

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **10th day February A.D., 2025**, 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
Shannon Martin,	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 10, 2025, 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 10, 2025. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Regular Term for Monday, February 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. February 10, 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.

(3-2:00)

3. February 10, 2025. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Republican Chair Bill Pozzi stated the deadline to file for a city office position or school board position is on February 14, 2025. Mr. Pozzi also spoke about countywide voting.

County Engineer John Johnston updated the Court on the Downtown Parking Projects.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-3:41)

4. February 10, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meetings held on February 3, 2025. Motion adopted.

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

(5-4:02)

5. February 10, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Michelle Samford, County Auditor.

Regular Accounts	2/10/2025	\$884,335.56
Supplemental Accounts	1/31/2025 – 2/6/2025	\$110,463.84

Motion adopted.

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

(6-4:27)

6. February 10, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Commissioners, Precincts Nos. 1 and 4; County Treasurer; District Clerk; Criminal District Attorney; Tax Assessor Collector; County Auditor; Fire Marshal; Justices of the Peace, Precincts Nos. 1 - 4; Constables, Precincts Nos. 1, 2, and 4; and Pre-Trial Services. Motion adopted.

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

(7-4:58)

7. February 10, 2025. None. No action taken.

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

(8-5:09)

8. February 10, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payments dated February 5, 2025, in the amount of \$265,787.09 and the ACH report dated February 5, 2025, in the amount of \$2,567,500.77. Motion adopted.

9. Recognize fourth-quarter employee anniversaries.

(9-5:43)

9. February 10, 2025. County Judge Zeller recognized Victoria County employee's anniversaries for the fourth-quarter. Judge Zeller presented each of the following employees with a certificate for their years of service.

1 YEAR

ANDERSON, GRETCHEN
 BUCHANAN, SCOTT W
 CHINOWITH, TAYLOR N
 EBERLE JR, DAVID W
 GALARZA, FELIZIA
 HERRERA, MARYLOU
 HUFFMASTER, JOHNATHON N
 HURTADO, TERESA M
 KEITH, BRYCE J
 NELSON, AUSTIN J
 RAMIREZ, JOSEPH E
 RAMIREZ, REBECCA
 ROCHA, ARLETTE B
 RODRIGUEZ, DARYL L

5 YEARS

DELAGARZA, VICTORIA L
 DOLEZAL, MADISON P
 MARSHMAN, KERI A

TAYLOR, SHARON A

10 YEARS
PETERSON, LORI J
ROSALEZ, ROSS M

15 YEARS
HAITH, OLGA J
HENRY, PHILLIP L
WILLIAMS, JOHN M

20 YEARS
GARZA, MARY D

25 YEARS
FRAZIER, MARSHALL B

No action taken.

10. Consider approval of Victoria Regional Airport commercial flight promotions and take appropriate action.

(10-12:56)

10. February 10, 2025. Executive Director Lenny Llerena provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Victoria Regional Airport commercial flight promotions with the addition to include retired Victoria County employees. Motion adopted.

11. Receive an updated contract from the Victoria County Sheriff's Office for the Department of Human Services (DHS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) to utilize bedspace at the Victoria County Jail and take appropriate action.

(11-19:35)

11. February 10, 2025. Sheriff Justin Marr provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received an updated contract from the Victoria County Sheriff's Office for the Department of Human Services (DHS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) to utilize bedspace at the Victoria County Jail. Motion adopted.

12. Consider the following in regard to the proposed Victoria County Texas Property Assessed Clean Energy (TxPACE) program and take appropriate action:

a. Hold a public hearing on the proposed adoption of a Victoria County PACE Program.

(12a-20:35)

12a. February 10, 2025. County Judge Zeller opened the public hearing at 10:22 a.m. on the proposed adoption of a Victoria County PACE Program in regard to the proposed Victoria County Texas Property Assessed Clean Energy (TxPACE) program. Jonas Titas, President of Victoria Economic Development Corporation, provided information to the Court. Dub Taylor with Texas PACE Authority spoke to the Court regarding the program. Maddison Heibel answered questions from the Court. County Judge Zeller closed the

public hearing at 10:27 a.m. No action taken.

Consider the following in regard to the proposed Victoria County Texas Property Assessed Clean Energy (TxPACE) program and take appropriate action:

b. Approve Resolution No. 2025-022 Establishing the Victoria County PACE Program.

(12b-20:35)

12b. February 10, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-022 establishing the Victoria County PACE Program in regard to the proposed Victoria County Texas Property Assessed Clean Energy (TxPACE) program. Motion adopted.

13. Consider the creation of a policy review committee and take appropriate action.

(13-27:20)

13. February 10, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu and the Court held a discussion regarding a policy review committee. After discussion, the Court passed on the creation of a policy review committee. No action taken.

