

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **12th day February A.D., 2024**, the Commissioners Court convened in **Regular 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 12, 2024, 10:00 AM, REGULAR TERM

VICTORIA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

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

1. Call to Order.

(1-0:00)

1. February 12, 2024. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Regular Term for Monday, February 12, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. February 12, 2024. County 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.

(3-1:22)

3. February 12, 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 voiced his concerns about the potholes in the East North Mobile Home Park.

Commissioner Burns spoke about the Victoria County Animal Service's television ad during the Superbowl game. Animal Services Director Mark Sloat explained the ad to the Court.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-5:35)

4. February 12, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court, approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on February 5, 2024. Motion adopted.

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

(5-5:53)

5. February 12, 2024. 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	2/12/2024	\$450,504.17
Supplemental Accounts	2/2/2024 – 2/8/2024	\$215,791.10

Motion adopted.

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

(6-6:16)

6. February 12, 2024. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Treasurer; County Clerk; Criminal District Attorney; County Auditor; Fire Marshal; Justices of the Peace, Precincts Nos. 1, 2, and 4; Constables, Precincts Nos. 2 and 4; Pre-Trial Services; and County Extension Agent-Ag/Natural Resources. Motion adopted.

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

(7-6:48)

7. February 12, 2024. None. No action taken.

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

(8-6:57)

8. February 12, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payment for Citizens Medical Center dated February 8, 2024, in the amount of \$749,675.79 and the ACH report dated February 8, 2024, in the amount of \$1,530,876.71. Motion adopted.

9. Hear an update from Victoria County Veteran Services and take appropriate action.

(9-7:32)

9. February 12, 2024. John Williams, Veteran Services Director, spoke about the growth and services of the Veteran Services Office. Oscar Pulido of Military Veterans Peer Network provided an overview of the organization. Mr. Williams and Mr. Pulido answered questions from the Court. No action taken.

10. Consider approval of the 2022 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Grant Award Modification 2-Final, Grant No. G22HN0020A and take appropriate action.

(10-21:27)

10. February 12, 2024. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2022 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Grant Award Modification 2-Final, Grant No. G22HN0020A. Motion adopted.

11. Consider approval of a request for payment to Citizens Medical Center in the

amount of \$209,250.86 for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Subrecipient Project No. VICT-11 and take appropriate action.

(11-22:39)

11. February 12, 2024. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the request for payment to Citizens Medical Center in the amount of \$209,250.86 for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Subrecipient Project No. VICT-11. Motion adopted.

- 12. Consider approval of the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Operation Stonegarden Grant Program (OPSG) Resolution 2024-0015, State of Texas eGrants Grant No. 3186209, and take appropriate action.**

(12-23:12)

12. February 12, 2024. Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Operation Stonegarden Grant Program (OPSG) Resolution 2024-0015, State of Texas eGrants Grant No. 3186209. Motion adopted.

- 13. Consider approval of the following items for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:**

a. Family Connects Program Agreement FY24 & Family Connects International Non-Disclosure, Confidentiality, and Non-Competition Agreement.

(13a-24:46)

13a. February 12, 2024. David Gonzales, Public Health Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the Family Connects Program Agreement FY24 and Family Connects International Non-Disclosure, Confidentiality, and Non-Competition Agreement for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following items for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

b. Independent Contractor Agreement for Community Outreach Assistant/Hogg Foundation for a Mental Health Grant.

(13b-24:46)

13b. February 12, 2024. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the Independent Contractor Agreement for Community Outreach Assistant/Hogg Foundation for a Mental Health Grant for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following items for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

c. Service Agreement with Sarah Cann for website content design services.

(13c-24:46)

13c. February 12, 2024. David Gonzales, Public Health Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the Service Agreement with Sarah Cann for website content design services for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following items for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

d. Receive for the record a fully executed revised IDCU/COVID-19 contract NO HHS000812700032 Amendment No. 5.

(13d-24:46)

13d. February 12, 2024. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court received for the record the fully executed revised IDCU/COVID-19 Contract No. HHS000812700032 Amendment No. 5 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

14. Consider approval of the 2024 Website Services Agreement with Texas Associates of Counties (TAC) and take appropriate action.

(14-28:18)

14. February 12, 2024. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2024 Website Services Agreement with Texas Associates of Counties (TAC). Motion adopted.

15. Consider approval of the following request for payment in connection to CDBG Hurricane Disaster Recovery Program Contract No. 20-065-094-C262 and take appropriate action:

a. GrantWorks Inc. in the amount of \$5,627.00.

(15a-29:30)

15a. February 12, 2024. Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the request for payment from GrantWorks, Inc. in the amount of \$5,627.00 in connection to CDBG Hurricane Disaster Recovery Program Contract No. 20-065-094-C262. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following request for payment in connection to CDBG Hurricane Disaster Recovery Program Contract No. 20-065-094-C262 and take appropriate action:

b. CivilCorp Engineers in the amount of \$7,617.75.

(15b-29:30)

15b. February 12, 2024. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the request for payment from CivilCorp Engineers in the amount of \$7,617.75 in connection to CDBG Hurricane Disaster Recovery Program Contract No. 20-065-094-C262. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following request for payment in connection to CDBG Hurricane Disaster Recovery Program Contract No. 20-065-094-C262 and take appropriate action:

c. Constar Construction in the amount of \$169,334.20.

