

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF VICTORIA §

Be it remembered that on this the **24th day August 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, August 24, 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. August 24, 2026. Ben Zeller, County Judge, called to order the Commissioners Court Special Term for Monday, August 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges.

(2-0:00)

2. August 24, 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.

(3-2:12)

3. August 24, 2026. Judge Ben Zeller opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address general County business which was not on the meeting agenda.

Tiki Venglar, Bloomington resident, voiced her concerns regarding the Blue Energy project.

Michael Vonderau of 2107 N. Ben Jordan voiced his complaints about Summerstone Apartments and homeless living around businesses.

Joseph Napolitano, 602 W. Goodwin Avenue, spoke against the AI Data Center.

Victoria Economic Development Corporation's President, Jonas Titas, spoke in support of the Blue Energy Project.

County Judge Zeller recognized Rick Jones, VISD School Board Vice-President.

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

4. Consider approval of minutes and take appropriate action.

(4-26:16)

4. August 24, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting held on August 17, 2026. Motion adopted.

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

(5-26:29)

5. August 24, 2026. 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	8/24/2026	\$592,663.12
Supplemental Accounts	8/11/2026 - 8/17/2026	\$383,208.59

Motion adopted.

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

(6-27:01)

6. August 24, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the monthly reports from County Treasurer and Sheriff. Motion adopted.

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

(7-27:12)

7. August 24, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the release of the following bond forfeiture judgment from the Court:

- a. Cause No. CIV2-21850: The State of Texas vs. Juan Jacobo Serrano, Defendant and Doc's Bail Bonds, Surety.
- b. Cause No. CIV2-21851: The State of Texas vs. Juan Jacobo Serrano, Defendant and Doc's Bail Bonds, Surety.

Motion adopted.

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

(8-27:27)

8. August 24, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the interim vendor payments for Citizens Medical Center dated August 20, 2026, in the amount of \$188,962.41 and the ACH report dated August 20, 2026, in the amount of \$2,607,641.44. Motion adopted.

9. Hear a Proclamation in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Citizens HealthPlex and take appropriate action.

(9-28:14)

9. August 24, 2026. Mike Olsen, CEO of Citizen's Medical Center, spoke about the healthplex and Citizens Healthplex Director Bret Barnett thanked the Court for their support. County Judge Zeller read the Proclamation. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the Proclamation in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Citizens HealthPlex. Motion adopted.

10. Consider the following from the Victoria County Fire Marshal and take appropriate action:

a. Hear an update regarding current drought index trends.

(10a-35:10)

10a. August 24, 2026. Fire Marshal Dan Porter gave an update to the Court regarding

the current drought index trends. No action taken.

Consider the following from the Victoria County Fire Marshal and take appropriate action:

b. Consider approval of Order 2026-086 enacting a Burn Ban within Victoria County.

(10b-35:10)

10b. August 24, 2026. Fire Marshal Porter provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved Order 2026-086 enacting a Burn Ban within Victoria County. Motion adopted.

11. Consider approval of precinct polling locations for the November 3, 2026 General Election and take appropriate action.

(11-39:16)

11. August 24, 2026. Elections Administrator Karen Cline and Assistant Elections Administrator Jared Lucas discussed the precinct polling locations with the Court. VISD Board Vice-President Rick Jones spoke in support of voting polls in schools. President of the League of Women Voters, Glenda Nickle, provided information about the league and appreciates the Court's support in ways to reach more voters. Democrat Party Chair Jewel Buchanan spoke about polling locations in schools Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the precinct polling locations as amended during open discussion for the November 3, 2026, General Election. Motion adopted.

12. Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Victoria Independent School District (VISD) and the Victoria County Sheriff's Office (VCSO), regarding the 2026-2027 School Resource Officer Program and take appropriate action.

(12-1:14:01)

12. August 24, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Victoria Independent School District (VISD) and the Victoria County Sheriff's Office (VCSO), regarding the 2026-2027 School Resource Officer Program. Motion adopted.

13. Consider approval of proposed 2027 Victoria County Sheriff & Constable fees and take appropriate action.

(13-1:14:47)

13. August 24, 2026. County Clerk Heidi Easley provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the proposed 2027 Victoria County Sheriff and Constable fees. Motion adopted.

14. Consider approval of the 2027 Victoria County Holiday Schedule and take appropriate action.

(14-1:15:30)

14. August 24, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the 2027 Victoria County Holiday Schedule. Motion adopted.

15. Receive for the record confirmation of completion for 2026 county-wide Cybersecurity and AI Training and take appropriate action.

(15-1:15:58)

15. August 24, 2026. IT Director Matt Schneider provided the Court with information. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record confirmation of completion for 2026 county-wide Cybersecurity and AI Training. Motion adopted.

