

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ORANGE

BE IT REMEMBERED that a Regular Court Session was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Orange County Administration Building with the following in attendance:

John H. Gothia,	County Judge
Johnny A. Trahan,	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Chris Sowell,	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Kirk F. Roccaforte,	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Robert Viator Jr.,	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M., Chaplain Mike Eaves, gave the invocation, John Gothia led in the Pledge of Allegiance and the following business was transacted, to-wit:

1. COMMENTS Patrick Rainey, Texla Rd and member of Mauriceville Heritage Association. He stated on morning of July 30th, he received a call from our Maintenance Department who informed him of a leak on the grounds of the crawfish festival. He stated they went above and beyond by calling him and he wanted the Court to know what these guys are doing. He thanked them for their efforts. He stated on behalf of the Association, they really appreciate them. Chick Collins, Old Peveto Rd, addressed the Court regarding deputies and officers at the Sheriff's Office. He stated they need to be paid more and also more officers are needed for patrol. He stated we need good law enforcement people to take care of our county. Kirk Roccaforte asked everyone to think about Mayor Roy McDonald's family as he recently passed away. He was an icon for Orange County and was a great mayor. He was all for the people. Please keep his family in your prayers. Robert Viator stated he would like to recognize Gary Stelly in attendance today.
2. REAPPOINT TRUSTEES Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to reappoint Ida Schossow and Mike Marion to the Spindletop Center Board of Trustees as their term ends August 31, 2026.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
3. APPROVE DISPLAY Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan approving the Sugie Lane Foundation to display artwork and ribbons on the courthouse square for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October) to help promote the "End the Silence" campaign.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

4. ACCEPT REPORT Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Robert Viator to acknowledge and accept the presentation of Q2 2026 tax abatement report from Golden Triangle Polymers.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

5. ACCEPT REPORT Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to recognize and accept the quarterly reporting as presented by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension on their programs.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

6. PAYMENT OF BILLS Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to record in the minutes payment of bills approved by the County Auditor for August 4, 2026.

GENERAL FUND	\$7,370.12
ROAD & BRIDGE	-
MOSQUITO CONTROL	-
ADULT PROBATION	13.68
AIRPORT	305.42
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	-

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$7,689.22

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

- 7 BILLS Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving payment of August 11, 2026 bills approved by County Auditor as per attested listings and also specifically as follows:

- a. \$21,652.83 from the General Fund (001-111-54235 to U.T.M.B. for contract payment due August 2026.
- b. \$19,923.90 from the General Fund (001-115-57550) to TAG Mechanical, L.L.C. to replace air conditioner for Purchasing Department.
- c. \$12,350.00 from the General Fund (001-681-53022) to Sign Doctor for materials and labor for Claiborne Park ballpark lights.
- d. \$3,025.00 from the Road & Bridge Fund (002-573-54120) to Arceneaux, Wilson & Cole, L.L.C. for services related to the Four Oaks Ranch Road bank stabilization project from 5/10/2026 – 7/9/2026.

- e. \$107,160.00 from the TFRA/GLO/Recovery Grants Fund (073-936-53002) to T Johnson Industries for Pay App #8 – Draw #11: Imelda-Kinard Estates drainage project services 6/10/2026 – 7/9/2026.
- f. \$42,347.80 from the Mosquito Control Fund (003-490-57590) to Silsbee Ford, Inc. for a 2026 Ford Truck (1FTMF1KP5TKD72183).
- g. \$82,961.76 from the General Fund (001-740-57590) to Lake Country Chevrolet for a 2026 Chevy Tahoe (1GNS5UED2TR187472), O.C.S.O. Unit 727.
- h. \$82,961.76 from the General Fund (001-740-57590) to Lake Country Chevrolet for a 2026 Chevy Tahoe (1GNS5UED4TR187456), O.C.S.O. Unit 731.
- i. \$82,961.76 from the General Fund (001-740-57590) to Lake Country Chevrolet for a 2026 Chevy Tahoe (1GNS5UEDXTR187381), O.C.S.O. Unit 732.

