

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **14th day October 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	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

Tuesday, October 14, 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. October 14, 2025. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Regular Term for Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. October 14, 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.

(3-1:01)

3. October 14, 2025. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

County Judge Zeller spoke about the passing of former County Judge Don Pozzi and held a moment of silence in his honor.

Victoria Animal Services Director Mark Sloat gave a shout-out to his staff for the excellent work they do for the Victoria Animal Services.

Emergency Management Coordinator Rick McBrayer spoke about the Parsons Road fire that happened on October 9, 2025. Commissioner Jason Ohrt commended all individuals that assisted with the fire.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-9:57)

4. October 14, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on October 6, 2025. Motion adopted.

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

(5-10:08)

5. October 14, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Michelle Samford,

County Auditor.

Regular Accounts	10/14/2025	\$359,316.78
Supplemental Accounts	9/30/2025 – 10/06/2025	\$861,259.95

Motion adopted.

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

(6-10:36)

6. October 14, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the District Clerk; County Clerk; Criminal District Attorney; County Tax Assessor Collector; Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 4; Constables, Precincts Nos. 1 and 2; and Pre-Trial Services. Motion adopted.

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

(7-11:15)

7. October 14, 2025. None. No action taken.

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

(8-11:19)

8. October 14, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the CMC interim vendor payments dated October 9, 2025, in the amount of \$203,800.94 and the ACH report dated October 9, 2025, in the amount of \$2,653,751.55. Motion adopted.

9. Hear a proclamation designating October 14, 2025 as Constitutional Free Speech Day in Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.

(9-11:51)

9. October 14, 2025. Judge Ben Zeller read the Proclamation. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Proclamation designating October 14, 2025, as Constitutional Free Speech Day in Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

10. Receive for the record a Research Update from Standard & Poor's assigning an "AA" rating to Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.

(10-15:21)

10. October 14, 2025. County Judge Zeller explained Victoria County's rating. Chief of Staff Chris Nicholson spoke about the "AA" rating. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received for the record a Research Update from Standard and Poor's Global Ratings assigning an "AA" rating to Victoria County, Texas Series 2025A-B Certificates of Obligation. Motion adopted.

11. Receive for the record a lease agreement with Bloomington Stronger Together permitting use of the Bloomington Little League Fields located at 211 West Fifth Street, Bloomington, Victoria County, Texas, and take appropriate action.

(11-19:53)

11. October 14, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record a lease agreement between Victoria, County, Texas and Bloomington Stronger Together permitting use of the Bloomington Little

League Fields located at 211 West Fifth Street, Bloomington, Victoria County, Texas.
Motion adopted.

- 12. Receive for the record fully executed FY2026 Victim Coordinator and Liaison Grant (VCLG) Contract, Number C-02349, for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) and take appropriate action.**

(12-20:33)

12. October 14, 2025. Sheriff Justin Marr provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the fully executed FY2026 Victim Coordinator and Liaison Grant (VCLG) Contract, Number C-02349, for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office (VCSO). Motion adopted.

- 13. Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Victoria County Public Health Department and the Parents as Teachers National Center, Agreement No. 2625 and take appropriate action.**

(13-21:22)

13. October 14, 2025. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Victoria County Public Health Department and the Parents as Teachers National Center for Agreement No. 2625. Motion adopted.

- 14. Receive for the record an Inspection Certificate for the Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center, located at 97 Foster Field Dr. Victoria County, Texas, issued by the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office, and take appropriate action.**

(14-23:11)

14. October 14, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Inspection Certificate issued by the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office for the Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center, located at 97 Foster Field Drive, Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

- 15. Consider approval of the following Residential and/or Detention Contracts for the Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and take appropriate action:**
a. Andrews County, Residential and Detention.

(15a-23:52)

15a. October 14, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Andrews County. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following Residential and/or Detention Contracts for the Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and take appropriate action:
b. Reeves County, Residential.

