

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **17th day March 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, Danny Garcia, County Judge Pro Tem, presiding and the following Commissioners attending:

Ben Zeller,	County Judge	Absent
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, March 17, 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. March 17, 2025. Danny Garcia, County Judge Pro Tem, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, March 17, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. March 17, 2025. County Judge Pro Tem Danny Garcia 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.

(3-2:58)

3. March 17, 2025. Judge Pro Tem Danny Garcia opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Michael Vonderau of 2107 N. Ben Jordan spoke about the table fires at Queen City Park.

Animal Services Director Mark Sloat informed the public that any dog at Victoria Animal Services that has an Irish name will be 1/2 off on adoptions for St. Patrick's Day.

Airport Executive Director Lenny Llerena reminded the public that the Victoria Regional Airport promotion for County, City and Citizens Medical Center employees has started.

Commissioner Shannon Martin reminded the public about his Commissioner's Communication Forum that will be held on March 25, 2025 starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Quail Creek VFD.

Hearing no further comments, Judge Pro Tem Danny Garcia continued with the next agenda item.

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-8:13)

4. March 17, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on March 10, 2025. Motion adopted.

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

(5-8:35)

5. March 17, 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	3/17/2025	\$1,480,617.07
Supplemental Accounts	3/7/2025 – 3/13/2025	\$110,897.57

Motion adopted.

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

(6-9:18)

6. March 17, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Treasurer; District Clerk; and Constables, Precincts Nos. 1 and 4. Motion adopted.

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

(7-9:36)

7. March 17, 2025. None. No action taken.

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

(8-9:54)

8. March 17, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the CMC interim vendor payments dated March 13, 2025, in the amount of \$380,450.76 and the ACH report dated March 13, 2025, in the amount of \$2,464,305.31. Motion adopted.

9. Hear a presentation from the Regional Public Defender's Office, Crossroads Defenders, and take appropriate action.

(9-13:22)

9. March 17, 2025. Chief Public Defender Brian Watson introduced Victoria Caldera as a new caseworker. Mr. Watson gave a presentation on the progress, milestones, case load levels, staffing, recruitment, budget, fiscal stewardship and platform for the Crossroads Regional Public Defender's Office. No action taken.

10. Consider approval of an Economic Development Agreement with Halliburton Energy Services, Inc. and take appropriate action.

(10-11:00)

10. March 17, 2025. Sharon Barnard of Victoria Economic Development Corporation provided information to the Court. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Economic Development Agreement with Halliburton Energy Services, Inc. Motion adopted.

11. Receive the fully executed Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Grant Agreement, Contract No. HHS001436900004 to construct a \$40,000,000.00 Mental Health Facility with up-to 60 inpatient beds and take appropriate action.

(11-28:47)

11. March 17, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the fully executed Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Grant

Agreement, Contract No. HHS001436900004 to construct a \$40,000,000.00 Mental Health Facility with up to 60 inpatient beds. Motion adopted.

12. Receive for the record fully executed offer for the Buhler Telferner Partnership property located on US 59B in connection with the Victoria County Regional Emergency Operations Center (VCREOC) Safe Room construction project and take appropriate action

(12-30:30)

12. March 17, 2025. John Johnston, County Engineer, provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record the fully executed offer for the Buhler Telferner Partnership property located on US 59B in connection with the Victoria County Regional Emergency Operations Center (VCREOC) Safe Room construction project. Motion adopted.

13. Consider approval of the following request for plat exemptions and take appropriate action:

a. Bryan Franz at 98 Franz Road, located in Precinct 4.

(13a-31:54)

13a. March 17, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston spoke to the Court about the plat exemption. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the plat exemption request from Bryan Franz at 98 Franz Road in Precinct No. 4 with the following conditions:

- * Shall secure and verify the 911 addresses for the tracts with the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission.
- * No future tract created shall be less than 1-acre, excluding easements.
- * All created/revised tracts, new property deeds and ingress/egress easement(s) must be created and filed in the Victoria County Clerk's Public Records.
- * Further subdivision of tracts shall comply with the requirements of the effective published version of the VCDSM at the time of subdivision.
- * Each tract will have its own water well and Onsite Sanitary Sewer Facility (OSSF) (septic system).
- * Each tract shall have public right of way frontage or access to a public right-of-way through an ingress/egress easement with the following requirements:
 - ~Any private/public ingress/egress easements to a public ROW shall be constructed and maintained as an all-weather roadway capable of supporting any/all emergency services vehicles as determined by the Sheriff and the Fire Marshal of Victoria County.
 - ~Maintenance of ingress/egress easement(s) shall be the sole responsibility of the developer and/or property owners.
 - ~The developer/property owners shall install Knoxbox(es) at all gates across private/public access easements. The placement and installation of all Knoxbox(es) shall be approved by the Victoria County Fire Marshal.

Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following request for plat exemptions and take appropriate action:

b. Ryan and Kaitlyn Hessler at 000 FM 444, located in Precinct 4.

(13b-31:54)

13b. March 17, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston spoke to the Court about the plat exemption. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the plat exemption request from Ryan and Kaitlyn Hessler at 000 FM 444 in Precinct No. 4 with the following conditions:

- * Shall secure and verify the 911 addresses for the tracts with the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission.
- * The tract conveyed must be greater than 10-acres.
- * No future tract created shall be less than 1-acre, excluding easements.
- * All created/revised tracts, new property deeds and ingress/egress easement(s) must be created and filed in the Victoria County Clerk's Public Records.
- * Further subdivision of tracts shall comply with the requirements of the effective published version of the VCDSM at the time of subdivision.
- * Each tract will have its own water well and Onsite Sanitary Sewer Facility (OSSF) (septic system).
- * Each tract shall have public right of way frontage or access to a public right-of-way through an ingress/egress easement with the following requirements:
 - ~Any private/public ingress/egress easements to a public ROW shall be constructed and maintained as an all-weather roadway capable of supporting any/all emergency services vehicles as determined by the Sheriff and the Fire Marshal of Victoria County.
 - ~Maintenance of ingress/egress easement(s) shall be the sole responsibility of the developer and/or property owners.
 - ~The developer/property owners shall install Knoxbox(es) at all gates across private/public access easements. The placement and installation of all Knoxbox(es) shall be approved by the Victoria County Fire Marshal.

Motion adopted.

14. Receive for the record executed lease agreement between Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department and Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action

(14-33:43)

14. March 17, 2025. County Judge Pro Tem Danny Garcia provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received for the record the executed lease agreement between Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department and Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

15. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2025-032 for a road donation in Precinct 3 from Sean Tipton for corrugated pipe and limestone at 567 Fleming Prairie Rd, Victoria County, Texas, in the amount of \$639.84 and take appropriate action.

(15-36:07)

15. March 17, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-032 for a road donation in the amount of \$639.84 from Sean Tipton at 567 Fleming Prairie Road, Victoria County, Texas, in Precinct No. 3 for corrugated pipe and limestone to improve drainage. Motion adopted.

- 16. Consider approval of payment request No. 11 to Citizens Medical Center in the amount of \$121,506.53 for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Subrecipient Project No. VICT-11 and take appropriate action.**

(16-36:50)

16. March 17, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the payment in the amount of \$121,506.53 to Citizens Medical Center for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Subrecipient Project No. VICT-11. Motion adopted.

- 17. Consider approval of the Residential Contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Nueces County and take appropriate action.**

(17-36:59)

17. March 17, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Residential Contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Nueces County. Motion adopted.

- 18. Receive for the record 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment, Sheriff's DOJ Federal Forfeiture Fund (362) and take appropriate action.**

(18-37:20)

18. March 17, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment, Sheriff's DOJ Federal Forfeiture Fund (362) as an increase to expenditures. Motion adopted.

- 19. Consider approval of the following 2025 budget amendments and take appropriate action.**

(19-37:40)

19. March 17, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2025 budget amendments for:

- a. Capital Projects Fund, Expenditures - Increase

Motion adopted.

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

(20-41:24)

20. March 17, 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. Justin Marr, Sheriff - Sheriff's Office:

- 1. Retirement of Sylvester Diggs, Sergeant, effective June 1, 2025. Other Remarks: Payout PTO in accordance with policy.
- 2. Retirement of Billy Penney, Detention Deputy, effective May 16, 2025. Other Remarks: Payout PTO in accordance with policy.
- 3. Employment of Alicia Johnston, Detention Officer, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-565-1116, effective March 25, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
- 4. Retirement of Sylvester Mosley, Courts/Extradition, with 103.07 PTO and

