

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **24th 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	
Jason Ohrt,	Commissioner Precinct No. 2	Absent
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 24, 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 24, 2025. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, February 24, 2025, at 10:01 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. February 24, 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.

(3-10:00)

3. February 24, 2025. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Dee Pawlik, a Victoria County resident, voiced her concerns over her recent visit to the Victoria County Courthouse.

Michael Vonderau, of 2107 N. Ben Jordan, spoke about dog issues at the East North Mobile Home Park.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-18:57)

4. February 24, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on February 18, 2025. Motion adopted.

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

(5-19:11)

5. February 24, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Michelle Samford, County Auditor.

Motion adopted.

- 6. Receive monthly and quarterly reports from various county officials and departments and take appropriate action.**
(6-19:43)
6. February 24, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received the monthly report from the Sheriff. Motion adopted.
- 7. Consider approval of bond forfeiture releases and take appropriate action.**
(7-20:00)
7. February 24, 2025. None. No action taken.
- 8. Consider approval of CMC Interim vendor payments and take appropriate action.**
(8-20:12)
8. February 24, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the CMC interim vendor payments dated February 20, 2025, in the amount of \$451,012.85 and the ACH report dated February 20, 2025, in the amount of \$2,976,132.12. Motion adopted.
- 9. Hear a proclamation designating March 1st, 2025 as American Heritage Girls Troop TX3125 Day and take appropriate action.**
(9-2:43)
9. February 24, 2025. Caitlin Weinheimer, with American Heritage Girls, spoke to the Court about their Troop. County Judge Zeller read the proclamation. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the proclamation recognizing and paying tribute to American Heritage Girls Troop TX3125 Day. Motion adopted.
- 10. Consider approval of Order 2025-027 for the 2025 appropriation for fire, rescue, and emergency services and take appropriate action.**
(10-20:49)
10. February 24, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Order No. 2025-0027 for the 2025 appropriation for Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services. Motion adopted.
- 11. Receive fully executed Senate Bill 22, Rural Sheriff's Office Salary Assistance FY25 Grant Program Agreement for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office and take appropriate action.**
(11-22:04)
11. February 24, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the fully executed Senate Bill 22, Rural Sheriff's Office Salary Assistance FY25 Grant Program Agreement for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office. Motion adopted.
- 12. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2025-026 for a donation of \$200.00 from Tim Rampey to the Victoria County Sheriff's Office for Deputy Appreciation and take appropriate action.**

(12-22:42)

12. February 24, 2025. Commissioner Shannon Martin provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, pursuant to Local Government Code §81.032, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-026 accepting a donation valued at \$200.00 from Tim Rampey to be utilized for and dedicated to the Victoria County Sheriff's Office for Deputy Appreciation. Motion adopted.

13. Consider approval of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Billy T. Cattan Sub-Recipient Agreement Amendment 01 and take appropriate action.

(13-23:34)

13. February 24, 2025. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Subrecipient Agreement Amendment 01 for the Billy T. Cattan Recovery Outreach Inc. Victoria County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Motion adopted.

14. Consider approval of the 2024 Chapter 59 Asset Forfeiture report from Victoria County Fire Marshal and take appropriate action.

(14-24:31)

14. February 24, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the 2024 Chapter 59 Asset Forfeiture Report from Victoria County Fire Marshal. Motion adopted.

15. Consider approval of the 2024 Racial Profiling report from Victoria County Fire Marshal and take appropriate action.

(15-25:22)

15. February 24, 2025. Fire Marshal Richard Castillo provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the 2024 Racial Profiling Report from the Victoria County Fire Marshal. Motion adopted.

16. Consider approval of the 2024 Racial Profiling Report for the Victoria County Constable, Precinct No.1 and take appropriate action.

(16-25:47)

16. February 24, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the 2024 Racial Profiling Report from the Victoria County Constable, Precinct No. 1. Motion adopted.

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

(17-26:24)

17. February 24, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the 2025 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Revenues - Increase
- b. Airport Operating Fund, Revenues - Line item transfer
- c. Patriot Park Donations Fund, Expenditures - Increase
- d. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 3, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- e. Child Welfare Board, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- f. Capital Projects Fund, Expenditures - Increase
- g. Emergency Management, Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

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

(18-27:18)

18. February 24, 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. Employment of Celine Rae Alaniz, JSO, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1156, effective February 25, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 2. Salary and position/other code change for Isabella Martinez, from JSO, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Codes 100-573-1156 and 231-572-1136 FT@\$230.77 to JSO-PRN, at a rate of \$15.50 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1130, effective February 22, 2025. Remarks: Stop benefits.
 3. Salary and position/other code change for Chelsea Olisea Sedillo, from JSO-PT, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1157 to JSO, Budget Code 100-573-1156, effective February 22, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 4. Dismissal of John Charles Flores, JSO, effective February 19, 2025.
 5. Correction for Christina Pinon, Senior Clerk, at a rate of \$22.29 231-588-1106 and \$2.06 231-577-1108, Budget Codes 231-588-1106 \$22.29 and 231-577-1108 \$2.06, effective February 22, 2025. Grade 5 Plan General. Other Remarks: Change from Non-Exempt to Exempt. Approved by HR Director 2/20/2025. Due to no additional state funding I'm requesting that she be able to exhaust current comp time balance.
- b. Justin Marr, Sheriff - Sheriff's Office:
 1. Salary change and position/other code change for Katy Williams, from Telecommunications Operator, at a rate of \$22.41 per hour, Budget Code 100-562-1153 to Kitchen Officer, at a rate of \$20.64 per hour, Budget Code 100-565-1123, effective February 22, 2025. Grade 5 Plan General.
 2. Salary and position/other code change for Austin Nelson, from Detention Officer, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Codes 100-565-1116-\$18.74, 288-565-1116-\$2.02, and 100-565-1137-\$23.08-Cert. Pay to Corporal, at a rate of \$27.94 per hour, Budget Codes 100-565-1109-\$26.60, 288-565-1109-\$1.34, and 100-565-1137-\$23.08-Cert Pay, effective February 22, 2025. Grade 8 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 3. Salary and position/other code change for Joseph Garcia, from Detention Officer, at a rate of \$20.97 per hour, Budget Codes 100-565-1116-\$20.48 and 288-565-1116-\$1.49 to Corporal, at a rate of \$27.94 per hour, Budget Codes 100-565-1109-\$26.60 and 288-565-1109-\$1.34, effective February 22, 2025. Grade 8 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 4. Position/other code change for Mariah Tinney, from Patrol Deputy, at a rate of \$25.31 per hour, Budget Codes 100-563-1109-\$24.29 and 288-563-1109-\$1.02 to Detention Deputy, Budget Codes 100-565-1114-\$24.29 and 288-565-1114-\$1.02, effective February 22, 2025. Grade 7 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.

Motion adopted.

- 19. 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.**

(19-28:30)

19. February 24, 2025. The Commissioners Court went into closed session at 10:30 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.

- 20. 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.**

(20-29:12)

20. February 24, 2025. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 11:07 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

- 21. Adjourn.**

(21-29:16)

21. February 24, 2025. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of February 24, 2025.