14. Discuss and consider revisions to Section 6.05 of the Personnel Policy regarding overtime compensation and take appropriate action.

(14-37:12)

14. February 10, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu and Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the revisions to Section 6.05 of the Personnel Policy regarding overtime compensation. Motion adopted.

15. Consider approval of a request from Victoria County Constable Precinct 4 to appoint Reserve Deputy Richard Ramirez to the Precinct 4 Constable's Office and take appropriate action.

(15-40:18)

15. February 10, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the request from Victoria County Constable Precinct No. 4 to appoint Reserve Deputy Richard Ramirez to the Precinct No. 4 Constable's Office. Motion adopted.

16. Discuss and consider the payment of assistance funds to the Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of a Hummer Skid Unit Pump in the amount of \$20,000 through the Texas Forest Service Reimbursement Grant Program and take appropriate action.

(16-41:53)

16. February 10, 2025. Fire Marshal Richard Castillo provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the payment of assistance funds to the Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of a Hummer Skid Unit Pump in the amount of \$20,000.00 through the Texas Forest Service Reimbursement Grant Program. Motion adopted.

17. Consider approval of the 2025 Professional Services Agreement with CivilCorp, LLC and take appropriate action.

(17-44:17)

17. February 10, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston provided the Court with

information. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2025 Professional Services Agreement with CivilCorp, LLC. Motion adopted.

18. Consider approval and authorization of the filing into the official records of the County Clerk's Office for the following plat exemption requests and take appropriate action:

a. Douglas & Jeri Franks at 498 Shiller Road, located in Precinct 4.

(18a-45:21)

18a. February 10, 2025. County Clerk Heidi Easley informed the Court that the plat exemption request is not a recordable document to file in the County Clerk's official records. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the plat exemption request from Douglas and Jeri Franks at 498 Shiller Road, located in Precinct No. 4, and authorized the filing into the official records of the County Clerk's Office subject to a recordable document. Motion adopted.

Consider approval and authorization of the filing into the official records of the County Clerk's Office for the following plat exemption requests and take appropriate action:

b. Leonard Preiss at 2586 Arnold Road, located in Precinct 2.

(18b-45:21)

18b. February 10, 2025. County Clerk Heidi Easley informed the Court that the plat exemption request is not a recordable document to file in the County Clerk's official records. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the plat exemption request from Leonard Preiss at 2586 Arnold Road, located in Precinct No. 2, and authorized the filing into the official records of the County Clerk's Office subject to a recordable document. Motion adopted.

19. Discuss and consider request for repayment of all funds previously reimbursed by Victoria County to Victoria County Navigation District for the fraudulent bonds presented by Industrial Rail & Civil Services, LLC and take appropriate action.

(19-47:53)

19. February 10, 2025. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the request for repayment of all funds previously reimbursed by Victoria County to Victoria County Navigation District for the fraudulent bonds presented by Industrial Rail and Civil Services, LLC. Motion adopted.

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

(20-50:36)

20. February 10, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Department of Justice Equitable Sharing Agreement for the Victoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office. Motion adopted.

21. Receive the following for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

a. Executed Housing Opportunities for persons with AIDS grant contract No. 5613/2-565-02.

(21a-51:19)

21a. February 10, 2025. David Gonzales, Public Health Director, provided information

to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the executed Housing Opportunities for persons with AIDS grant contract no. 5613/2-565-02 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Receive the following for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

b. Executed Ryan White Service Delivery grant contract No. 5611/2-565-02.

(21b-51:19)

21b. February 10, 2025. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the executed Ryan White Service Delivery grant contract no. 5611/2-565-02 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Receive the following for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

c. Executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of State Health Services to regulate electronic health data access, contract No.

HHS001568500001.

(21c-51:19)

21c. February 10, 2025. David Gonzales, Public Health Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of State Health Services to regulate electronic health data access, contract no. HHS001568500001 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Receive the following for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

d. Executed FY25 Family Connects International Program Agreement.

(21d-51:19)

21d. February 10, 2025. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the executed FY25 Family Connects International Program Agreement for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Receive the following for the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

e. Executed Women, Infant and Children's Nutrition program grant contract No. HHS001503400024 with Health and Human Services Commission.

(21e-51:19)

21e. February 10, 2025. David Gonzales, Public Health Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the executed Women, Infant and Children's Nutrition program grant contract no. HHS001503400024 with Health and Human Services Commission for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

- 22. Consider approval of the following Resolutions for Road Donations for the installation of a driveway and pipe culvert and take appropriate action:**
- a. Resolution No. 2025-019 for Trey Sklar at Garcitas Creek Ranch Estates, Block 4 Lot 4 in Precinct 4.**

(22a-52:40)

22a. February 10, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-019 for a road donation in the amount of \$800.00 from Trey Sklar at Garcitas Creek Ranch Estates, Block 4 Lot 4, in Precinct No. 4 for installation of a driveway and pipe culvert to improve drainage. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following Resolutions for Road Donations for the installation of a driveway and pipe culvert and take appropriate action:
b. Resolution No. 2025-020 for Miguel Diaz at 290 Main Street, Placedo, TX in Precinct 1.

