

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **9th day March 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, March 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. March 9, 2026. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, March 9, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. March 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.

(3-2:23)

3. March 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.

Debbie Ellsworth, a Bloomington Resident, spoke about her and her husband's voting experience with the March 3, 2026 election. County Judge Zeller and Commissioner Danny Garcia responded to Mrs. Ellsworth.

Michael Vonderau, 2107 N. Ben Jordan, suggested a separate line for individuals in wheelchairs when they vote and spoke about the dog issues on Jecker Street.

Fire Marshal Dan Porter spoke about the rain from this weekend and the upcoming rain for Wednesday and recommended the burn ban stay in effect for now.

Interim Animal Services Director Joe Hernandez stated his office worked with Best Friends Animal Society from Houston last week and is willing to work with any other local rescues that are interested.

Commissioner Jason Ohrt mentioned the Nursery Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual fundraiser on March 29, 2026 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Nursery Volunteer Fire Station.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-15:44)

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

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

(5-15:59)

5. March 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	3/9/2026	\$1,371,661.64
Supplemental Accounts	2/24/2026 – 3/2/2026	\$306,996.65

Motion adopted.

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

(6-16:27)

6. March 9, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the monthly and quarterly reports from the County Treasurer; County Clerk; Criminal District Attorney; Tax Assessor Collector; County Auditor; Justices of the Peace, Precincts Nos. 3 and 4; and Constable, Precinct No. 2. Motion adopted.

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

(7-16:56)

7. March 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.

(8-17:10)

8. March 9, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payments for Citizens Medical Center dated March 5, 2026 in the amount of \$284,683.79 and the ACH report dated March 5, 2026 in the amount of \$2,860,410.41. Motion adopted.

9. Hear a Proclamation in commemoration of Texas History Month, and take appropriate action.

(9-17:54)

9. March 9, 2026. Judge Zeller read the Proclamation. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Proclamation in commemoration of Texas History Month from March 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026. Motion adopted.

10. Ratify Order No. 2026-038 enacting a county-wide Burn Ban in Victoria County and take appropriate action.

(10-24:02)

10. March 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court ratified Order No. 2026-038 enacting a county-wide Burn Ban in Victoria County, effective March 2, 2026. Motion adopted.

11. Receive for the record a Lease Agreement Extension and updated User Fees for SkyWest Airlines, and take appropriate action.

(11-24:31)

11. March 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 for the record a Lease Agreement Extension and updated User Fees for SkyWest Airlines. Motion adopted.

- 12. Receive for the record the fully executed FAA grant agreement for the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project No. 3-48-0219-031-2026 in the amount of \$1,700,000.00 and take appropriate action.**

(12-25:38)

12. March 9, 2026. Lenny Llerena, Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record the fully executed FAA grant agreement for the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project No. 3-48-0219-031-2026 in the amount of \$1,700,000.00. Motion adopted.

- 13. Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) to utilize a parcel of land for the Victoria County Mental & Behavioral Health Facility Project construction staging, and take appropriate action.**

(13-26:39)

13. March 9, 2026. Victoria Regional Airport Executive Director Lenny Llerena provided the Court with information. The Court held a discussion. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) to utilize a parcel of land for the Victoria County Mental and Behavioral Health Facility Project construction staging. Motion adopted.

- 14. Consider approval of a request for assistance funds from the Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$23,750.00 for apparatus and equipment, to be reimbursed from Texas Forestry Service Grant No. E601827 funds, and take appropriate action.**

(14-35:45)

14. March 9, 2026. Fire Marshal Dan Porter and Commissioner Danny Garcia provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved a request for assistance funds from the Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$23,750.00 for apparatus and equipment, to be reimbursed from Texas Forestry Service Grant No. E601827 funds. Motion adopted.

- 15. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2026-037 for a donation in the amount of \$1,200.00 from Buddy Kamin as reimbursement of assistance funds given to the Placedo Volunteer Fire Department, and take appropriate action.**

(15-38:17)

15. March 9, 2026. Sheriff Justin Marr provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, pursuant to Local Government Code §81.032, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-037 for a one-time donation with a total value of \$1,200.00 from Buddy Kamin to be utilized for and dedicated to the Victoria County Assistance Fund to be contributed towards their identified purposes. Motion adopted.

- 16. Receive for the record the 24th Judicial District Community Supervision and Corrections Department Financial Statement for Fiscal Year 2025, and take appropriate action.**

(16-39:01)

16. March 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 24th Judicial District Community Supervision and Corrections Department Financial Statement for Fiscal Year 2025. Motion adopted.

- 17. Consider approval of a Release and Settlement Agreement for September 2024 Claims under the Medicaid Administrative Claim (MAC) Program Contract No. HHS00537900831 and take appropriate action.**

(17-40:00)

17. March 9, 2026. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved a Release and Settlement Agreement between Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and Victoria County for September 2024 Claims under the Medicaid Administrative Claim (MAC) Program Contract No. HHS00537900831 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

- 18. Receive for the record executed Change Order No. 005 from Lauger Companies, Inc. in connection with the Victoria County Spray Truck Storage Building Project, and take appropriate action.**

(18-40:46)

18. March 9, 2026. Assistant County Engineer Avery Flessner provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record the executed Change Order No. 005 from Lauger Companies, Inc. in connection with the Victoria County Spray Truck Storage Building Project at the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

- 19. Ratify agreement with TSI Laboratories, Inc. to provide materials testing services for the Victoria County Mental & Behavioral Health Facility Project and take appropriate action.**

(19-42:58)

19. March 9, 2026. The Commissioners Court passed on the agreement with TSI Laboratories, Inc. to provide materials testing services for the Victoria County Mental and Behavioral Health Facility Project. No action taken.

