

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **3rd day February A.D., 2025**, 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	Absent
Jason Ohrt,	Commissioner Precinct No. 2	
Shannon Martin,	Commissioner Precinct No. 3	
Kenneth Sexton,	Commissioner Precinct No. 4	
and		
Heidi Easley,	County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk	Absent

and the following orders were passed:



COUNTY OF VICTORIA

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF VICTORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

Monday, February 3, 2025, 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 3, 2025. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, February 3, 2025, at 10:02 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. February 3, 2025. 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.

(3-3:37)

3. February 3, 2025. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Christopher Green, former Victoria Advocate reporter, informed the Court of his new media outlet he started. County Judge Zeller responded to Mr. Green.

Rick McBrayer, Emergency Management Coordinator, and Commissioner Jason Ohrt spoke about the major gas leak on McCormick Drive last Tuesday.

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-7:51)

4. February 3, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on January 27, 2025. Motion adopted.

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

(5-8:37)

5. February 3, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Michelle Samford, County Auditor.

Regular Accounts	2/3/2025	\$234,122.79
Supplemental Accounts	1/24/2025 – 1/30/2025	\$232,185.44

Motion adopted.

- 6. Receive monthly and quarterly reports from various county officials and departments and take appropriate action.**
(6-9:03)
6. February 3, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the monthly report from Constable, Precinct No. 3. Motion adopted.
- 7. Consider approval of bond forfeiture releases and take appropriate action.**
(7-9:25)
7. February 3, 2025. None. No action taken.
- 8. Consider approval of CMC Interim vendor payments and take appropriate action.**
(8-9:33)
8. February 3, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the CMC interim vendor payments dated January 30, 2025, in the amount of \$294,825.86 and the ACH report dated January 30, 2025, in the amount of \$2,111,678.02. Motion adopted.
- 9. Hear a presentation from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) regarding the draft 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and take appropriate action.**
(9-10:07)
9. February 3, 2025. Maggie Bergeron, MPO Administrator, spoke about the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to the Court and introduced Ben Magallon of Alliance Transportation Group. Mr. Magallon gave a presentation on the draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) April 2025. Ms. Bergeron and Mr. Magallon answered questions from the Court. No action taken.
- 10. Discuss and consider possible Victoria Regional Airport commercial flight promotions previously offered to county and city employees and take appropriate action.**
(10-30:11)
10. February 3, 2025. Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director Lenny Llerena held a discussion with the Court regarding promotions for flights at the Victoria Regional Airport. After discussion, the Commissioners Court passed on the Victoria Regional Airport commercial flight promotions previously offered to county and city employees. No action taken.
- 11. Consider approval of Resolution No 2025-016 opposing the elimination of the Countywide Polling Place Program and take appropriate action.**
(11-39:38)
11. February 3, 2025. Elections Administrator Margetta Hill provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-016 opposing the elimination of the Countywide Polling Place Program. Motion adopted.
- 12. Discuss and consider revisions to Section 6.05 of the Personnel Policy regarding overtime compensation and take appropriate action.**

(12-44:56)

12. February 3, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved revisions to Section 6.05 of the Personnel Policy regarding overtime compensation. Motion adopted.

13. Discuss and consider a possible Inclement Weather and Emergencies Policy and take appropriate action.

(13-49:30)

13. February 3, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu spoke about the possible Inclement Weather and Emergencies Policy. The Commissioners Court passed on the Inclement Weather and Emergencies Policy. No action taken.

14. Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Victoria County Drainage District No.3 in regard to MS4 stormwater permitting and take appropriate action.

(14-56:24)

14. February 3, 2025. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Victoria County Drainage District No. 3 in regard to MS4 stormwater permitting. Motion adopted.

15. Consider the following associated with the Regional Juvenile Justice Center Generator project under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4485-0040, administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), and take appropriate action:

a. Rescind the authorization of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) made by Commissioners Court on May 20, 2024 for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4485-0040 administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM).

