

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **8th day December 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, December 8, 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. December 8, 2025. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Regular Term for Monday, December 8, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. December 8, 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.

(3-2:52)

3. December 8, 2025. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Mark David, Master Gardeners President, invited the Court to their awards banquet tomorrow.

Commissioner Danny Garcia stated Jewel Buchanan, Democratic chair, asked him to remind everyone that today is the last day to file to run for any open position.

Commissioner Kenneth Sexton and Commissioner Jason Ohrt commended the Victoria Farmers Market and encouraged the public to go check it out.

Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director Lenny Llerena provided an update on the number of enplanements for the Victoria Regional Airport.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-7:12)

4. December 8, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on December 1, 2025. Motion adopted.

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

(5-7:25)

5. December 8, 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	12/8/2025	\$331,007.49
Supplemental Accounts	11/24/2025 – 12/1/2025	\$30,029.37

Motion adopted.

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

(6-7:54)

6. December 8, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Treasurer; District Clerk; Tax Assessor Collector; County Auditor; Fire Marshal; Justices of the Peace, Precincts Nos. 1-3; and Constables, Precincts Nos. 1-3. and Pre-Trial Services. Motion adopted.

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

(7-8:25)

7. December 8, 2025. None. No action taken.

8. Consider approval of Citizens Medical Center interim vendor payments and take appropriate action.

(8-8:35)

8. December 8, 2025. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the CMC interim vendor payments dated December 4, 2025, in the amount of \$213,196.88 and the ACH report dated December 4, 2025, in the amount of \$4,374,547.83. Motion adopted.

9. Discuss and consider Joint Resolution and Statistical Information for Joint Primary and take appropriate action.

(9-9:10)

9. December 8, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the Joint Resolution and Statistical Information for Joint Primary. Motion adopted.

10. Discuss and consider appointment of an Interim Director of Victoria County Animal Services (VCAS), effective December 13, 2025 and take appropriate action.

(10-10:05)

10. December 8, 2025. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the appointment of Joe Hernandez as the Interim Director of Victoria County Animal Services (VCAS), effective December 13, 2025. Motion adopted.

11. Consider approval of a request to assist the Victoria County Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$3,900 to purchase a 40-foot finished Conex unit to be used as a secure storage facility and Department office, and take appropriate action.

(11-12:39)

11. December 8, 2025. Fire Marshal Dan Porter provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved a request to assist the Victoria County Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of

\$3,900.00 to assist in the purchase of a 40-foot finished Conex unit to be used as a secure storage facility and Department office. Motion adopted.

- 12. Ratify the sale of a 3,325 square foot tract located on the North West line of 5th Street, within the State Highway 185 right-of-way in Bloomington, Texas in Precinct 1, Victoria County, Texas, CSJ No. 0432-02-102, to TxDOT in connection with the State Highway 185 expansion project and take appropriate action.**

(12-16:06)

12. December 8, 2025. Commissioner Garcia provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court ratified the sale of a 3,325 square foot tract located on the North West line of 5th Street, within the State Highway right-of-way in Bloomington, Texas in Precinct No. 1, Victoria County, Texas, CSJ No. 0432-02-102, to TxDOT in connection with the State Highway 185 expansion project. Motion adopted.

- 13. Consider approval of the following request(s) for plat exemption and take appropriate action:**
a. Tom Marchbanks on J-2 Ranch Rd., located in Precinct 4, Victoria County, Texas.

(13a-18:16)

13a. December 8, 2025. Assistant County Engineer Avery Flessner spoke to the Court about the plat exemption. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the plat exemption request from Tom Marchbanks on J-2 Ranch Road located in Precinct No. 4, Victoria County, Texas 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 new tract created must have its own water well and Onsite Sanitary Sewer Facility (OSSF) (septic system).
- * All tracts shall have public right of way frontage or have 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(s) for plat exemption and take appropriate action:

b. Valentin and Carlos Reyes at 117 Jones Rd., located in Precinct 1, Victoria County, Texas.

(13b-18:16)

13b. December 8, 2025. Assistant County Engineer Avery Flessner spoke to the Court about the plat exemption. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the plat exemption request from Valentin and Carlos Reyes at 117 Jones Road located in Precinct No. 1, Victoria, County, Texas 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 new tract created must have its own water well and Onsite Sanitary Sewer Facility (OSSF) (septic system).
- * All tracts shall have public right of way frontage or have 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(s) for plat exemption and take appropriate action:

c. Logan Gisler at 6918 Lower Mission Valley Rd., located in Precinct 2, Victoria County, Texas.

(13c-18:16)

13c. December 8, 2025. Assistant County Engineer Avery Flessner spoke to the Court about the plat exemption. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the plat exemption request from Logan Gisler at 6918 Lower Mission Valley Road located in Precinct No. 2, Victoria County, Texas 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 new tract created must have its own water well and Onsite Sanitary Sewer Facility (OSSF) (septic system).
- * All tracts shall have public right of away 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 Change Order 004 in connection to the Victoria County Health Department Spray Truck Building project and take appropriate action.