(15b-23:52)

15b. October 14, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the Residential Contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Reeves County. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following Residential and/or Detention Contracts for the Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and take appropriate action:

c. Calhoun County, Residential and Detention.

(15c-23:52)

15c. October 14, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Calhoun County. Motion adopted.

- 16. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2025-091 of a road donation from Robert Shaw for the installation of a driveway and pipe culvert to conduct drainage improvements in Victoria County right-of-way at 434 Schaar Rd. in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas, and take appropriate action.**

(16-24:03)

16. October 14, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2025-091 for a road donation in the amount of \$216.10 from Robert Shaw for installation of a driveway and pipe culvert to conduct drainage improvements in Victoria County right-of-way at 434 Schaar Road in Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

- 17. Consider approval of payment application No. 16 to Forney Construction, LLC in regard to the Citizens Medical Center ICU Additions and Renovations project and take appropriate action.**

(17-24:32)

17. October 14, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved Payment Application No. 16 in the amount of \$1,058,040.83 to Forney Construction, LLC in regard to the Citizens Medical Center ICU Additions and Renovations project. Motion adopted.

- 18. Discuss and consider adoption of the following policies and take appropriate action:
a. Personnel Policy.**

(18a-25:16)

18a. October 14, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court and answered questions from the Court. The Commissioners Court passed on the Personnel Policy for Victoria County for further review. No action taken.

Discuss and consider adoption of the following policies and take appropriate action:

b. Disaster Pay Policy.

(18b-25:16)

18b. October 14, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court and answered questions from the Court. The Commissioners Court passed on the Disaster Pay Policy for Victoria County for further review. No action taken.

(34:27) Upon returning to open meeting, the Commissioners Court returned to this agenda item and discussed disaster pay for Sheriff's Office employees and Juvenile Detention employees with Human Resource Director Giani Cantu, Sheriff Marr, Emergency Management Coordinator Rick McBrayer, First Assistant County Auditor Becky Smiley, Chief of Staff Chris Nicholson and Assistant County Engineer Avery Flessner.

Discuss and consider adoption of the following policies and take appropriate action:

c. Drug Free Workplace Policy.

(18c-25:16)

18c. October 14, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court and answered questions from the Court. The Commissioners Court passed on the Drug Free Workplace Policy for Victoria County for further review. No action taken.

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

(19-32:23)

19. October 14, 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. Pama Hencerling, Chief Probation Officer - Juvenile Detention:

1. Salary change for Christina Perez, Compliance Officer, from a rate of \$26.83 per hour, Budget Codes 100-573-1142 and 231-585-1135 FT @ \$230.77 to a rate of \$28.17 per hour, Budget Codes 100-573-1142, 100-573-1143, and 231-585-1135 FT @ \$230.77, effective September 20, 2025. Other Remarks: The employee in this position has assumed additional job responsibilities beyond their original scope of duties. Some of these duties being in a leadership role. We recognize this increase is above the allotted budget, Therefore, request it come out of line item 100-573-1143.

Motion adopted.

20. Receive for the record 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendments, if any, and take appropriate action

(20-32:34)

20. October 14, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment for CDA Contraband Forfeiture Fund No. 370 as an increase to expenditures. Motion adopted.

21. Consider approval of 2025 budget amendments and take appropriate action.

(21-32:53)

21. October 14, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2025 budget amendment for:

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- b. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1, Expenses - Line item transfer
- c. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 4, Revenues and Expenditures - Increase
- d. Airport Fund, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- e. Capital Projects Fund, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- f. General Fund/Sheriff's Office, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- g. Health Department, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

22. Closed Meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel in various departments.

(22-33:43)

22. October 14, 2025. The Commissioners' Court went into closed session at 10:33 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel in various departments.

23. 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.

(23-34:14)

23. October 14, 2025. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 10:48 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with discussion on agenda item no 18b.

24. Adjourn.

(24-58:45)

24. October 14, 2025. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of October 14, 2025.