

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ORANGE

BE IT REMEMBERED that a Regular Court Session was held on Tuesday, September 29, 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 Johnny Trahan spoke about the football game between LSU and A&M this weekend.
 Chris Sowell asked everyone to keep the Peveto family in prayer. They have to deal with a loss.
 Kirk Roccaforte briefly spoke on his team.
 Robert Viator said how bout them Cowboys.
 John Gothia also stated to keep the Peveto family in prayer.
2. BILLS Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve payment of September 29, 2026 bills approved by the County Auditor as per attested listings and also specifically as follows:
 - a. \$110,400.34 from the General Fund (001-101-51270) to Texas Association of Counties H.E.B.P. for group medical, dental, life-under 65 for September 2026.
 - b. \$101,451.99 from the General Fund (001-101-51270) to Amwins Group Benefits, Inc for insurance for retiree age 65 and over.
 - c. \$13,176.00 from the General Fund (001-202-54401) to the Second Administrative Judicial Region of Texas: assessment for September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027.
 - d. \$5,897.50 from the Road & Bridge Fund (002-573-54120) to Arceneaux, Wilson & Cole L.L.C. for Project ORC-104: Four Oaks Ranch Road bank stabilization services 8/1/2026 – 8/31/2026.

- e. \$57,917.29 from the TDRA/GLO/Recovery Grants Fund (073-936-53001) to Gary R. Traylor & Associates Inc. for Contract #20-065-150-C911: administrative services 6/11/2023 – 9/30/2025.
- f. \$28,958.65 from the TDRA/GLO/Recovery Grants Fund (073-936-53001) to Gary R. Traylor & Associates Inc. for Contract #20-065-150-C911: administrative services 3/26/2021 – 9/30/2025.
- g. \$982.99 from the TDRA/GLO/Recovery Grants Fund (073-936-53001) to Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. for #20-065-150-C911: services 8/4/2025 – 8/31/2025.
- h. \$2,362.50 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53000) to Architects, Inc. for A & E fees for Public Health Building: construction/admin. phase work completed through 8/31/2026.
- i. \$1,105.00 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53000) to Atlas Technical Consultants, L.L.C. for Public Health Building: Project #00890262.000 – professional services 7/25/2026 – 8/28/2026.

GENERAL FUND	\$830,729.32
ROAD & BRIDGE	217,979.00
MOSQUITO CONTROL	60,555.79
ADULT PROBATION	8,715.20
AIRPORT	230.42
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	208.63
ARPA	3,615.61

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$1,122,033.97

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

3. ADOPT SPECIAL BUDGET

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator to adopt a Special Budget as certified by the County Auditor, pursuant to Local Government Code §111.0108:

Revenue:	067-000-44031	Election Expense Reimbursement	(\$36,809.92)
	067-000-41005	Contract Services Fee	(\$ 2,470.43)
Expense:	067-808-52220	Election Expense	\$36,809.92
	067-808-59999	Other	\$ 2,470.43

Purpose: To recognize revenue received for May 2, 2026 municipal elections.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

4. ADOPT
SPECIAL
BUDGET

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator to adopt a Special Budget as certified by the County Auditor, pursuant to Local Government Code §111.0106:

Revenue: 026-949-48103 Local Hazard Mitigation Program Revenue (\$1,690.00)

Expense: 026-949-58103 Local Hazard Mitigation Program Expense \$1,690.00

Purpose: To recognize revenue received for work performed during FY 2026.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

5. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

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

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

From: 008-950-51115 (SOSB-22 Grant Pay).....(\$ 7,914.00)
008-950-51210 (SOSB-22 Social Security).....(\$ 1,000.00)
008-950-51230 (SOSB-22 Retirement).....(\$ 1,512.00)
008-950-51250 (SOSB-22 Unemployment).....(\$ 124.00)
008-950-52345 (Workers Compensation).....(\$ 6,000.00)
To: 008-950-53000 (SOSB-22 Grant Expenditures).....\$16,550.00

Purpose: To provide funds for remainder of fiscal year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

6. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Chris Sowell approving the line item transfer as follows:

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

From: 010-951-51210 (DASB-22 Social Security).....(\$4,606.00)
To: 010-951-51230 (DASB-22 Retirement).....\$4,606.00

Purpose: To provide funds for remainder of fiscal year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

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

OCSO JAIL

From: 001-743-51110 (Regular Salaries).....(\$23.00)
To: 001-743-51130 (Schedule Overtime).....\$23.00

Purpose: To provide funds for remainder of fiscal year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

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

AIRPORT

From: 001-111-51270 (Group, Health, Life & Dental).....(\$2,760.00)
To: 034-610-51270 (Group, Health, Life & Dental).....\$2,760.00

Purpose: To provide funds for remainder of fiscal year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

- 9 LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan approving the line item transfer as follows:

COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

From: 006-298-53982 (Bond Supervision Fee Expense).....(\$6,940.00)
To: 006-298-51110 (Regular Salaries).....\$ 170.00
006-298-51230 (Retirement).....\$ 30.00
006-298-51270 (Group, Health, Life & Dental).....\$6,740.00

Purpose: To cover the bond supervision clerk's health insurance and end of year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

10. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

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

HEALTH SERVICES

From:	082-931-53000 (PHEP Grant Expense).....	(\$11,050.00)
	082-939-53000 (PHEP Grant Expense).....	(\$ 900.00)
To:	082-931-51110 (Regular Salaries).....	\$10,500.00
	082-931-51210 (Social Security).....	\$ 550.00
	082-939-51110 (Regular Salaries).....	\$ 750.00
	082-939-51270 (Group Health, Life & Dental).....	\$ 150.00

Purpose: To cover year-end payroll.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

11. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

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

COUNTY AUDITOR

From:	001-105-51120 (Overtime Salaries).....	(\$3,800.00)
	001-115-51140 (Extra Help Salaries).....	(\$2,500.00)
	001-220-51210 (Social Security).....	(\$ 800.00)
	001-601-51270 (Group Health, Life & Dental).....	(\$5,000.00)
	063-805-51250 (Unemployment).....	(\$ 75.00)
To:	001-105-51110 (Regular Salaries).....	\$3,800.00
	001-115-51110 (Regular Salaries).....	\$2,500.00
	001-220-51140 (Extra Help Salaries).....	\$ 800.00
	001-601-51140 (Extra Help Salaries).....	\$5,000.00
	063-805-51230 (Retirement).....	\$ 10.00
	063-805-51270 (Group Health, Life & Dental).....	\$ 65.00

Purpose: To provide funds for remainder of fiscal year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

12. APPROVE
RESALE

Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Chris Sowell to adopt a resolution approving the resale of certain trust properties pursuant to section 34.05 of the Texas Property Tax Code.

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

13. DESIGNATE
PUBLIC
PLACE
- Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Robert Viator approving a resolution to designate a public place at the county courthouse for the conducting of non-judicial foreclosure sales and sheriff's sales, pursuant to Texas Property Code §51.002 and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
14. SET
DATES
- Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator to approve the Order for Setting the Regular Commissioner Court Dates for 2026-2027 pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §81.005(a) and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
15. APPROVE
ALLOCATION
- Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving CHRISTUS Health reallocation of tax-exempt bond proceeds proposed to finance a healthcare facility located within Orange County. Approval of this project from the County is required under federal tax law, the County's approval is solely for the purpose of satisfying the requirements of the federal tax code. The County will have no obligation or incur any liability with respect to the bonds being allocated.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
16. TRUNK
OR
TREAT
- Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan granting the use of the Courthouse/Administration parking area for the Annual Trunk or Treat activities.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
17. SET
HEARING
- Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Chris Sowell to set public hearing for November 3, 2026 at 9:30A.M. and to authorize publication of notice of public hearing regarding the request to vacate "Lot 1" of the Walnut Ridge subdivision. This lot makes up a portion of the 1.256 acre tract, that was slated for "future development", but the subdivision plan never moved forward. The need to remove Lot 1 from the subdivision is to increase that parcel size, along with the remaining portion of the 1.256 acre tract being minor platted into lots per county required specifications. There will be four lots in total. For clarity, water and sewer amenities will be accessed through O.C.W.D.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

18. CHANGE
JOB TITLE
- Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator changing the title and job description of the full-time County Collections Station position from Operator I to CCS Manager, the grade and pay on the pay matrix would remain the same.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
19. TABLED
AGENDA
ITEM
- Tabled: Discussion and possible action regarding the Minor Plat a 1.976 -acre minor plat. Being all of a 1.74 acre and a 0.23 -acre parcel of land in the J. W. Bucknum Survey, Abstract No. 339, Orange County, Texas into Lot 1 and Lot 2. This final plat has been reviewed and approved by the Orange County Road Administrator and the Orange County Drainage District. The proper filing and reproduction fees have been paid and a tax statement has been provided.
20. AUTHORIZE
SIGNATORIES
- Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve a resolution authorizing signatories for documents pertaining to the CDBG-MIT-Local Hazard Mitigation Plans Program.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
21. TULANE
PROJECT
- Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan approving a resolution for the E219 Tulane project for County increasing match responsibilities. This will be a \$32.00 cost to the County as the GLO pays only 10% of the contract administrative fee.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
22. NO ACTION
- No action taken on discussion and possible action regarding awarding by resolution a contract for grant administrative services for the Mitigation Reallocation Program (MRP) through the Texas General Land Office under RFP 26007. Possible action may include authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same.
23. 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 meeting. This meeting was not recorded.

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

NO ACTION No action taken on 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.

25. NO ACTION No action taken on discussion and possible action regarding the adoption of a quarantine leave policy for law enforcement.

26. 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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