

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

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

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. August 10, 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.

(3-1:58)

3. August 10, 2026. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Mario Villarreal, a Victoria resident, spoke about the pay rate, fines, tear gas, and hours of the Victoria Animal Services Department.

Michael Vonderau of 2107 N. Ben Jordan spoke about issues with homeless encampments at Summerstone Apartments.

J.J. Jansen, County Extension Agent - Family and Community Health introduced Jordan Burdge, new extension agent for Victoria County Agri-Life.

Victoria Economic Development Corporation Vice President, Dale Fowler and President, Jonas Titas spoke about potential job growth with new industries in regard to the Blue Energy Project.

Gerald King of 404 Rattan spoke about the various research in data centers in regard to the Blue Energy Project in Victoria County.

(42:42) Scott Bauer of U.S. Congressman Michael Cloud's Office stated there will be an event held on August 19th from 6:00p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the VC Technology Complex regarding the new world screwworm.

Commissioner Danny Garcia and County Judge Zeller recognized representatives from Senator Kolkhorsts and Representative Louderbacks Offices.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-20:03)

4. August 10, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the

Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on August 3, 2026. Motion adopted.

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

(5-20:19)

5. August 10, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the accounts payable as presented by Michelle Samford, County Auditor.

Regular Accounts	8/10/2026	\$514,914.02
Supplemental Accounts	7/28/2026 - 8/3/2026	\$1,128,595.57

Motion adopted.

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

(6-20:46)

6. August 10, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the monthly reports from the County Judge; County Commissioners, Precincts Nos. 1 - 4; County Treasurer; County Clerk; County Auditor; Fire Marshal; Justices of the Peace, Precincts Nos. 2 and 4; Constables, Precincts Nos. 1.- 4; and Pre-Trial Services. Motion adopted.

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

(7-21:16)

7. August 10, 2026. There were no bond forfeiture releases. No action taken.

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

(8-21:26)

8. August 10, 2026. Moved by and seconded by , the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payments for Citizens Medical Center dated August 6, 2026, in the amount of \$220,072.41 and the ACH report dated August 6, 2026, in the amount of \$2,814,362.82. Motion adopted.

9. Consider the following in connection with the proposed Gateway Monument within the unincorporated community of Inez, Texas, Precinct 4, Victoria County, Texas, and take appropriate action:

a. Approval of Resolution No. 2026-081 authorizing the County Judge to enter into a Gateway Monument Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

(9a-22:05)

9a. August 10, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-081 authorizing the County Judge to enter into a Gateway Monument Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in connection with the proposed Gateway Monument within the unincorporated community of Inez, Texas in Precinct No. 4 in Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in connection with the proposed Gateway Monument within the unincorporated community of Inez, Texas, Precinct 4, Victoria County, Texas, and take appropriate action:

b. Approval of a Gateway Monument Agreement clarifying the construction, installation, and ongoing maintenance/ownership of the proposed structure.

(9b-22:05)

9b. August 10, 2026. Michael Bargaenbrook, Inez Eagle Scout, presented the blueprints and plans for the Gateway Monument to the Court and answered questions from the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved a Gateway Monument Agreement clarifying the construction, installation, and ongoing maintenance/ownership of the proposed structure in connection with the proposed Gateway Mounument within the unincorporated community of Inez, Texas, Precinct 4, Victoria County, Texas. Motion adopted.

10. Discuss financial and other in-kind service opportunities for Victoria County Animal Services (VCAS), and take appropriate action.

(10-35:43)

10. August 10, 2026. Animal Services Director Crystal Riemenschneider discussed money raised, donations for Victoria County Animal Services, and planned projects due to donations. No action taken.

11. Consider approval of 2026-2027 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Bloomington Independent School District (BISD) and the Victoria County Sheriff's Office and take appropriate action.

(11-45:37)

11. August 10, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the 2026-2027 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Bloomington Independent School District (BISD) and the Victoria County Sheriff's Office. Motion adopted.

12. Receive a certificate of the 2026 anticipated tax collection percentage rate as provided by the Victoria County Tax Assessor-Collector and take appropriate action.

(12-47:15)

12. August 10, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received a certificate of the 2026 anticipated tax collection percentage rate as provided by the Victoria County Tax Assessor-Collector. Motion adopted.

13. Consider approval of request for payment to Lynn Engineering, LLC. in the amount of \$11,250.00 in connection with the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant No. CDV23-0328 and take appropriate action.

(13-47:55)

13. August 10, 2026. The Commissioners Court passed on the request for payment to Lynn Engineering, LLC in the amount of \$11,250.00 in connection with the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant No. CDV23-0328. No action taken.

14. Receive a letter of permission from Jeff Bates to enter private property for the purpose of tree and brush removal located at 17 Fordyce Road in Precinct 3, Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.

(14-48:10)

14. August 10, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court received a letter of permission from Jeff Bates to enter private

property located at 17 Fordyce Road in Precinct No. 3, Victoria County, Texas for the purpose of tree and brush removal. Motion adopted

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

(15a-48:22)

15a. August 10, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Callahan County. Motion adopted.

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

b. Coleman County, Detention and Residential.

(15b-48:22)

15b. August 10, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Coleman County. Motion adopted

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

c. Deaf Smith County, Detention and Residential.

(15c-48:22)

15c. August 10, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Deaf Smith County. Motion adopted.

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

d. Hale County, Detention and Residential.

(15d-48:22)

15d. August 10, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Hale County. Motion adopted.

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

e. Nueces County, Detention and Residential.

(15e-48:22)

15e. August 10, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Nueces County. Motion adopted.

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

f. Taylor County, Detention and Residential.

(15f-48:22)

15f. August 10, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Taylor County. Motion adopted.

16. Consider approval of personnel changes, if any, and take appropriate action.

(16-49:03)

16. August 10, 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. Giani Cantu, Human Resources Director - Human Resources:
 - 1. Letter of Resignation from Giani Cantu, Human Resources Director, effective September 22, 2026.
- b. Rex Mayes, Constable, Precinct No. 2 - Constable, Precinct No. 2 Office:
 - 1. Payroll cost reallocation for Travis Baker, Reserve Constable, for hours worked during July 27 through July 30, 2026 which is a total of 28.25 hours at an hourly rate of \$40.00, to be paid from the Constable Precinct budget, GL Code 100-556-1130.

Motion adopted.

17. Receive for the record discretionary budget amendments, if any, and take appropriate action.

(17-49:22)

17. August 10, 2026. There were no 2026 Discretionary Funds Budget Amendments. No action taken.

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

(18-49:45)

18. August 10, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the 2026 budget amendments for:

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- b. General Fund/Sheriff's Office, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Emergency Management, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- d. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- e. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 2, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- f. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 4, Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

19. Adjourn.

(19-50:06)

19. August 10, 2026. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of August 10, 2026.