

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **2nd day March A.D., 2026**, 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, March 2, 2026, 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. March 2, 2026. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, March 2, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. March 2, 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.

(3-2:24)

3. March 2, 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.

County Judge Zeller wished everyone a Happy Texas Independence Day and reminded the public that tomorrow is Primary Election Day.

Kodie Foster invited everyone to the Victoria Livestock Show Auction at 4:30 p.m. today.

Michael Vonderau of 2107 N. Ben Jordan reminded everyone about voting tomorrow from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and spoke about the dog issues on Jecker Street.

Fire Marshal Dan Porter mentioned his team was invited to Kids Day at the Victoria Livestock Show and thanked the Victoria Livestock Show for inviting them and mentioned that this Friday they will be having a career day at Mission Valley Elementary. Fire Marshal Porter stated that Victoria County and the City of Victoria worked together to get all the volunteers' radios reprogrammed. He also recommended a burn ban be put in place at this time.

County Judge Zeller implemented a burn ban at 10:09 a.m. this morning.

Emergency Management Coordinator Rick McBrayer thanked the Court for the burn ban, spoke about a fire this past weekend in the South part of the county, and spoke about the volunteers' radios being reprogrammed.

County Treasurer Paige Foster reminded the Court and county officials to sign up to get their new JPMorgan Chase cards.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-13:36)

4. March 2, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on February 23, 2026. Motion adopted.

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

(5-13:56)

5. March 2, 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	3/2/2026	\$1,354,916.49
Supplemental Accounts	2/17/2026 – 2/23/2026	\$264,965.10

Motion adopted.

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

(6-14:17)

6. March 2, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the monthly and quarterly reports from the Fire Marshal and County Constable, Precinct No. 3. Motion adopted.

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

(7-14:32)

7. March 2, 2026. There were no bond forfeiture releases. No action taken.

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

(8-14:44)

8. March 2, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payments for Citizens Medical Center dated February 26, 2026. in the amount of \$409,632.41 and the ACH report dated February 26, 2026. in the amount of \$5,076,373.93. Motion adopted.

9. Hear a Proclamation in celebration of Texas Independence Day, and take appropriate action.

(9-15:19)

9. March 2, 2026. County Judge Ben Zeller read the Proclamation. John Kisalus with the Victoria County Historical Commission thanked the Court for their support. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Proclamation recognizing March 2, 2026 as a celebration of Texas Independence Day. Motion adopted.

10. Consider approval of a contract with Lauger Construction, contingent on legal review, in the amount of \$1,840,915.00 to provide construction services for the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project,

FAA AIP #3-48-0219-031-2026, contingent upon receipt of FAA grant award, and take appropriate action.

(10-20:17)

10. March 2, 2026. Executive Director Lenny Llerena provided information to the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved a contract with Lauger Construction, contingent on legal review, in the amount of \$1,840,915.00 to provide construction services for the Victoria Regional Airport (VRA) Air Traffic Control Tower Rehabilitation Project, FAA AIP No. 3-48-0219-031-2026, contingent upon receipt of FAA grant award. Motion adopted.

11. Receive for the record the following reports in connection to the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office and take appropriate action:

a. Racial Profiling Report for the Victoria County Fire Marshal.

(11a-22:11)

11a. March 2, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Racial Profiling Report for the Victoria County Fire Marshal. Motion adopted.

Receive for the record the following reports in connection to the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office and take appropriate action:

b. Chapter 59 Asset Forfeiture Report for 2025 for the Victoria County Fire Marshal.

(11b-22:11)

11b. March 2, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Chapter 59 Asset Forfeiture Report for 2025 for the Victoria County Fire Marshal. Motion adopted.

12. Consider the following regarding the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) TechGuard Pilot program for supplementary cybersecurity training and take appropriate action:

a. Discuss the TAC TechGuard Pilot program.

(12a-23:01)

12a. March 2, 2026. IT Director Matt Schneider discussed the TAC TechGuard Pilot program with the Commissioners Court. No action taken.

Consider the following regarding the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) TechGuard Pilot program for supplementary cybersecurity training and take appropriate action:

b. Authorize the Victoria County IT Director to serve as the TAC TechGuard Pilot program administrator.

(12b-23:01)

12b. March 2, 2026. Matt Schneider, IT Director, provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court authorized the Victoria County IT Director Matt Schneider to serve as the TAC TechGuard Pilot Program Administrator. Motion adopted.

13. Consider approval of a request from the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office for financial assistance to the Placedo Volunteer Fire Department for an unexpected truck maintenance expense in the amount of \$1,262.01 and take appropriate action.

(13-24:00)

13. March 2, 2026. Dan Porter, Fire Marshal, provided the Court with information.

Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the request from the Victoria County Fire Marshal's Office for financial assistance to the Placedo Volunteer Fire Department for an unexpected truck maintenance expense in the amount of \$1,262.01. Motion adopted.