(15a-58:30)

15a. February 3, 2025. Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved to rescind the authorization of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) made by Commissioners Court on May 20, 2024 for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4485-0040 administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) associated with the Regional Juvenile Justice Center Generator project. Motion adopted.

Consider the following associated with the Regional Juvenile Justice Center Generator project under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4485-0040, administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), and take appropriate action:

b. Authorize to Advertise Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for architectural/engineering services — HMGP DR-4485-0040, Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center Generator.

(15b-58:30)

15b. February 3, 2025. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved to authorize to advertise Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for architectural/engineering services - HMGP DR-4485-0040 associated with the

Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center Generator project under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4485-0040 administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). Motion adopted.

Consider the following associated with the Regional Juvenile Justice Center Generator project under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4485-0040, administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), and take appropriate action:

c. Establish selection review committee for DR-4485-0040 Request for Qualifications. (15c-58:30)

15c. February 3, 2025. Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the selection review committee of Commissioner Shannon Martin, Kelly Arnecke, Kelly Hubert, John Johnston, and Robin Knipling for DR-4485-0040 Request for Qualifications associated with the Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center Generator project under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4485-0040 administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). Motion adopted.

- 16. Consider approval of a Contract with Rawley McCoy & Associates, PLLC for the DR-4485-0005 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) application in regard to the Victoria County Regional Emergency Operations Community (VCREOC) Safe Room project and take appropriate action.**

(16-1:00:05)

16. February 3, 2025. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the contract with Rawley McCoy & Associates, PLLC for the DR-4485-0005 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) application in regard to the Victoria County Regional Emergency Operations Community (VCREOC) Safe Room Project. Motion adopted.

- 17. Consider the following in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328 and take appropriate action:**

a. Approve Resolution No. 2025-017, designating authorized signatories for the 2023 Texas CDBG program.

(17a-1:00:49)

17a. February 3, 2025. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-017, designating authorized signatories for the 2023 Texas CDBG program in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328 and take appropriate action:

b. Approve Resolution No. 2025-018, adopting required CDBG Civil Rights policies.

(17b-1:00:49)

17b. February 3, 2025. Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, provided the Court with information. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-0018, adopting required CDBG Civil Rights policies

in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328 and take appropriate action:

c. Proclaim April as Fair Housing Month, as required by the TxCDBG Grant Program.

(17c-1:00:49)

17c. February 3, 2025. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved to proclaim April as Fair Housing Month, as required by the TxCDBG Grant Program in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328 and take appropriate action:

d. Receive Victoria County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 Resolution authorizing match commitment.

(17d-1:00:49)

17d. February 3, 2025. Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, provided the Court with information. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received Victoria County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 Resolution authorizing match commitment in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328 and take appropriate action:

e. Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Victoria County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1.

(17e-1:00:49)

17e. February 3, 2025. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Intergovernmental Agreement with Victoria County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 in association with the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) Agreement Number CDV-0328. Motion adopted.

18. Consider approval of the 2024 Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification and take appropriate action.

(18-1:03:47)

18. February 3, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the 2024 Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office. Motion adopted.

19. Consider approval of Citizens Medical Center ICU Expansion & Renovation AIA Document G702 Application for Payment No. 8 and take appropriate action.

(19-1:04:24)

19. February 3, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Citizens Medical Center ICU Expansion and Renovation

AIA Document G702 Application for Payment No. 8 in the amount of \$460,328.73.
Motion adopted.

