839.03. Motion adopted.

9. Hear an operational update regarding the Victoria Regional Airport and take appropriate action.

(9-6:48)

9. February 5, 2024. Lenny Llerena, Executive Director, gave a presentation regarding 2023 Financials, 2023 Fuel Sales YTD, 2023 FBO Report, 2023 Enplanements, pending grant applications, 2023 Terminal Check-Point Upgrade, and the 2023 Skywest New EAS Contract for the Victoria Regional Airport. Mr. Llerena discussed the rental car program with the Court. No action taken.

10. Receive for the record the Selection Order from the U.S. Department of Transportation selecting SkyWest Airlines Inc. to provide Essential Air Service (EAS) to Victoria, Texas, and take appropriate action.

(10-27:16)

10. February 5, 2024. Executive Director Lenny Llerena provided information to the Court. Mr. Llerena held a discussion with the Court and answered questions. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Selection Order from the U.S. Department of Transportation selecting SkyWest Airlines Inc. to provide Essential Air Service (EAS) to Victoria, Texas. Motion adopted.

11. Consider approval of appointments to the Victoria Animal Services Shelter Advisory

Committee and take appropriate action.

(11-39:00)

11. February 5, 2024. Victoria Animal Services Director Mark Sloat provided information to the Court. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the appointments of Joe Hernandez and Tina Wayne along with Gary Burns, Jennifer Werland, Dr. Lee Zeplin, and Mike Atkinson to the Victoria Animal Services Shelter Advisory Committee. Motion adopted.

12. 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.

(12-41:55)

12. February 5, 2024. County Auditor Michelle Samford provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the Department of Justice Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification for the Victoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office. Motion adopted.

13. Consider approval of a residential contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and El Paso County and take appropriate action.

(13-43:03)

13. February 5, 2024. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and El Paso County. Motion adopted.

14. Discuss and consider the possible sale of Citizens Medical Center's Mission Valley Clinic and take appropriate action.

(14-43:53)

14. February 5, 2024. County Judge Zeller discussed the sale of the Citizens Medical Center's Mission Valley Clinic located on FM 236. Judge Zeller stated the clinic has not been used in years. He also mentioned that Citizens Medical Center's hospital board stated they are no longer in need of the clinic and asked the Commissioners Court to start the sale process. Judge Zeller stated a realtor would be listing the clinic within the next few days/weeks and the asking price is unknown at this time. Procurement Specialist Amanda Reyes will be working with the realtor and hospital during this process. No action taken.

15. Receive for the record a Discretionary Funds Budget Amendment for the CDA Contraband Forfeiture Fund (370) and take appropriate action.

(15-47:19)

15. February 5, 2024. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 2024 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment for the CDA Contraband Forfeiture Fund (370) as an increase. Motion adopted.

16. Consider approval of the following 2024 budget amendments and take appropriate

action.

(16-47:48)

16. February 5, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the 2024 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund, Various Departments, Expenditures – Line item transfer
- b. Road and Bridge, Precinct No 1, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Airport Fund, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- d. Health Department, Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

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

(17-48:26)

17. February 5, 2024. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

- a. Vinicio Llerena, Executive Director - Victoria Regional Airport:
 - 1. Resignation of Kaitlen Flenner, Clerk III, with 7.62 PTO hours due, effective January 31, 2024.
- b. Justin Marr, Sheriff - Sheriff's Office:
 - 1. Correction (salary and tier): Employment of Jeffrey Rendon, SRO, at a rate of \$27.39 per hour, Budget Code 395-560-1109, effective January 30, 2024. Remarks: Grade 7 LE Tier 5.
 - 2. VCSO Salary Adjustment Certification for Keri Marshman, to be paid Advanced Certificate Pay of \$46.15 per pay period, effective February 16, 2024. Certification date for Keri Marshman is January 25, 2024. Budget Coding: Admin. Certificate Pay 100-562-1137. Remarks: Officer Marshman received her Advanced Jailer's Certificate on 01/25/2024.
- c. Danny Garcia, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1 - Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1:
 - 1. Employment of Alberto Adame, Extra Help, at a rate of \$19.00 per hour, Budget Code 201-611-1130, effective February 6, 2024.
- d. Mark Sloat, Animal Services Director - Victoria County Animal Services:
 - 1. Employment of Courtney Bailiff, Animal Control Officer, at a rate of \$16.57 per hour, Budget Code 100-630-1107, effective February 13, 2024. Grade 4, Plan General.
- e. Ashley Hernandez, Tax Assessor Collector - Victoria County Tax Office:
 - 1. Employment (Rehire) of Kelly Bayardo, Accounting Clerk, at a rate of \$18.00 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1107, effective February 6, 2024. Grade 3 Plan General.

Motion adopted.

18. Closed meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.072 to discuss real property, and 551.074 to discuss personnel matters.

(18-59:38)

18. February 5, 2024. The Commissioners Court went into closed session at 11:00 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.072 to discuss real property, and §551.074 to discuss personnel matters.

19. Pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, return to open meeting and take any action deemed necessary based upon discussion in closed meeting.

(19-1:19:49)

19. February 5, 2024. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 11:20 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

20. Adjourn.

(20-1:20:02)

20. February 5, 2024. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of February 5, 2024.