

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **9th day February A.D., 2026**, 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, February 9, 2026, 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. February 9, 2026. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Regular Term for Monday, February 9, 2026 at 10:02 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. February 9, 2026. 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.

(3-3:37)

3. February 9, 2026. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

County Judge Zeller recognized State Representative A. J. Louderback.

State Representative A. J. Louderback spoke about the new Victoria County Animal Services building.

Michael Vonderau of 2107 N. Ben Jordan mentioned the passing of Harley Fisk, a member of the Friends of the Library, and thanked Victoria County Animal Services on doing a great job. Mr. Vonderau also thanked Representative Louderback for his assistance.

Commissioner Kenneth Sexton mentioned that the Victoria County Animal Services Ribbon Cutting will be held on Saturday, February 14, 2026.

Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director Lenny Llerena spoke about the recently passed FY26 Funding Bill for DOT/FAA.

Fire Marshal Dan Porter provided the KBDI numbers and stated with the current weather conditions, a burn ban is not necessary at this time.

Commissioner Sexton thanked County Engineer John Johnston and his crew for their work on the new Victoria County Animal Services building.

County Judge Zeller stated Commissioners Court will be held next Tuesday, February 17, 2026 due to Monday being Presidents' Day and stated it is also the first day for early voting for the Primary Election.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-17:28)

4. February 9, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on February 2, 2026. Motion adopted.

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

(5-18:03)

5. February 9, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Michelle Samford, County Auditor.

Regular Accounts	2/9/2026	\$724,245.91
Supplemental Accounts	1/27/2026 – 2/2/2026	\$123,664.82

Motion adopted.

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

(6-18:27)

6. February 9, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received the monthly reports from the County Treasurer; District Clerk; Criminal District Attorney; County Tax Assessor Collector; County Auditor; Fire Marshal; Justices of the Peace, Precincts Nos. 2 and 4; Constables, Precincts Nos. 2, 3, and 4; and Pre-Trial Services. Motion adopted.

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

(7-19:00)

7. February 9, 2026. There were no bond forfeiture releases. No action taken.

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

(8-19:08)

8. February 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payments for Citizens Medical Center dated February 5, 2026 in the amount of \$118,091.14 and the ACH report dated February 5, 2026 in the amount of \$1,336,319.37. Motion adopted.

9. Consider approval of a request to pay Assistance Funds in the amount of \$8,250.00 to the Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department to cover its Texas Forest Services grant match for a new brush truck, and take appropriate action.

(9-19:41)

9. February 9, 2026. Fire Marshal Dan Porter provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved a request to pay the amount of \$8,250.00 from the Volunteer Fire Department's assistance fund to the Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department to cover its Texas Forest Services grant match for a new brush truck. Motion adopted.

10. Consider the following in connection with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP #3-48-0219-030-2025,

contingent on receipt of additional Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding in the amount of \$1,840,915.00 and take appropriate action:

a. Receive bid tabulations.

(10a-21:32)

10a. February 9, 2026. Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director Lenny Llerena provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received bid tabulations in connection with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP No. 3-48-0219-030-2025, contingent on receipt of additional Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding in the amount of \$1,840,915.00. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in connection with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP #3-48-0219-030-2025, contingent on receipt of additional Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding in the amount of \$1,840,915.00 and take appropriate action:

b. Receive award recommendation letter from Centurion Planning & Design, LLC.

(10b-21:32)

10b. February 9, 2026. Lenny Llerena, Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received the award recommendation letter from Centurion Planning and Design, LLC in connection with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP No. 3-48-0219-030-2025, contingent on receipt of additional Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding in the amount of \$1,840,915.00. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in connection with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP #3-48-0219-030-2025, contingent on receipt of additional Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding in the amount of \$1,840,915.00 and take appropriate action:

c. Award the sole respondent, Lauger Companies Inc.

(10c-21:32)

10c. February 9, 2026. Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director Lenny Llerena provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved to award the sole respondent, Lauger Companies, Inc., in connection with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP No. 3-48-0219-030-2025, contingent on receipt of additional Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding in the amount of \$1,840,915.00. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in connection with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP #3-48-0219-030-2025, contingent on receipt of additional Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding in the amount of \$1,840,915.00 and take appropriate action:

d. Authorize the County Judge to execute a contract with Lauger Companies Inc., contingent on legal review.