- 16. Consider approval of Texas Health and Human Services Grant Agreement Contract No. HHS001105400020, Amendment No. 2, for Texas Home Visiting program services at the Victoria County Public Health Department and take appropriate action.**

(16-1:16:51)

16. August 24, 2026. Public Health Director David Gonzales provided information to the Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the Texas Health and Human Services Grant Agreement Contract No. HHS001105400020, Amendment No. 2, for Texas Home Visiting program services at the Victoria County Public Health Department. Motion adopted.

- 17. Consider the following in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road & Bridge Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4, and take appropriate action:**
a. Approval of contract with ABN Construction, LLC for Gravel Processing Flexible Base Type.

(17a-1:17:45)

17a. August 24, 2026. Procurement Specialist Adrienne Willis provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the contract with ABN Construction, LLC for Gravel Processing Flexible Base Type in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road and Bridge Precincts No. 1, 2, 3, and 4. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road & Bridge Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4, and take appropriate action:

- b. Approval of contract with Quality Hot Mix, Inc for Crushed Limestone Base.**

(17b-1:17:45)

17b. August 24, 2026. Adrienne Willis, Procurement Specialist, provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the contract with Quality Hot Mix, Inc for Crushed Limestone Base in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road and Bridge Precincts No. 1, 2, 3, and 4. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road & Bridge Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4, and take appropriate action:

- c. Approval of contract with Brauntex Materials, Inc. for Surface Treatment Aggregate Type PB and Hot Mix Cold Laid Asphalt Type D.**

(17c-1:17:45)

17c. August 24, 2026. Procurement Specialist Adrienne Willis provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the contract with Brauntex Materials, Inc. for Surface Treatment Aggregate Type PB and Hot Mix Cold Laid Asphalt Type D in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road and Bridge Precincts No. 1,

2, 3, and 4. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road & Bridge Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4, and take appropriate action:

d. Approval of contract with Martin Marietta Materials, Inc for Cold Mix Limestone Rock Asphalt Type D and Type AA.

(17d-1:17:45)

17d. August 24, 2026. Adrienne Willis, Procurement Specialist, provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the contract with Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. for Cold Mix Limestone Rock Asphalt Type D and Type AA in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road and Bridge Precincts No. 1, 2, 3, and 4. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road & Bridge Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4, and take appropriate action:

e. Approval of contract with Waller County Asphalt for ASPPM 9202 Grade IV Cold Mix.

(17e-1:17:45)

17e. August 24, 2026. Procurement Specialist Adrienne Willis provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the contract with Waller County Asphalt for ASPPM 9202 Grade IV Cold Mix in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road and Bridge Precincts No. 1, 2, 3, and 4. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road & Bridge Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4, and take appropriate action:

f. Approval of contract with Martin Asphalt Company for Asphalt Type AC-15P and Type MC-30.

(17f-1:17:45)

17f. August 24, 2026. Adrienne Willis, Procurement Specialist, provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the contract with Martin Asphalt Company for Asphalt Type AC-15P and Type MC-30 in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road and Bridge Precincts No. 1, 2, 3, and 4. Motion adopted.

Consider the following in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road & Bridge Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4, and take appropriate action:

g. Approval of contract with Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Inc. for Asphalt Type CRS2 Emulsions and Type CRS2-P.

(17g-1:17:45)

17g. August 24, 2026. Procurement Specialist Adrienne Willis provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the contract with Ergon Asphalt and Emulsions, Inc. for Asphalt Type CRS2 Emulsions and Type CRS2-P in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road and Bridge Precincts No. 1, 2, 3, and 4. Motion

adopted.

Consider the following in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road & Bridge Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4, and take appropriate action:

h. Reject bid for Aggregate Type PE.

(17h-1:17:45)

17h. August 24, 2026. Adrienne Willis, Procurement Specialist, provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court rejected the bid for Aggregate Type PE in regard to the Annual Supply Contract for Road Materials for Victoria County Road and Bridge Precincts No. 1, 2, 3, and 4. Motion adopted.

- 18. Consider approval of the following requests for payment in connection with the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant No. CDV23-0328 and take appropriate action:**

a. GrantWorks in the amount of \$3,480.00.

(18a-1:19:52)

18a. August 24, 2026. County Auditor Michelle Samford provided information to the Court. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the request for payment to GrantWorks in the amount of \$3,480.00 in connection with the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant No. CDV23-0328. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following requests for payment in connection with the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant No. CDV23-0328 and take appropriate action:

b. Lynn Engineering, LLC in the amount of \$11,250.00.

(18b-1:19:52)

18b. August 24, 2026. Michelle Samford, County Auditor, provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved 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. Motion adopted.