(14-20:58)

14. December 8, 2025. Assistant County Engineer Avery Flessner provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record Change Order 004 in connection to the Victoria County Health Department Spray Truck Building project. Motion adopted.

15. Consider approval of CPS/PHEP Grant (CPS/Hazards) Contract No. HHS001439500032 Amendment No. 4 which increases the Grant Agreement amount by 28%, and take appropriate action.

(15-21:40)

15. December 8, 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 CPS/PHEP Grant (CPS/Hazards) Contract No. HHS001439500032 Amendment No. 4, which increases the Grant Agreement amount by 28% for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

16. Consider approval of Personal Services Agreement with Gulf Bend Center to provide mental health services to HARP clients, and take appropriate action.

(16-23:04)

16. December 8, 2025. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the Personal Services Agreement with Gulf Bend Center to provide mental health services to HARP clients for the Victoria County Publ. Motion adopted.

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

a. Ward County, Detention and Residential.

(17a-23:14)

17a. December 8, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Ward 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. Waller County, Residential and Detention.

(17b-23:14)

17b. December 8, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Residential and Detention Contracts between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Waller 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. El Paso County, Residential.

(17c-23:14)

17c. December 8, 2025. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Residential Contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and El Paso County. Motion adopted.

18. Consider the following related to Workers Compensation Administration and take appropriate action:

a. Receive renewal from Higginbotham with Deep East Texas Self Insurance Fund.

(18a-24:05)

18a. December 8, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the renewal from Higginbotham with Deep East Texas Self Insurance Fund related to Workers Compensation Administration. Motion adopted.

Consider the following related to Workers Compensation Administration and take appropriate action:

b. Receive proposal from Texas Association of Counties.

(18b-24:05)

18b. December 8, 2025. Giani Cantu, Human Resources Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the proposal from the Texas Association of Counties related to Workers Compensation Administration. Motion adopted.

Consider the following related to Workers Compensation Administration and take appropriate action:

c. Recommend a contract for Workers Compensation Administration beginning 01/01/2026.

(18c-24:05)

18c. December 8, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved to award the contract to the Texas Association of Counties for Workers Compensation Administration beginning 01/01/2026. Motion adopted.

Consider the following related to Workers Compensation Administration and take appropriate action:

d. Authorize County Judge to sign a contract after legal review.

(18d-24:05)

18d. December 8, 2025. Giani Cantu, Human Resources Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court authorized the County Judge to sign a contract after legal review related to Workers Compensation Administration. Motion adopted.

- 19. Consider reclassification of an Assistant Public Defender II position to Assistant Public Defender III within the Crossroads Public Defender's Office and take appropriate action.**

(19-29:03)

19. December 8, 2025. Chief Public Defender Brian Watson provided information to the Court. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the reclassification of an Assistant Public Defender II position to Assistant Public Defender III within the Crossroads Public Defender's Office. Motion adopted.

- 20. Receive for the record updated title and grades and take appropriate action.**

(20-30:29)

20. December 8, 2025. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court received for the record the updated title and grades. Motion adopted.

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

(21-31:16)

21. December 8, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

a. Margetta Hill, Elections Administrator - Elections Office:

1. Request to pay 3 hours of overtime (if any) in the amount of \$123.36 to Allen Martinez (SO Security) for assisting with the November 4 Joint General Election, to be paid from Victoria County Election Fund 450-490-1120.

Motion adopted.

- 22. Discuss and consider vendor change for Victoria County purchasing cards and take appropriate action.**

(22-32:10)

22. December 8, 2025. County Treasurer Paige Foster discussed the vendor change information for Victoria County purchasing cards with the Court. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved JP Morgan Chase as the provider for the Victoria County procurement card program. Motion adopted.

- 23. Receive for the record Discretionary Budget Amendments, if any, and take appropriate action.**

(23-45:01)

23. December 8, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 2025 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendment for Sheriff Commissary Fund (380) as an increase to expenditures. Motion adopted.

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

(24-45:24)

24. December 8, 2025. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the 2025 budget amendment for:

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- b. Emergency Management, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Airport Fund, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- d. Airport Capital Projects Fund, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

25. Closed meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel in various departments, §551.087 to discuss economic development, §551.072 to discuss real property, and §551.071 to conduct a private consultation with the County's attorney regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.

(25-46:04)

25. December 8, 2025. The Commissioners' Court went into closed session at 10:48 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel in various departments; §551.087 to discuss economic development; §551.072 to discuss real property; and §551.071 to conduct a private consultation with the County's attorney regarding matters protected by attorney-client privilege.

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.

(26-47:05)

26. December 8, 2025. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 12:48 p.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

27. Adjourn.

(27-47:16)

27. December 8, 2025. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of December 8, 2025.