(10d-21:32)

10d. February 9, 2026. Lenny Llerena, Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court authorized the County Judge to execute a contract with Lauger Companies Inc, contingent on legal review in connection with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP No.

3-48-0219-030-2025, contingent on receipt of additional Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant funding in the amount of \$1,840,915.00. Motion adopted.

- 11. Authorize payment of Invoice No. 4526 valued at \$33,794.90 to JCG Enterprises to install cleaning system within the Victoria County Animal Services (VCAS) Facility located at 513 Profit Dr., in Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.**

(11-27:27)

11. February 9, 2025. Interim Animal Services Director Joe Hernandez provided an update on the cleaning system at the new Victoria County Animal Services building. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court authorized payment of Invoice No. 4526 valued at \$33,794.90 to JCG Enterprises to install cleaning system within the Victoria County Animal Services (VCAS) Facility located at 513 Profit Drive in Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

- 12. Consider approval of Modified Statement of Grant Award No. TR-26-007 for Crossroads Regional Public Defender Office under TIDC Temporary or One-Time Assistance for Existing Rural Indigent Defense Programs Serving Rural Texas and take appropriate action.**

(12-28:23)

12. February 9, 2026. Chief Public Defender Brian Watson provided the Court with information. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Modified FY2026 Statement of Grant Award No. TR-26-007 under TIDC's Temporary or One-Time Assistance for Existing Rural Indigent Defense Programs Serving Rural Texas for Crossroads Regional Public Defender Office. Motion adopted.

- 13. Consider approval of the following in relation to the FY26 HIDTA grant and take appropriate action:**

a. Approval of application submission.

(13a-31:58)

13a. February 9, 2026. Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the application submission in relation to the FY2026 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) grant for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following in relation to the FY26 HIDTA grant and take appropriate action:

b. Authorize Grant Administrator as Authorized Official.

(13b-31:58)

13b. February 9, 2026. Grant Administrator Robin Knipling provided the Court with information. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court authorized the Grant Administrator as an authorized official in relation to the FY2026 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) grant for the Victoria County Sheriff's Office. Motion adopted.

- 14. Ratify Senate Bill 22 Rural Prosecutor's Office Salary Assistance Program Grant Agreement, Award No. IA-0000002563, for the Victoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office and take appropriate action.**

(14-33:38)

14. February 9, 2026. Office Manager Ernest Guterrez provided information to the

Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court ratified Senate Bill 22 Rural Prosecutor's Office Salary Assistance Program Grant Agreement, Award No. IA-0000002563, for the Victoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office. Motion adopted.

15. Consider approval of the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification from the Victoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office and take appropriate action.

(15-34:14)

15. February 9, 2026. Ernest Guterrez, Office Manager, provided the Court with information. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification from the Victoria County Criminal District Attorney's Office. Motion adopted.

16. Consider the following regarding the Halliburton Chapter 380 Agreement and take appropriate action:

a. Receive Chapter 380 Agreement Certificate of Compliance for Tax Year 2025 (Year 1).

(16a-34:51)

16a. February 9, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received Halliburton's Certificate of Compliance for Year 1 (Tax Year 2025) of the Chapter 380 Agreement. Motion adopted.

Consider the following regarding the Halliburton Chapter 380 Agreement and take appropriate action:

b. Authorize payment to Halliburton in the amount of \$229,326.39 reflecting full Sales and Use Tax revenue for Tax Year 2025.

(16b-34:51)

16b. February 9, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court authorized payment to Halliburton in the amount of \$229,326.39 reflecting full Sales and Use Tax revenue for Tax Year 2025. Motion adopted.

17. Receive for the record a Certification of Compliance from Koch Capabilities, LLC in relation to the Tax Abatement Agreement for INV Nylon Chemicals Americas, LLC and take appropriate action.

(17-36:39)

17. February 9, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court received for the record a Certification of Compliance from Koch Capabilities, LLC in relation to the Tax Abatement Agreement between Victoria County and INV Nylon Chemicals Americas, LLC. Motion adopted.