GENERAL FUND	\$639,797.23
ROAD & BRIDGE	176,653.60
MOSQUITO CONTROL	46,454.25
ADULT PROBATION	1,260.81
AIRPORT	34,235.40
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	15,683.42
TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$914,084.71

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

8. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

COUNTY AUDITOR

From: 001-111-53830 (Contingency).....(\$32,000.00)
To: 001-111-58060 (Bank Services & Fees).....\$32,000.00

Purpose: To provide funds for bank client analysis charges.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

9. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

COUNTY AUDITOR

From: 001-111-53830 (Contingency).....(\$25,000.00)
To: 001-111-53203 (Sheriff Criminal Bonds Returned).....\$25,000.00

Purpose: To provide funds for the remainder of the year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

10. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Robert Viator to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

COUNTY AUDITOR

From: 001-111-51270 (Group Health, Life & Dental).....(\$24,878.00)
To: 001-298-51270 (Group Health, Life & Dental).....\$ 6,360.00
 001-309-51270 (Group Health, Life & Dental).....\$18,040.00
 001-744-51270 (Group Health, Life & Dental).....\$ 478.00

Purpose: To adjust accounts for changes in health insurance coverage.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

11. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

ROAD & BRIDGE

From: 001-111-53830 (Contingency).....(\$20,000.00)
To: 002-573-54120 (Engineering & Lab Fees).....\$20,000.00

Purpose: To cover the cost of engineering services from AWC for permits on 4 Oaks Ranch Road USACE Permit Services Contract.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

12. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PCT. 3

From: 001-227-52100 (Office Supplies).....(\$77.00)
To: 001-227-54955 (Data Services).....\$77.00

Purpose: To cover costs for the remainder of the year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

13. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

TRANSPORTATION

From: 001-601-54130 (Contracted Services & Maint.).....(\$210.00)
To: 001-601-59999 (Other).....\$210.00

Purpose: To cover expenses for the remainder of the FY.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

14. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

MOSQUITO CONTROL

From: 003-490-54950 (Misc. Fees & Services).....(\$4,000.00)
To: 003-490-54580 (Licenses & Permits).....\$4,000.00

Purpose: To provide funds needed for remainder of fiscal year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

15. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

From: 037-834-57550 (Repairs/Rentals/Constr.).....(\$1,080.00)
To: 037-834-57500 (Equipment Non-Inv. < \$2,000).....\$1,080.00

Purpose: To adjust the amounts in the line item(s) to purchase life jacket vests for the O.C.S.O. Safe Boat via Sabine River Authority Grant #51369330 as approved by grantor.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

16. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

From: 036-952-53003 (Harvey HMGP Retrofit).....(\$253,976.00)
To: 036-952-53005 (Harvey Large Road Projects).....\$253,976.00

Purpose: To provide funds for Grant Administration Services on Hurricane Harvey Road & Culvert projects.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

17. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

From: 001-111-53830 (Contingency).....(\$33,326.00)
To: 073-936-53002 (CDBG Imelda-Kinard Estates Expense).....\$33,326.00

Purpose: To provide additional funds to complete the Kinard Estates project.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

18. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

CONVENTION & EXPO

From: 001-681-51110 (Regular Salaries).....(\$23,000.00)
 001-681-54950 (Misc. Tree/Landscape Services).....(\$ 5,000.00)
 001-681-53610 (Rentals All).....(\$ 4,000.00)
 001-681-52300 (Fuel, Oil, Gas & Grease).....(\$ 4,900.00)
To: 001-681-57550 (Repairs/Rentals/Constr.).....\$36,900.00

Purpose: To provide funds for remainder of the budget year for various projects.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

19. CERTIFIED PROPERTY TAX VALUES Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell approving the submission of the 2026 Certified Property Tax Values from the Chief Appraiser and the Rolling Stock from the State Comptroller as required under Property Tax Code 26.04(b).

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

20. ANTICIPATED COLLECTION RATE Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving the certification by the Tax Assessor-Collector of the 2026 Anticipated Collection Rate for debt service as required by Property Tax Code 26.04(b).

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

21. NO NEW REVENUE RATES Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving the submission on the 2026 No New Revenue rates as required under Property Tax Code 26.04(b).