Consider approval of the following requests for payment in connection with the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant No. CDV23-0328 and take appropriate action:

c. Experts Underground Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$94,607.10.

(18c-1:19:52)

18c. August 24, 2026. County Auditor Michelle Samford provided the Court with information. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved the request for payment to Experts Underground Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$94,607.10 in connection with the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Award, Grant No. CDV23-0328. Motion adopted.

- 19. Consider approval of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Draw Request No. 10 in the amount of \$9,500.00 for the Victoria County Navigation District and take appropriate action.**

(19-1:21:04)

19. August 24, 2026. County Auditor Michelle Samford provided information to the

Court. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Danny Garcia, the Commissioners Court approved the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Draw Request No. 10 in the amount of \$9,500.00 for the Victoria County Navigation District. Motion adopted.

- 20. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2026-085 for a road donation in the amount of \$575.00 from Donny Carrol located at 453 Girby Road in Precinct 1, Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.**

(20-1:21:53)

20. August 24, 2026. Moved by Danny Garcia and seconded by Jason Ohrt, the Commissioners Court approved Resolution No. 2026-085 for a road donation in the amount of \$575.00 from Donny Carrol located at 453 Girby Road in Precinct No. 1, Victoria County, Texas for corrugated pipe. Motion adopted.

- 21. Receive a letter of permission to enter private property from Dale Marbach located at Oliver Road in Precinct 2, Victoria County, Texas and take appropriate action.**

(21-1:22:11)

21. August 24, 2026. Moved by Jason Ohrt and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved the Letter of Permission to enter private property from Dale Marbach located at Oliver Road in Precinct No. 2, Victoria County, Texas, for the purpose of cleaning ditches and underbrush for drainage improvement purposes on county maintained roads. Motion adopted.

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

(22a-1:22:38)

22a. August 24, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Calhoun County. Motion adopted.

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

(22b-1:22:38)

22b. August 24, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention Contract between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Comal County. Motion adopted.

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

(22c-1:22:38)

22c. August 24, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and DeWitt County. Motion adopted.

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

(22d-1:22:38)

22d. August 24, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the

Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Kerr County. Motion adopted.

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

e. Maverick, Dimmit, and Zavala Counties, Detention and Residential.

(22e-1:22:38)

22e. August 24, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Detention and Residential Contracts between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Maverick, Dimmit, and Zavala Counties. Motion adopted.

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

f. Waller County, Residential.

(22f-1:22:38)

22f. August 24, 2026. Moved by Shannon Martin and seconded by Kenneth Sexton, the Commissioners Court approved the Residential Contract between Victoria County Regional Juvenile Justice Center and Waller County. Motion adopted.

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

(23-1:23:03)

23. August 24, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court approved that payroll be processed in compliance with policy and personnel changes:

a. Pama Hencerling, Chief Probation Officer - Juvenile Detention/Probation:

1. Bi-Weekly Salary Adjustment Directive for various employees, fund 231-585-1135 and 231-585-1136, effective September 11, 2026.

b. Ben Zeller, County Judge:

1. Resignation of Giani Cantu, HR Director, effective September 18, 2026. If separation, any outstanding PTO and Comp will be paid out on final check in accordance with Personnel Policy.

Motion adopted.

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

(24-1:23:51)

24. August 24, 2026. Moved by Kenneth Sexton and seconded by Shannon Martin, the Commissioners Court received for the record the 2026 Discretionary Funds Budget Amendment for the Sheriff's DOJ Federal Forfeiture Fund (362) as an increase to expenditures; Sheriff DHS Joint Operation Fund (364) as a line item transfer to expenditures; and Special Inventory Fund (499) as an increase to expenditures. Motion adopted.

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

(25-1:24:03)

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

- a. General Fund/Various Departments, Revenues and Expenditures - Line item transfer
- b. Road and Bridge, Precinct No. 1, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- c. Rural Law Enforcement Salary Assistance Fund, Revenues and Expenditures – Line item transfer
- d. Airport Fund, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- e. National School Lunch Program, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- f. Elections Administrators Special, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- g. General Fund/Sheriff's Office, Expenditures - Line item transfer
- h. Health Department, Expenditures - Line item transfer

Motion adopted.

- 26. 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.**

(26-1:25:10)

26. August 24, 2026. The Commissioners' Court went into closed session at 11:26 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.

- 27. 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.**

(27-1:26:19)

27. August 24, 2026. The Commissioners Court returned to an open meeting at 12:58 p.m., pursuant to V.T.C.A. Government Code §551.102, with no action taken.

- 28. Adjourn.**

(28-1:26:23)

28. August 24, 2026. The Commissioners Court adjourned the meeting of August 24, 2026.