

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **5th day May 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
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, May 5, 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. May 5, 2025. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, May 5, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. May 5, 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. go

(3-2:24)

3. May 5, 2025. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

County Engineer John Johnston informed the Court about the invoices and contracts with Spaw Glass & Square One.

County Judge Zeller spoke about local elections.

(36:45) County Engineer John Johnston announced United Signs will be sending an agent May 9, 2025 to assess the digital sign at the Health Department. There will be a kickoff meeting with Health and Human Services for the contract with Mental Health facility on Tuesday, May 6, 2025.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-4:33)

4. May 5, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on April 28, 2025. Motion adopted.

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

(5-4:51)

5. May 5, 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	5/5/2025	\$547,408.61
Supplemental Accounts	4/25/2025 – 5/1/2025	\$316,474.52

Motion adopted.

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

(6-5:20)

6. May 5, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Treasurer; Sheriff; and Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 2. Motion adopted.

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

(7-5:39)

7. May 5, 2025. None. No action taken.

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

(8-5:48)

8. May 5, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the CMC interim vendor payments dated May 1, 2025, in the amount of \$180,309.61 and the ACH report dated May 1, 2025, in the amount of \$3,493,942.00. Motion adopted.

9. Consider the following in connection with the Victoria County Fire Marshal position and take appropriate action:

a. Appoint Drew Pilkington as Victoria County Fire Marshal.

(9a-36:11)

9a. May 5, 2025. After a closed session discussion, the Commissioners Court passed on appointing Drew Pilkington as Victoria County Fire Marshal in connection with the Victoria County Fire Marshal position. No action taken.

Consider the following in connection with the Victoria County Fire Marshal position and take appropriate action:

b. Approval of bond and oath of office.

(9b-36:11)

9b. May 5, 2025. After a closed session discussion, the Commissioners Court passed on the bond and oath of office for Drew Pilkington as Victoria County Fire Marshal. No action taken.

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

(10-6:34)

10. May 5, 2025. Executive Director Lenny Llerena spoke to court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the

additional Victoria Regional Airport commercial flight promotions and extended the promotions until the end of August 2025. Motion adopted.

11. Discuss and consider the creation of the Assistant County Engineer position and adopt the proposed pay grade and range and take appropriate action.

(11-15:58)

11. May 5, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu spoke. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the creation of the Assistant County Engineer position and adopted the proposed pay grade and range. Motion adopted.

12. Consider approval of the following regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) Health Department Spray Truck Building Project and take appropriate action:

a. Receive submitted proposals and evaluations

(12a-17:55)

12a. May 5, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston spoke. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the submitted proposals and evaluations regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) Health Department Spray Truck Building Project at the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) Health Department Spray Truck Building Project and take appropriate action:

b. Receive RFP withdrawal letter from Golden Crescent Construction

(12b-17:55)

12b. May 5, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston spoke. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the RFP withdrawal letter from Golden Crescent Construction regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) Health Department Spray Truck Building Project at the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) Health Department Spray Truck Building Project and take appropriate action:

c. Receive recommendation to award contract from Elite Engineering

(12c-17:55)

12c. May 5, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston spoke. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the recommendation to award the contract from Elite Engineering regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) Health Department Spray Truck Building Project at the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) Health Department Spray Truck Building Project and take appropriate action:

d. Authorize the County Judge to enter into an agreement with Lauger Companies, Inc. pending legal review

(12d-17:55)

12d. May 5, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston spoke. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court authorized the County Judge to enter into an agreement with Lauger Companies, Inc., pending legal review, regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) Health Department Spray Truck Building Project at the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

- 13. Receive executed Proposal for Geotechnical Engineering Study with Burge Engineering & Associates in connection to the Mental Health Facility Project and take appropriate action.**

(13-19:58)

13. May 5, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston spoke. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the executed Proposal for a Geotechnical Engineering Study with Burge Engineering and Associates in connection to the Mental Health Facility Project. Motion adopted.

- 14. Consider approval of an Agreement with Rawley McCoy and Associates (RMA) to provide professional architectural services for the Victoria Regional Emergency Operations Center (VCREOC) Safe Room Project non-FEMA funded scope and take appropriate action.**

(14-20:56)

14. May 5, 2025. Emergency Management Coordinator Rick McBrayer provided information to the Court . Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved an Agreement with Rawley McCoy and Associates (RMA) to provide professional architectural services for the Victoria Regional Emergency Operations Center (VCREOC) Safe Room Project non-FEMA funded scope of work. Motion adopted.

- 15. Consider approval of the following request for payment to GrantWorks in the amount of \$10,440.00 in connection to the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant no. CDV23-0328 and take appropriate action.**

(15-22:10)

15. May 5, 2025. County Engineer John Johnston spoke. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the request for payment to GrantWorks in the amount of \$10,440.00 in connection to the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant No. CDV23-0328. Motion adopted.