18.01 Compensatory hours due, effective March 30, 2025.

5. Position/other code change for Jason Ellis, from Interdiction Deputy, at a rate of \$27.39 per hour, Budget Codes 100-564-1112-\$27.39 and 100-564-1137-\$46.15 to Interdiction Corporal, at a rate of \$28.22 per hour, Budget Codes 100-564-1111-\$28.22 and 100-564-1137-\$46.15, effective March 22, 2025. Grade 7 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 5.
- b. Ben Zeller, County Judge - County Judge's Office:
 1. Correction: Position/other code change (G/L Code): Employment of Ashlee Sims, Administrative Assistant, at a rate of \$18.23 per hour, Budget Codes 100-401-1103 and 100-401-1139 - \$18.46 per pay period, effective January 28, 2025. Grade 6 Plan General.
- c. Brian Watson, Chief Public Defender - Public Defender's Office:
 1. Employment of Atticus Finch, Assistant Public Defender II, at a rate of \$40.87 per hour, Budget Code 525-401-1104, effective March 18, 2025. Grade 18 Plan General.
- d. David Gonzales, Public Health Director - Victoria County Public Health Department:
 1. Salary change for Crystal Rodriguez, Nurse Qual Assur Coor (LVN), from a rate of \$23.95 per hour, Budget Code 810-633-1105 to a rate of \$24.75 per hour, effective March 8, 2025. Plan General Tier n/a.
 2. Employment of Amberlee Kolar, RN Nurse, at a rate of \$28.00 per hour, Budget Codes 800-631-1105 (30.50%) \$8.54; 800-641-1105 (47.00%) \$13.16, and 800-653-1105 (22.50%) \$6.30, effective April 8, 2025. Grade 10 Plan General.
- e. Ashley Hernandez, Tax Assessor Collector - County Tax Office:
 1. Correction (effective date) Employment of Haleigh Baladez, Accounting Clerk, at a rate of \$18.00 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1107, effective March 18, 2025. Grade 3 Plan General Tier n/a.
 2. Salary change for Misty Hahn, Clerk III, from a rate of \$18.79 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106 to a rate of \$19.00 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106, effective March 22, 2025. Plan General.
 3. Salary change for Gloria Cady, Clerk III, from a rate of \$18.79 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106 to a rate of \$19.25 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106, effective March 22, 2025. Plan General.
 4. Salary change for Maria Diaz, Clerk III, from a rate of \$19.75 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106 to a rate of \$20.00 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106, effective March 22, 2025. Grade 4 Plan General.
 5. Salary change for Morgan Busby, Clerk III, from a rate of \$18.79 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106 to a rate of \$19.00 per hour, Budget Code 100-499-1106, effective March 22, 2025. Grade 4 Plan General.
- f. Pama Hencerling/Justin Marr, Juvenile Chief Probation Officer/Sheriff – Juvenile Detention/Sheriff's Office:
 1. Position/other change for Isabella Martinez, from JSO-PRN (Juvenile Detention), at a rate of \$15.50 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1130 to Detention Officer (Sheriff's Office), at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-565-1116, effective March 22, 2025. Grade 5 Law enforcement Tier 1.
- g. Giani Cantu, Human Resources Director - Human Resources:
 1. Salary change for Devin Hawes, HR Generalist, from a rate of \$19.32 per hour, Budget Code 100-505-1105 to a rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective

March 22, 2025. Grade 7 Plan General.

2. Salary change for Farrah Gamez, HR Specialist, from a rate of \$21.26 per hour, Budget Code 100-505-1102 to a rate of \$22.26 per hour, effective March 22, 2025. Grade 11 Plan General.

h. Michelle Samford, County Auditor - County Auditor's Office:

1. Dismissal of Dana Deckard, Accounting Clerk II, effective March 14, 2025.

i. Heidi Easley, County Clerk - County Clerk's Office:

1. Resignation of Alva Amejorado, Deputy Clerk, with 0.65 PTO hours, effective March 15, 2025. Other Remarks: Accepted position with Calhoun County.

j. Kelly Hubert, Facilities Manager - Facilities Department:

1. Correction (effective date): Dismissal of Barbara Fillmore, Custodian, effective February 28, 2025. Other remarks: Payout in accordance with pto policy.

Motion adopted.

21. Closed meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.072 to discuss real property.

(21-42:13)

21. March 17, 2025. The Commissioners Court went into closed session at 10:43 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.072 to discuss real property.

22. 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.

(22-43:05)

22. March 17, 2025. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 11:13 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

23. Adjourn.

(23-43:16)

23. March 17, 2025. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of March 17, 2025.