- 20. Ratify Construction Material Testing Proposal No. PV-261045 with TSI Laboratories, Inc. in connection with the Victoria County Mental & Behavioral Health Facility Project, and take appropriate action.**

(20-43:12)

20. March 9, 2026. The Commissioners Court passed on the Construction Material Testing Proposal No. PV-261045 with TSI Laboratories, Inc. in connection with the Victoria County Mental and Behavioral Health Facility Project. No action taken.

- 21. Consider approval of renewal of the Smiths Detection Maintenance Agreement for the Victoria County Courthouse and the Victoria County Juvenile Detention Center, and take appropriate action.**

(21-43:25)

21. March 9, 2026. Procurement Specialist Adrian Willis provided information to the

Court. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the renewal of the Smiths Detection Maintenance Agreement for the Victoria County Courthouse and the Victoria County Juvenile Detention Center. Motion adopted.

- 22. Consider approval of and authorize to advertise the Request for Proposals for the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials on March 22, 2026 and March 29, 2026 and take appropriate action.**

(22-44:15)

22. March 9, 2026. Procurement Specialist Adrienne Willis provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved and authorized the Request for Proposals for the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials on April 19, 2026, and April 26, 2026. Motion adopted.

- 23. Receive for the record the Victoria County Sheriff's Office 2025 Racial Profiling Report, and take appropriate action.**

(23-45:17)

23. March 9, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Victoria County Sheriff's Office 2025 Racial Profiling Report. Motion adopted.

- 24. Receive the fully executed drainage agreement with Eduardo Jaime permitting donated pipe to be utilized for drainage improvements in or on county right-of-way (ROW) in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.**

(24-46:01)

24. March 9, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received the fully executed drainage easement agreement with Eduardo Jaime permitting donated pipe to be utilized for drainage improvements in or on county right-of-way (ROW) in Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

- 25. Consider approval of a Letter of Permission from Scott Kuester to enter private property located at the 8400 Block of Coletoville Rd. in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.**

(25-46:26)

25. March 9, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the letter of permission from Scott Kuester to enter private property located at 8400 Block of Coletoville Road in Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas for corrugated pipe. Motion adopted.

- 26. Consider approval of the following Resolutions for road donation and take appropriate action:**

a. Resolution No. 2026-035 for a road donation in the amount of \$1,200.00 from Jimmy Aguayo for installation of a pipe culvert located at Brownson Rd. in Precinct 1, Victoria County, Texas.

(26a-46:47)

26a. March 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-035 for a road donation valued at \$1,200.00 from Jimmy Aguayo at Brownson Road in Precinct No. 1, Victoria County, Texas for the installation of a pipe culvert. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following Resolutions for road donation and take appropriate action:

b. Resolution No. 2026-036 for a road donation in the amount of \$558.96 from Yolanda Martinez for installation of a pipe culvert located at 69 Village Lane in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas.

(26b-46:47)

26b. March 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-036 for a road donation valued at \$558.96 from Yolanda Martinez at 69 Village Lane in Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas for the installation of a pipe culvert. Motion adopted.

27. Consider approval of a Residential Contract between the Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Gregg County, and take appropriate action.

(27-47:59)

27. March 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Residential Contract between Victoria Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Gregg County. Motion adopted.

28. Consider approval of an agreement with Medwise LTD, and take appropriate action.

(28-48:12)

28. March 9, 2026. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved an agreement between Medwise LTD and Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

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

(29-49:03)

29. March 9, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

a. Commissioners Court:

1. Certificates of Completion from the V.G. Young Institute of County Government for continuing education hours for Commissioner, Precinct No. 1 Danny Garcia; Commissioner, Precinct No. 2 Jason Ohrt; Commissioner, Precinct No. 3 Shannon Martin; and Commissioner, Precinct No. 4 Kenneth Sexton.

b. Danny Garcia, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1 - Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1:

1. Salary change for Rochelle Lawrence, Mechanic, from a rate of \$25.71 per hour, Budget Code 201-611-1107 to a rate of \$29.25 per hour, effective February 21, 2026. Remarks: Over midpoint and budgeted. Pay proposed at max.

Motion adopted.

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

(30-49:46)

30. March 9, 2026. There were no 2026 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendments. No action taken.

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

(31-49:57)

31. March 9, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the 2026 budget amendments for:

- a. Emergency Management Fund, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- b. Airport Operating Fund, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Capital Projects Fund - COS 2023, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- d. General Fund/Various Departments, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- e. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- f. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 2, Expenditures - Increase
- g. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 3, Expenditures - Increase
- h. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 4, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- i. Capital Projects Fund - 2025B, Expenditures - Increase

Motion adopted.

- 32. 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.**

(32-54:19)

32. March 9, 2026. The Commissioners' Court went into closed session at 11:13 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; and §551.071 to conduct a private consultation with the County's attorney regarding matters protected by attorney-client privilege.

- 33. 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.**

(33-55:17)

33. March 9, 2026. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 12:19 p.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

- 34. Consider approval of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Victoria, delegating inspection, compliance, and investigation authority for County-owned structures to the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office and take appropriate action.**

(34-51:36)

34. March 9, 2026. Fire Marshal Dan Porter provided information and answered the Courts questions. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Victoria, delegating inspection, compliance, and investigation authority for County-owned structures to the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office. Motion adopted.

- 35. Adjourn.**

(35-55:27)

35. March 9, 2026. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of March 9, 2026.