18. Receive for the record Victoria County Constable Precinct 3 Racial Profiling Analysis Report and take appropriate action.

(18-37:26)

18. February 9, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record Victoria County Constable, Precinct No. 3 Racial Profiling Analysis Report. Motion adopted.

19. Consider the following requests for plat exemption and take appropriate action:

a. Louis & Marlynn Mendoza at 172 Givens Road, located in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas.

(19a-37:57)

19a. February 9, 2026. County Engineer John Johnston provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the request for plat exemption from Louis and Marlynnna Mendoza at 172 Givens Road, located in Precinct No. 3, 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 tract will have its own water well and Onsite Sanitary Sewer Facility (OSSF) (septic system).
- * Each tract 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 owner(s).
 - ~The developer/property owner(s) 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 the following requests for plat exemption and take appropriate action:
b. Jessica Rae Rodriguez at 1416 Givens Road, located in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas.

(19b-37:57)

19b. February 9, 2026. County Engineer John Johnston provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the request for plat exemption from Jessica Rae Rodriguez at 1416 Givens Road located within Precinct No. 3, 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 tract will have its own water well and Onsite Sanitary Sewer Facility (OSSF) (septic system).
- * Each tract 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 owner(s).
 - ~The developer/property owner(s) 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 the following requests for plat exemption and take appropriate action:
c. Caleb Janis at 4517 Old Highway Road, located in Precinct 4, Victoria County, Texas.

(19c-37:57)

19c. February 9, 2026. County Engineer John Johnston provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the request for plat exemption from Caleb Janis at 4517 Old Highway Road located within 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.
- * 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 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 owner(s).
 - ~The developer/property owner(s) 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.

- 20. Consider the following regarding a donation from Jack and Leslie Crews of an approximate .44-acre tract, excluding mineral rights, located at 60 Kemper City Road West in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action:**
a. Approval of Resolution No. 2026-023 for the donation of property to Victoria County, Texas for use by Victoria County Road & Bridge, Precinct 3.

(20a-40:39)

20a. February 9, 2026. The Commissioners Court passed on Resolution No. 2026-023 for the donation of real property from Jack and Leslie Crews, consisting of the surface estate only, being a .44-acre tract located at 60 Kemper City Road West, Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas, and having an appraised value of \$23,180.00 to be accepted and recorded as property of Victoria, County, Texas for the intended use by Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 3. No action taken.

Consider the following regarding a donation from Jack and Leslie Crews of an approximate .44-acre tract, excluding mineral rights, located at 60 Kemper City Road West in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action:
b. Authorize filing Gift Deed (Surface Only), transferring ownership to Victoria County, Texas into the official records of the Victoria County Clerk.

(20b-40:39)

20b. February 9, 2026. The Commissioners Court passed on filing a Gift Deed (Surface Only), transferring ownership to Victoria County, Texas into the official records of the Victoria County Clerk, regarding a donation from Jack and Leslie Crews of an approximate .44-acre tract, excluding mineral rights, located at 60 Kemper City Road West in Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas. No action taken.

- 21. Consider the following regarding a Letter of Permission to enter private property and take appropriate action:**
a. Receive for the record a letter from the landowner, Jean Klager, authorizing the tenant farmer, Donnie Hempel, to sign necessary documents.

(21a-41:03)

21a. February 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the letter of permission from Jean Klager to authorize the tenant farmer, Donnie Hempel, to sign a Letter of Permission for Victoria County Precinct No. 1 to enter private property located at Hodde's Circle, Bloomington, Texas to install two driveways. Motion adopted.

Consider the following regarding a Letter of Permission to enter private property and take appropriate action:

b. Receive for the record a Letter of Permission to enter private property from Donnie Hempel, located on Hodde Circle in Bloomington, Precinct 1, Victoria County, Texas for the purpose of installing driveways and improving drainage.

(21b-41:03)

21b. February 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the letter of permission from Donnie Hempel to enter private property located at Hodde Circle in Bloomington, Texas, Precinct No. 1, Victoria County, Texas for the purpose of installing two driveways to improve drainage. Motion adopted.