- 16. Consider approval of the following from the Victoria County Health Department and take appropriate action:**

a. Fully executed contract amendment for CPS/PHEP Grant, Contract No. HHS001439500032, Amendment No.2

(16a-24:09)

16a. May 5, 2025. Public Health Director David Gonzales spoke. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received the fully executed contract amendment for CPS/PHEP Grant, Contract No. HHS001439500032, Amendment No. 2 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following from the Victoria County Health Department and take appropriate action:

b. Regional Local Services System/Local Public Health Services (RLSS)/LPHS Contract No. HHS00158840052

(16b-24:09)

16b. May 5, 2025. Public Health Director David Gonzales spoke. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Regional Local Services System/Local Public Health Services (RLSS)/LPHS Contract No. HHS00158840052 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted

Consider approval of the following from the Victoria County Health Department and take appropriate action:

c. Texas Epidemiology Capacity Expansion Grant Program (EAIDU/SUR) Contract No. HHS001315700028, Amendment No.1

(16c-24:09)

16c. May 5, 2025. Public Health Director David Gonzales spoke. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Texas Epidemiology Capacity Expansion Grant Program (EAIDU/SUR) Contract No. HHS001315700028, Amendment No. 1 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

17. Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Crossroads Regional Public Defender's Office (Crossroads Defenders) for lease of the McFaddin Building located at 203 N. Liberty St. Victoria, TX 77901 and take appropriate action.

(17-26:33)

17. May 5, 2025. Brian Watson, Chief Public Defender, provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Crossroads Regional Public Defender's Office (Crossroads Defenders) for lease of the McFaddin Building located at 203 N. Liberty Street, Victoria, Texas 77901. Motion adopted.

18. Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Dr. John McNeill permitting Victoria County's use of a water well for potential fire prevention and extinguishing measures within the Garcitas Creek Ranch Estates Subdivision in Precinct 4 and take appropriate action.

(18-29:07)

18. May 5, 2025. Commissioner Kenneth Sexton spoke. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Dr. John McNeill permitting Victoria County's use of a water well for potential fire prevention and extinguishing measures within the Garcitas Creek Ranch Estates Subdivision in Precinct No. 4. Motion adopted.

19. Receive for the record the Quarterly Investment Report from the Victoria County Treasurer and take appropriate action.

(19-30:35)

19. May 5, 2025. County Treasurer Paige Foster spoke. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Quarterly Investment Report from the Victoria County Treasurer. Motion adopted.

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

(20-34:02)

20. May 5, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes, not including Drew Pilkington's personnel change:

- a. Justin Marr, Sheriff - Sheriff's Office:
 1. Employment of Christina Cornish, Patrol Deputy, at a rate of \$25.56 per hour, Budget Codes 100-563-1109-\$25.56 and 100-563-1137-\$23.08-Cert Pay, effective May 5, 2025. Grade 7 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 2.
 2. Employment of Maria Perez, School Resource Officer, at a rate of \$27.39 per hour, Budget Codes 395-560-1109-\$27.39 and 395-560-1137-\$46.15-Cert Pay, effective May 5, 2025. Grade 7 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 5.
 3. Employment of Laurence Leon, Detention Deputy, at a rate of \$27.39 per hour, Budget Codes 100-565-1114-\$27.39 and 100-565-1137-\$69.23-Cert Pay, effective May 5, 2025. Grade 7 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 5.
- b. Danny Garcia, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1 - Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1:
 1. Request to payout Pedro Villarreal, Jr., 270.75 hours of compensatory time for a total of \$10,082.73, to be paid from GL Code 201-611-1103, for ongoing workload demands which he is unable to flex off the accrued time.
- c. Pama Hencerling, Juvenile Chief Probation Officer - Juvenile Detention:
 1. Correction: Salary change for Carolyn Hernandez, Cook, from a rate of \$16.23 per hour, Budget Codes 100-573-1174 \$5.61 (33.33%) and 392-573-1174 \$11.23 (66.67%), to a rate of \$16.84 per hour, effective May 3, 2025. Grade 1 Plan General.
 2. Salary and position/other code change for Kayliana McNary, Part Time JSO, at a rate of \$20.76 per hour, Budget Code 100-573-1157, effective May 3, 2025. Grade 5 Plan Law Enforcement Tier 1.
 3. Resignation of Michael Brett Troell, JSO, effective April 30, 2025.
- d. Ben Zeller, County Judge:
 1. Retirement of Richard Castillo, Fire Marshal, with 99.07 PTO hours due, effective April 25, 2025. Other Due: Payout PTO in full. Other Remarks: End cellphone allowance of \$41.54 per pay period.
- e. Brian Watson, Chief Public Defender - Crossroads Public Defender's Office:
 1. Dismissal of Chyann Sammons, Senior Legal Support Specialist, with 1.39 Compensatory hours due, effective May 2, 2025. Other Due: less than 1 yr service.

Motion adopted.

21. **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 and §551.071 to conduct a private consultation with the County's attorney regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.** (21-35:23)
 21. May 5, 2025. The Commissioners' Court went into closed session at 10:35 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; §551.071 to conduct a 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 an open meeting and take any action deemed necessary based upon discussion in the closed meeting.**

(22-34:59)

22. May 5, 2025. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 12:03 p.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

23. Adjourn.

(23-37:49)

23. May 5, 2025. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of May 5, 2025.