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

(20-1:05:29)

20. February 3, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

- a. Maryann Rivera, Justice of the Peace - Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 1:
 1. Employment of Melody Silva, Court Clerk, at a rate of \$18.00 per hour, Budget Code 100-455-1105, effective February 4, 2025. Grade 4 Plan General
- b. Justin Marr, Sheriff - Sheriff's Office:
 1. Employment of Melissa Garrett, Detention Officer, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Codes 100-565-1116-\$18.74 and 288-565-1116-\$2.02, effective February 19, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 2. Position/other code change for Marion Hetherington, Sergeant, at a rate of \$33.39 per hour, from Budget Codes 100-564-1107-\$31.78, 288-564-1106-\$1.61, and 100-564-1137-\$46.15 to Budget Codes 100-564-1107-\$31.78, 288-564-1107-\$1.61, and 100-564-1137-\$46.15, effective January 25, 2025. Grade 9 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 5.
 3. Position/other code change for Jacob Lopez, Interdiction Deputy, at a rate of \$27.39 per hour, from Budget Codes 100-564-1112-\$26.60, 288-564-1106-\$0.79, and 100-564-1137-\$23.08 to Budget Codes 100-564-1112-\$26.60, 288-564-1112-\$0.79, and 100-564-1137-\$23.08, effective January 25, 2025. Grade 7 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 5.
- c. Ben Zeller, County Judge - County Judge's Office:
 1. Employment of Ashlee Sims, Administrative Assistant, at a rate of \$18.23 per hour, Budget Codes 100-400-1103 and 203-613-1139-\$18.46 per pay period, effective January 28, 2025. Grade 6 Plan General.
- d. Pama Hencerling, Juvenile Chief Probation Officer - Juvenile Detention:
 1. Employment of Victor Manuel Gonzalez, Jr., JSO-PT, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1157, effective February 4, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 2. Employment of Noe Botello, Jr., JSO, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Codes 100-573-1156 and 231-572-1136 FT@\$230.77, effective February 4, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 3. Employment of Rebecca Amaya, Cook, at a rate of \$15.25 per hour, Budget Codes 100-573-1174 \$5.09(33.33%) and 392-573-1174 \$10.16 (66.67%), effective February 4, 2025. Grade 1 Plan General.
 4. Dismissal of Donovan Nathaniel Perez, JSO, effective January 30, 2025.
- e. Pama Hencerling/David Gonzales, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer/Public Health Director - Juvenile Detention/Public Health Department:
 1. Position change for Daisy M. Vrana, from JSO-PT (Juvenile Detention), at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1157 to Sanitation Inspector (Public Health Department), at a rate of \$18.23 per hour, Budget Code 809-631-1109, effective February 8, 2025. Other Remarks: Transfer of Departments. Grade 6 Plan General.

Motion adopted.

21. Receive for the record the following 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendments and take appropriate action:

a. Sheriff's DOJ Federal Forfeiture (362).

(21a-1:07:12)

21a. February 3, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment for the Sheriff's DOJ Federal Forfeiture (362) as an increase to expenditures. Motion adopted.

Receive for the record the following 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendments and take appropriate action:

b. CDA Contraband Forfeiture Fund (370).

(21b-1:07:12)

21b. February 3, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment for the CDA Contraband Forfeiture Fund (370) as an increase to expenditures. Motion adopted.

22. Consider approval of the following 2025 budget amendments and take appropriate action:

(22-1:07:32)

22. February 3, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2025 budget amendments for:

- a. Health Department, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- b. National School Lunch Program, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Rural Prosecutors Office Salary Assistance Fund, Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

23. Closed meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code § 551.074 to discuss personnel in various departments; §551.072 to discuss real property; §551.087 to discuss economic development; §551.071 to conduct a private consultation with the County's attorney regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege; §551.0745 to discuss Boards and Commissions.

(23-1:08:01)

23. February 3, 2025. The Commissioners Court went into closed session at 11:09 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel in various departments; §551.072 to discuss real property; §551.087 to discuss economic development; and §551.071 to conduct a private consultation with the County's attorney regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege; §551.0745 to discuss Boards and Commissions.

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

(24-1:08:40)

24. February 3, 2025. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 12:22 p.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

25. Adjourn.

(25-1:08:48)

25. February 3, 2025. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of February 3, 2025.