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

22. DMV FEES Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to continue to collect the current \$10 Road and Bridge fee and to impose the \$1.00 Child Safety fee to vehicle registrations for Department of Motor Vehicle (TxDMV), effective January 1, 2027.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

23. ACCEPT
CERTIFI-
CATION
- Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte accepting the certification of the July 2026 Collection Report for the Tax Office as required under PTC 31.10.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
24. SET
HEARING
- Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to set the public hearing date for August 25, 2026 at 9:00A.M. regarding FY 26-27 Orange County Preliminary Budget and Tax Rate discussions.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
25. APPROVE
PURCHASE
- Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve the purchase of 6 phones and phone lines to be paid from the restricted Courthouse Security Funds to provide communication between Bailiffs while on duty.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
26. APPROVE
APPRAISAL
SERVICES
- Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Chris Sowell approving the engagement of Scott Stephens & Associates, Inc. to conduct appraisal services relating to road work being performed near Caney Creek and authorizing for the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign an engagement letter and any other necessary documentation.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
27. ROAD USE
AGREEMENT
- Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator approving a Road Use and Maintenance Agreement between Orange County and Enterprise Products Operating LLC, relating to improvements and maintenance of South Mansfield Ferry Road in Orange County, Texas and authorizing for the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign same, pending final legal approval.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
28. AGREEMENT
- Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator approving an agreement between Orange County and Golden Pass Pipeline relating to possible improvements and maintenance of Church House Road in Orange, Texas and authorizing for the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign same, pending final legal approval.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

29. MAINTENANCE
PROJECTS

Kurt Guidry, Maintenance Director, stated they were finishing interior work on PODS 1, 2, and 4. They should be finished by the end of week, then they will move to 3 and finish it out. They will start electrical work on the outside and move forward on cement. Also on outside work they will start putting up sheds for the water wells to get ready for winter time. The only other project they will working on will be the installing picnic tables at Bluebird Park. They still have the air conditioner to put into place and spray foam to do in the lean-to at 1442. He spoke about the backup generator at the EOC building needing to be fixed. He needs to know what the Court wishes to do with this generator since Entergy also has a backup generator at this location. This generator is too big to move to another location.

GENERATOR

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Johnny Trahan to fix the generator at the EOC building.

Voted AYE: Johnny Trahan, John Gothia, Kirk Roccaforte

Voted NAY: Johnny Trahan, Robert Viator

Motion Carried.

30. ROAD &
BRIDGE
PROJECTS

Tracy Leach, Road Administrator, stated the new work order program was implemented in July and they are still learning it. The feedback he is getting is it is a lot better and actually works and it's user friendly. They collected \$7,545 on culvert permits. Swing bridge was opened and closed 7 times. Citizens Collection Station had 1,414 participants and collected \$18,333. They are currently doing road work in Precincts 1, 2 and 3 using the stabilizing product.

ACCEPT
REPORT

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Robert Viator to accept the Road and Bridge project report presented by Tracy Leach, Road Administrator.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

31. CYBER-
SECURITY
TRAINING

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte giving Lisa Reeves the authority to submit the Cybersecurity Training Certification for Local Governments and AI Training Certification for Local Governments to Texas DIR on behalf of Orange County. Form is to be submitted yearly on August 31st.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

32. WEBSITE
VENDOR

Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve the request for Orange County to maintain Evogov as their website vendor and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the Website Development Agreement with Evogov and also to terminate the Interlocal Agreement with CIRA covering the same services. Due to the recent conversation with CIRA, it is in the County's best interest to continue our relationship with Evogov.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

33. EARLY
VOTING

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Robert Viator approving the Early Voting locations, dates and times for Tuesday, November 3, 2026, General Election as follows:

Orange Public Library (Main Early Voting Location) 220 N 5 th Street Orange, TX 77630	Raymond Gould Community Center 385 Claiborne Street Vidor, TX 77662
Orange County Precinct 2 POD 5320 Arnel Lane Orange, TX 77632	Orange County Precinct 3 POD 2010 S Hwy 87 Orange, TX 77630

