

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **15th day April 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	Absent

and the following orders were passed:



COUNTY OF VICTORIA

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF VICTORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

Monday, April 15, 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. April 15, 2024. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, April 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. April 15, 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.

(3-1:07)

3. April 15, 2024. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Emergency Management Director Rick McBrayer informed the Commissioner's that they will be receiving text messages in connection to road closures. Mr. McBrayer also provided information on the 2024 Mid Coast Hurricane and Disaster Conference to be held on April 17 - 18, 2024.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-3:58)

4. April 15, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on April 8, 2024. Motion adopted.

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

(5-4:12)

5. April 15, 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	4/15/2024	\$594,313.23
Supplemental Accounts	4/5/2024 – 4/11/2024	\$138,528.21

Motion adopted.

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

(6-4:44)

6. April 15, 2024. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Clerk; Fire Marshal; Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 1; Constables, Precincts Nos. 1, 2, and 4; County Extension Agent-Family Community Health; County Extension Agent-Ag/Natural Resources; County Extension Agent-4-H Youth Development. Motion adopted.

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

(7-5:07)

7. April 15, 2024. None. No action taken.

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

(8-5:40)

8. April 15, 2024. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payment for Citizens Medical Center dated April 11, 2024, in the amount of \$669,034.77 and the ACH report dated April 11, 2024, in the amount of \$1,636,771.89. Motion adopted.

9. Hear a proclamation designating April 14 - 20, 2024 as National Telecommunicators Week, and take appropriate action.

(9-6:18)

9. April 15, 2024. Chief Deputy Will Franklin introduced Tammy Oliver, Communications Sergeant; Captain Ryan Mikulec; and Communications Officer Kristin Garza. County Judge Zeller read the Proclamation declaring April 14 - 20, 2024 as National Telecommunicators Week in Victoria County. Motion adopted.

10. Discuss and consider modifications to the Victoria County Tax Abatement Guidelines and Criteria and take appropriate action.

(10-2:39:34)

10. April 15, 2024. The Commissioners Court passed on the modifications to the Victoria County Tax Abatement Guidelines and Criteria. No action taken.

11. Consider approval of a maintenance agreement with AmeriTex Elevator Texas, LLC and take appropriate action.

(11-11:25)

11. April 15, 2024. Facilities Manager Kelly Hubert provided information to the Court and answered the Courts questions. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the maintenance agreement with AmeriTex Elevator Texas, LLC. Motion adopted.

- 12. Consider authorization of the County Judge to execute a task order with CivilCorp related to the site evaluation of the property submitted in response to SFP - Real Property for Inpatient Mental Health Facility and take appropriate action.**

(12-16:05)

12. April 15, 2024. County Engineer John Johnston provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the authorization of the County Judge to execute a task order with CivilCorp related to the site evaluation of the property submitted in response to SFP - Real Property for Inpatient Mental Health Facility. Motion adopted.

- 13. Consider approval of a request for payment to Citizens Medical Center in the amount of \$103,918.76 for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Subrecipient Project No. VICT-11 and take appropriate action.**

(13-20:00)

13. April 15, 2024. 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 \$103,918.76 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for a Subrecipient Project No. VICT-11. Motion adopted. County Judge Zeller stated that on April 24, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., there will be a groundbreaking for the ICU Project.

- 14. Consider approval of the Detention and Residential contracts between the 33rd and 424th Judicial Districts (Burnet, Llano, Blanco, San Saba and Gillespie Counties) and the Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice/Detention Facility, and take appropriate action.**

(14-21:08)

14. April 15, 2024. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice/Detention Facility and the 33rd and 424th Judicial Districts (Burnet, Llano, Blanco, San Saba and Gillespie Counties). Motion adopted.

- 15. Receive for the record the minutes of the Crossroads Regional Public Defender Oversight Board and take appropriate action.**

(15-21:39)

15. April 15, 2024. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received for the record the meeting minutes from December 1, 2023; February 15, 2024; March 6, 2024; March 18, 2024; and the draft minutes from April 10, 2024; for the Crossroads Regional Public Defender Oversight Board. Motion adopted.

- 16. Receive for the record an Advance Funding Agreement for Bridge Replacement or Rehabilitation Off the State System from the Texas Department of Transportation**

(TxDOT) Highway Bridge Program for Coletoville Road and Old Goliad Road over Dry Creek in Pct. 3 and take appropriate action.

(16-24:54)

16. April 15, 2024. Commissioner Gary Burns provided information to the Court. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record an Advance Funding Agreement for Bridge Replacement or Rehabilitation Off the State System from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Highway Bridge Program for Coletoville Road and Old Goliad Road over Dry Creek in Precinct No. 3. Motion adopted.

17. Hold a discussion on the drainage of Old Goliad Road in Pct. 3 and take appropriate action.

(17-25:54)

17. April 15, 2024. Commissioner Gary Burns spoke about the drainage issue between Josephine and Village Lane. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved to continue with Commissioner Burn's process to hire CivilCorp to do analysis on the property and continue forward to solve the drainage issue on Old Goliad Road in Precinct No. 3. Motion adopted.

18. Receive for the record the 2024 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment for the Tax Assessor Special Inventory Fund 499 and take appropriate action.

(18-29:15)

18. April 15, 2024. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 2024 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment for the Tax Assessor Special Inventory Fund No. 499 as a line item transfer. Motion adopted.

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

(19-29:47)

19. April 15, 2024. Moved by Gary Burns and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the 2024 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Revenues and Expenditures – Line item transfer
- b. Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Airport Capital Projects Fund, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- d. Health Insurance Fund, Revenues – Decrease
- e. General Fund, Sheriff's Office, Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

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

(20-31:07)

20. April 15, 2024. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

- a. David Gonzales, Public Health Director - Victoria County Public Health Department:
 - 1. Employment of Delicia Hicks, PAT Parent Educator, at a rate of \$18.50 per hour, Budget Code 803-631-1150, effective April 16, 2024. Grade 5 Plan General.
- b. Richard Castillo, Fire Marshal - Fire Marshal's Office:
 - 1. Retirement of Tracy W. Gillett, ARFF Specialist, with 80.0 PTO and 63.69 Compensatory hours due, effective April 9, 2024. Other Remarks: Letter of retirement dated April 9, 2024 effective immediately.
- c. Ben Zeller, County Judge - County Judge's Office:
 - 1. Correction (Date/Remarks): Employment of Brian Watson, Chief Public Defender, at a rate of \$76.92 per hour, Budget Code 525-401-1101, effective May 6, 2024. Other Remarks: Cell phone allowance - Expanded \$1,080.04 Annual, 525-401-1139.

Motion adopted.

- 21. Closed meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government code §551.087, to discuss Economic Development, and §551.074 to discuss Personnel Matters, and §551.071 to conduct private consultation with the County's attorney regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.**

(21-33:16)

21. April 15, 2024. The Commissioners Court went into closed session at 10:34 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.087 to discuss Economic Development and §551.074 to discuss Personnel Matters, and §551.071 to conduct private consultation with the County's attorney regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.

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

(22-2:39:04)

22. April 15, 2024. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 12:39 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

- 23. Adjourn.**

(23-2:39:49)

23. April 15, 2024. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of April 15, 2024.