(15c-29:30)

15c. February 12, 2024. Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the request for payment from Constar Construction in the amount of \$169,334.20 in connection to CDBG Hurricane Disaster Recovery Program Contract No. 20-065-094-C262. Motion adopted.

- 16. Consider approval of a residential contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Fisher, Mitchell, and Nolan Counties and take appropriate action.**

(16-34:57)

16. February 12, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the Residential Contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Fisher, Mitchell, and Nolan Counties. Motion adopted.

- 17. Consider approval of Resolution 2024-0014 for a road donation in Pct. 1 from Richard Martinez for the installation of a driveway and pipe culvert to improve drainage at 101 Dover St., Victoria, Texas 77905 for the value of \$540.00 and take appropriate action.**

(17-35:46)

17. February 12, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2024-0014 for a road donation in the amount of \$540.00 from Richard Martinez at 101 Dover Street, Victoria, Texas, 77905 in Precinct No. 1 for installation of a driveway and pipe culvert to improve drainage. Motion adopted.

- 18. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2024-0013 for a road donation in Pct. 3 from William Means for the installation of a pipe culvert to improve drainage on 2395 San Antonio River Rd., Victoria, Texas 77905 in the amount of \$1,171.00 and take appropriate action.**

(18-36:13)

18. February 12, 2024. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2024-0013 for a road donation in the amount of \$1,171.00 from William Means at 2395 San Antonio River Road, Victoria, Texas, 77905 in Precinct No. 3 for installation of a driveway and pipe culvert to improve drainage. Motion adopted.

- 19. Receive the following letters of permission to enter and work on the private property for the purpose of clearing ditches and underbrush for drainage improvement in the County ROW in Pct. 3 and take appropriate action:**
a. Ken Lemke located at 812 Kobitz Rd.

(19a-36:42)

19a. February 12, 2024. Commissioner Gary Burns provided information to the Court. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court received a letter of permission from Ken Lemke to enter and work on private property located at 812 Kobitz Road in Precinct No. 3 for the purpose of clearing ditches and underbrush for drainage improvement in the County ROW. Motion adopted.

Receive the following letters of permission to enter and work on the private property for the purpose of clearing ditches and underbrush for drainage improvement in the County ROW in Pct. 3 and take appropriate action:

b. Barbara Dietzel located at 1176 Coletoville Rd.

(19b-36:42)

19b. February 12, 2024. Commissioner Gary Burns provided information to the Court. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court received a letter of permission from Barbara Dietzel to enter and work on private property located at 1176 Coletoville Road in Precinct No. 3 for the purpose of clearing ditches and underbrush for drainage improvement in the County ROW. Motion adopted.

20. Consider approval of the following 2024 budget amendments and take appropriate action:

(20-37:14)

20. February 12, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Gary Burns, the Commissioners Court approved the 2024 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund, Various Departments, Expenditures – Line item transfer
- b. District Clerk Record Management, Expenditures – Line item transfer
- c. District Clerk of the Court, Expenditures – Line item transfer
- d. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 3, Expenditures - Increase
- e. Pretrial Intervention, Expenditures - Increase
- f. National School Lunch Program, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- g. Elections Administrators Special, Expenditures - Increase
- h. Airport Fund, Expenditures – Line item transfer
- i. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 2, Expenditures – Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

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

(21-38:31)

21. February 12, 2024. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

- a. Heidi Easley, County Clerk - County Clerk's Office:
 - 1. Certificate of Completion for 20 hours of continuing education from The County and District Clerks Association of Texas for Heidi Easley, County Clerk.
- b. Kim Plummer, District Clerk - District Clerk's Office:
 - 1. Certificate of Completion for 20 hours of continuing education from The County and District Clerks Association of Texas for Kim Plummer, District Clerk.
- c. Justin Marr, Sheriff - Sheriff's Office:
 - 1. Employment of Justin Schau, Detention Deputy, at a rate of \$25.31 per hour, Budget Codes 100-565-1114-24.29, 288-565-1114-1.02, and STATE GRANT LGC 130.911, effective February 21, 2024. Grade 7 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 - 2. Retirement of Henry Cunningham, Admin Deputy, with 37.39 PTO and 103.65 Compensatory hours due, effective February 9, 2024.
- d. Pama Hencerling, Chief Probation Officer - Juvenile Detention:
 - 1. Employment of Tiffany Ann Alaniz, JSO, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Codes 100-573-1156 and 231-572-1136 FT @ \$115.38 Salary Adj Dir., effective February 13, 2024. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
- e. Jason Ohrt, County Commissioner, Precinct No. 2 - Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 2:
 - 1. Employment of William Albrecht, Sr. Equipment Operator, at a rate of \$23.00 per hour, Budget Code 202-612-1108, effective February 13, 2024. Grade 7 Plan General.

f. David Gonzales, Public Health Director - Victoria County Public Health Department:

1. Employment of Destiny Cano, Special Projects/Public Relations Director, at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, Budget Code 808-631-1112, effective February 13, 2024. Other Remarks: CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE: \$1080.00 - 808-631-1139. Grade 7 Plan General.

Motion adopted.

22. Closed meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.087 to discuss Economic Development.

(22-39:05)

22. February 12, 2024. The Commissioners Court did not hold a closed session pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.087 to discuss Economic Development.

23. 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.

(23-39:29)

23. February 12, 2024. The Commissioners Court did not return to an open meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, due to not holding a closed session.

24. Adjourn.

(24-39:36)

24. February 12, 2024. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of February 12, 2024.