- 22. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2026-024 for a road donation valued at \$1,551.60 from Kyle Bradley for the installation of a pipe culvert located at 2607 Cologne Rd. in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.**
(22-41:51)

22. February 9, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-024 for a road donation valued at \$1,551.60 from Kyle Bradley at 2607 Cologne Road in Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas for the installation of a pipe and limestone. Motion adopted.

- 23. Consider approval of Order to Ratify Purchase of Certificates of Deposit and take appropriate action.**
(23-42:23)

23. February 9, 2026. County Treasurer Paige Foster provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Order to Ratify Purchase of Certificates of Deposit. Motion adopted.

- 24. Receive for the record 4th Quarter Treasurer's Report and take appropriate action.**
(24-43:07)

24. February 9, 2026. Paige Foster, County Treasurer, provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 4th Quarter Treasurer's Report. Motion adopted.

- 25. Receive for the record fully executed agreement with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, ratify premium costs for dental and vision plans, and take appropriate action.**
(25-45:45)

25. February 9, 2026. Laura Gwaltney with Walker and Associates provided information to the Court. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record and approved the fully executed agreement with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and ratify premium costs for dental and vision plans. Motion adopted.

- 26. Consider the following authorizations in connection to payroll and signing bonus agreements, and take appropriate action:**
a. Authorize the Chief Public Defender to offer and initiate signing bonus agreements within approved grant funding amounts, subject to Human Resources Department review and approval.
(26a-50:43)

26a. February 9, 2026. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court authorized the Chief Public Defender to offer and initiate signing bonus agreements within approved grant funding amounts, subject to Human Resources Department review and approval, (in connection to payroll and signing bonus agreements). Motion adopted.

Consider the following authorizations in connection to payroll and signing bonus agreements, and take appropriate action:

- b. Authorize the Human Resources Department to process and administer approved signing bonus agreements through payroll without further court action.**
(26b-50:43)

26b. February 9, 2026. Giani Cantu, Human Resources Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the

Commissioners Court authorized the Human Resources Department to process and administer approved signing bonus agreements through payroll without further court action (in connection to payroll and signing bonus agreements). Motion adopted.

27. Consider approval of a contract with LaborMax Staffing to hire two temporary employees to provide trash clean-up services for Victoria County Road & Bridge, Precinct 4 and take appropriate action.

(27-53:01)

27. February 9, 2026. Commissioner Kenneth Sexton provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved a contract with LaborMax Staffing to hire two temporary employees to provide trash clean-up services for Victoria County Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 4. Motion adopted.

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

(28-55:06)

28. February 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

- a. Ben Zeller, County Judge - County Judge's Office:
 - 1. Salary and position/other code change for Margetta Hill, from a rate of \$31.95 per hour to \$36.96 per hour, one-time stipend - \$1,202.40, effective January 24, 2026. Other Remarks: Elections Commission voted and approved 2/3/2026. Grade 15 Plan General Tier n/a. Remarks: need court approval for stipend.
- b. Brian Watson, Chief Public Defender - Public Defender's Office:
 - 1. Salary change (add one-time) for Benjamin Beckworth, one-time Signing Bonus Payment - \$7,500.00. Other Remarks: per signing bonus agreement – pay on 2/13/2026 check.
- c. Commissioner's Court:
 - 1. Amended Order Setting Salaries for the Year 2026.

Motion adopted.

29. Receive for the record Discretionary Budget Amendments, if any, and take appropriate action.

(29-56:00)

29. February 9, 2026. There were no 2026 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendments. No action taken.

30. Consider approval of 2026 budget amendments and take appropriate action.

(30-56:12)

30. February 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2026 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Expenditures - Decrease
- b. DHS Joint Operations Fund, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Capital Projects Fund - 2025B, Expenditures - Increase

Motion adopted.

- 31. Closed meeting pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel in various departments, §551.0745 to discuss boards and commissions, §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.**

(31-56:35)

31. February 9, 2026. The Commissioners' Court went into closed session at 11:06 a.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.074 to discuss personnel in various departments; §551.0745 to discuss boards and commissions, §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 attorney-client privilege.

- 32. 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.**

(32-57:59)

32. February 9, 2026. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 1:13 p.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

- 33. Adjourn.**

(33-58:05)

33. February 9, 2026. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of February 9, 2026.