14. Receive for the record the following fully executed contracts in connection to the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

a. Ryan White Service Delivery (Ryan White) Contract #5614-565-02.

(14a-26:23)

14a. March 2, 2026. David Gonzales, Public Health Director, provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Ryan White Service Delivery (Ryan White) Contract No. 5614-565-02 in connection to the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

Receive for the record the following fully executed contracts in connection to the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action:

b. Family Connect International Program Agreement FY26.

(14b-26:23)

14b. March 2, 2026. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Family Connect International Program Agreement FY26 in connection to the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

15. Consider approval of a Lease Agreement between the Calhoun County Independent School District and the Victoria County Public Health Department-WIC Program, and take appropriate action.

(15-27:24)

15. March 2, 2026. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved a Lease Agreement between the Calhoun County Independent School District and the Victoria County Public Health Department-WIC Program. Motion adopted.

16. Consider approval of Texas Healthy Communities Grant Contract No. HHS001456400001 Amendment No. 2 and take appropriate action.

(16-27:59)

16. March 2, 2026. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Texas Healthy Communities Grant Contract No. HHS001456400001 Amendment No. 2 for the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

17. Receive for the record the Victoria County Constable Precinct 1 Racial Profiling Report, and take appropriate action.

(17-29:04)

17. March 2, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court received for the record the Victoria County Constable, Precinct No. 1 Racial Profiling Report. Motion adopted.

18. Consider approval of the appointment of Travis Baker to a Reserve Deputy position for Victoria County Constable Precinct 3 and take appropriate action.

(18-29:39)

18. March 2, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the appointment of Travis Baker to a Reserve Deputy position for Victoria County Constable, Precinct No. 3. Motion adopted.

- 19. Consider agreement 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.**

(19-30:43)

19. March 2, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the agreement 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.

- 20. Consider approval of the following Resolutions for road donation made to Victoria County Road & Bridge, Precincts 3 and 4, and take appropriate action:**
a. Resolution No. 2026-032 for a road donation valued at \$754.84 from D'vonne Oehlke for the installation of a pipe culvert located at 501 Chaparral Dr. in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas.

(20a-31:03)

20a. March 2, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-032 for a road donation valued at \$754.84 from D'vonne Oehlke at 501 Chaparral Drive in Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas for the installation of a pipe culvert. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following Resolutions for road donation made to Victoria County Road & Bridge, Precincts 3 and 4, and take appropriate action:

- b. Resolution No. 2026-033 for a road donation valued at \$800 from Kliem Construction, LLC for the installation of a pipe culvert located at 455 Hollybrook Rd. in Precinct 4, Victoria County, Texas.**

(20b-31:03)

20b. March 2, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-033 for a road donation valued at \$800.00 from Kliem Construction, LLC at 455 Hollybrook Road in Precinct No. 4, Victoria County, Texas for the installation of a pipe culvert. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following Resolutions for road donation made to Victoria County Road & Bridge, Precincts 3 and 4, and take appropriate action:

- c. Resolution No. 2026-034 for a road donation valued at \$1,300.00 from Cody Jennings for the installation of a pipe culvert located at Block 1, Lot 2 of Sophie Ranch Rd. in Precinct 4, Victoria County, Texas.**

(20c-31:03)

20c. March 2, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-034 for a road donation valued at \$1,300.00 from Cody Jennings at Block 1, Lot 2 of Sophie Ranch Road in Precinct No. 4, Victoria County, Texas for the installation of a pipe culvert. Motion adopted.

- 21. Receive for the record a Notice of Medicare Part D Creditable Coverage for the plan year beginning January 1, 2026 and take appropriate action.**

(21-32:44)

21. March 2, 2026. Human Resources Director Giani Cantu provided information to

the Court. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record a Notice of Medicare Part D Creditable Coverage for the plan year beginning January 1, 2026. Motion adopted.

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

(22-33:26)

22. March 2, 2026. 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. Joe Hernandez, Interim Animal Services Director - Victoria County Animal Services:

1. Salary change for Courtney Bailiff, Animal Control Officer, from a rate of \$17.05 per hour, Budget Code 100-630-1107 to a rate of \$19.00 per hour, effective February 24, 2026. Grade 4 Plan General.

Motion adopted.

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

(23-34:09)

23. March 2, 2026. There were no 2026 Discretionary Fund Budget Amendments. No action taken.

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

(24-34:23)

24. March 2, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the 2026 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Expenditures - Increase
- b. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 3, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Capital Projects Fund - 2025B, Expenditures - Increase
- d. Emergency Management Fund, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- e. General Fund/Sheriff's Office, 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, §551.0745 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.

(25-35:13)

25. March 2, 2026. 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; §551.0745 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.

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.

(26-35:49)

26. March 2, 2026. The Commissioners Court returned to open meeting at 12:22 p.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

27. Adjourn.

(27-35:53)

27. March 2, 2026. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of March 2, 2026.