October (Octubre) 19 – 23	Monday – Friday (lunes – viernes)	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
October (Octubre) 24	Saturday (sabado)	7:00 am – 7:00 pm
October (Octubre) 25	Sunday (domingo)	1:00 pm – 7:00 pm
October (Octubre) 26 – 30	Monday – Friday (lunes – viernes)	7:00 am – 7:00 pm

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

34. ORDER OF
ELECTION

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Johnny Trahan to approve and sign the Order of Election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, General Election.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

35. NOTICE OF
ELECTION

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve and sign the Notice of Election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, General Election.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

36. APPROVE
RESOLUTION
- Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve a resolution authorizing signatories for documents pertaining to the General Land Office Resilient Communities Program Grant.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
37. APPROVE
RESOLUTION
- Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan to approve a resolution reaffirming civil rights policies related to the General Land Office Resilient Communities Program Grant.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
38. APPROVE
CONTRACT
- Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan to approve the contract for the Grant Administration Services for the General Land Office Resilient Communities Program, Contract #23-160-202-F775, pending legal review.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
39. RECLASSIFY
POSITION
- Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan to reclassify the two Clerk positions in each of the Justice of Peace Offices Pct 1, 2, 3, and 4 from NE-2 to NE-3, beginning 2026-2027 budget year. No action was taken regarding JP Court Coordinator from NE-4 to NE-5.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
40. NO ACTION
- No action taken on discussion and possible action regarding reclassification of the Assistant to Department Head in the Transportation Department from NE-4 to NE-5 beginning 2026-2027 budget year.
41. RECLASSIFY
POSITION
- Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Chris Sowell to reclassify the Vidor Tax Clerk II from NE-2 to NE-3, with a title change from Tax Clerk to Assistant Supervisor-Vidor, beginning 2026-2027 budget year. No action was taken regarding Chief Deputy from NE-5 to NE-6 or Assistant Chief from NE-4 to NE-5.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

42. RECLASSIFY POSITIONS Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Robert Viator approving the reclassifications for the Human Resources Office as follows, beginning 2026-2027 budget year:
- a. Assistant Director from NE-4 to NE-5
 - b. HR Clerk from NE-3 to NE-4 with a title change from HR Clerk to HR Generalist.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
43. APPOINT DIRECTOR Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Johnny Trahan approving the appointment of the Mosquito Control Director Devin Wilson from Interim Director E-2 to Director E-3 beginning 2026-2027 budget year.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
44. TITLE CHANGE Motion made by Johnny Trahan to approve the title change of the position of Floater in the County Judge's Office to Clerk beginning 2026-2027 budget year.
- This motion died for lack of a second.
- NO ACTION No action taken on discussion and possible action regarding the title change of the position of Floater in the County Judge's Office to Clerk beginning 2026-2027 budget year.
45. CHANGE POSITION Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Chris Sowell to move the part-time (temporary) position of the GIS Specialist to a full-time position at a NE-6 beginning 2026-2027 budget year and to maintain the part-time position until the full-time position is filled.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
- Johnny Trahan stepped out of the meeting for a moment.
46. RELEASE SURETY BOND Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Robert Viator to release the Surety Bond #K41651313, taken out by Golden Pass Pipeline, LLC, in relation to its pipeline construction project.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
- Johnny Trahan returned to the meeting.

47. CLOSED MEETING Closed meeting held pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code §551.071, to discuss with Assistant County Attorney one or more discrete and unrelated matters regarding pending or threatened litigation, as well as to seek or receive information and advice from Assistant County Attorney on legal matters that are not related to litigation or settlement of litigation but are matters in which the duty of the attorney to the Court otherwise conflicts with Chapter 551.

The Court went into closed session. This session was not recorded.

48. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING Return to open meeting. Take any action deemed necessary based upon discussion in closed meeting.

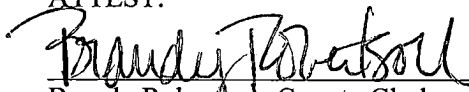
SETTLE CLAIM Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the Assistant County Attorney to settle a minor damage claim involving a citizen vehicle summary.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

49. ADJOURN MEETING There being no further business, a motion was made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to adjourn Commissioners' Court meeting.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
John Gothia adjourned the Commissioners' Court meeting.

ATTEST:



Brandy Robertson, County Clerk
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the
Commissioners' Court

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