(22b-52:40)

22b. February 10, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-020 for a road donation in the amount of \$550.00 from Miguel Diaz at 290 Main Street, Placedo, Texas in Precinct No. 1 for installation of a driveway and pipe culvert to improve drainage. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following Resolutions for Road Donations for the installation of a driveway and pipe culvert and take appropriate action:
c. Resolution No. 2025-021 for Roberto Pane at 207 Newcastle and 502 Trent Rd., Victoria TX in Precinct 1.

(22c-52:40)

22c. February 10, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-021 for a road donation in the amount of \$1,300.00 from Roberto Pane at 207 Newcastle and 502 Trent Road, Victoria, Texas, in Precinct No. 1 for installation of a driveway and pipe culvert to improve drainage. Motion adopted.

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

(23-53:41)

23. February 10, 2024. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the 2025 budget amendments for:

- a. Emergency Management Fund, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- b. General Fund, Various Departments, Expenditures - Increase
- c. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- d. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 2, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- e. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 3, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- f. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 4, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- g. Pretrial Intervention, Expenditures – Line item transfer
- h. Airport Fund, Expenditures - Increase
- i. Capital Projects Fund, Expenditures - Increase

Motion adopted.

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

(24-54:50)

24. February 10, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy

and personnel changes:

- a. Pama Hencerling, Juvenile Chief Probation Officer - Juvenile Detention:
 - 1. Resignation of Dematrus Lashelle Enoch, JSO-PT, effective January 27, 2025.
 - 2. Correction (name/employment category): 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.
 - 3. Employment of Guadalupe Lee Cruz, JSO-PT, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1157, effective February 11, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 - 4. Employment of Nicole Elaine Carden, JSO, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Codes 100-573-1156 and 231-572-1136 FT@\$230.77, effective February 11, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 - 5. Employment of Chelsea Olisea Sedillo, JSO-PT, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1157, effective February 11, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
- b. Ben Zeller, County Judge - County Judge's Office:
 - 1. Position/other code change (G/L Code) for Ashlee Sims, Administrative Assistant, at a rate of \$18.23 per hour, Budget Codes 100-401-1103 and 203-613-1139 - \$18.46 per pay period, effective January 28, 2025. Grade 6 Plan General.
- c. Justin Marr, Sheriff - Sheriff's Office:
 - 1. Dismissal of Jennifer Wright, Investigator, effective January 30, 2025.
 - 2. Position/other code change for Kayla Lemke, from Inmate Services Asst., at a rate of \$20.97 per hour, Budget Code 380-560-1104 to Detention Deputy, Budget Code 100-565-1114, effective January 25, 2025. Grade 7 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 - 3. Resignation of Willis Kisner, Kitchen Officer, with 266.61 PTO and 231.98 Compensatory hours due, effective February 21, 2025.
- d. Kenneth Sexton, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4 - Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 4:
 - 1. Dismissal of Judd Koehl, Sr. Equipment Operator, effective February 3, 2025.
- e. Brian Watson, Chief Public Defender - Public Defender's Office:
 - 1. Employment of Victoria Caldera, Caseworker, at a rate of \$20.64 per hour, Budget Code 525-401-1111, effective February 11, 2025. Grade 4 Plan General.
- f. David Gonzales, Public Health Director - Victoria County Public Health Department:
 - 1. Employment of Cynthia Valenzuela, CMA, at a rate of \$18.00 per hour, Budget Code 809-631-1113, effective February 11, 2025. Grade 6 Plan General.
- g. John Williams, Veterans Services Officer - Veterans Services:
 - 1. Other (Deceased) of Linda May, Clerk III, effective January 25, 2025.
- h. Paige Foster, County Treasurer - County Treasurer's Office:
 - 1. Certificates for Continuing Education from The County Treasurers' Association of Texas and Texas Association of Counties for Paige Foster, County Treasurer.
- i. J.J. Janssen, County Extension Agent/Family and Community Health –

Extension Office:

1. Retirement of Matt Bochat, County Extension Agent/AG and Nat. Res., effective January 31, 2025. Other Remarks: cell phone \$480.00 basic (100-665-1139).

Motion adopted.

- 25. 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.**

(25-55:45)

25. February 10, 2025. The Commissioners Court went into closed session at 10:57 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 attorney-client privilege; §551.0745 to discuss Boards and Commissions.

- 26. 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.**

(26-56:30)

26. February 10, 2025. The Commissioners Court returned to an open meeting at 1:04 p.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

- 27. Adjourn.**

(27-56:34)

27. February 10, 2025. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of February 10, 2025.