MINUTES OF COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING

I.

Attached hereto is/are public notice(s) posted for the meeting of **February 26, 2026.**

II.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of Fayette County, Texas, Commissioners Court held in the Commissioners Courtroom (3rd floor – Room 303) at the Fayette County Courthouse located at 151 North Washington Street, La Grange, Texas.

III.

Attendance: County Judge Dan Mueller **Present**
County Commissioner – Precinct No. 1, Jason McBroom **Present**
County Commissioner – Precinct No. 2, Clint Sternadel **Present**
County Commissioner – Precinct No. 3, Harvey Berckenhoff **Present**
County Commissioner – Precinct No. 4, Drew Brossmann **Present**

IV.

County Officials/County Personnel present during all or any part of the meeting:
Brenda Fietsam, County Clerk; Angela Hahn, Emergency Management Coordinator;
Roger Wunderlich, Constable Precinct 2; Josh Vandever, EMS Director;
Jacquelyn Kohleffel, Human Resources Manager/Payroll Coordinator;
Candace Koether, Human Resources/Payroll Assistant;
Amber Hielscher, County Inspector & Office of Development & Permitting;
Cindy Havelka, County Auditor; Randy Noviskie, Chief Deputy Sheriff;
Cassie Austin, Court Administrator; Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney

V.

Persons in attendance during all of any part of the meeting:
See Attached Exhibit A

VI.

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE TEXAS FLAG
"Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

VII.

Meeting opened at **9:00 a.m.** on motion by Commissioner **Brossmann**, seconded by Commissioner **Berckenhoff**, votes for **5**, votes against **0**.

UNOFFICIAL

AGENDA ACTION:

1. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in approving the following minutes from previous meetings:**

   i. February 12, 2026 – Regular Meeting

   ACTION: **Approved Minutes from the February 12, 2026 Regular Meeting**

   PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Brenda Fietsam, County Clerk**

   MOVED BY COMMR. **McBroom**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
   Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
   Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
   Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
   Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
   Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

2. **SUBJECT: Open public comments – petitions, requests or statements by the public. Close.**

ACTION: **Opened Public Comments.**

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **None**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Brossmann**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

ACTION: **Accepted all Public Comments.**
Closed Public Comments.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Deborah Koenig, (DYD) Do Your Duty Round Top**

See attached hereto marked "Exhibit B"

MOVED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

3. **SUBJECT: Sign proclamation proclaiming March 4, 2026 as "Flatonia Public School's 150th Anniversary" in Fayette County.**

ACTION: **Signed Proclamation proclaiming March 4, 2026 as "Flatonia Public School's 150th Anniversary" in Fayette County.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 3 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Robin Branecky, Flatonia ISD; Commissioner Harvey Berckenhoff**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Brossmann**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

4. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action concerning the following applications requesting the division of real property: Michael and Carmel Mathews located in Precinct 3.**

ACTION: **Approved Application requesting the division of real property: Michael and Carmel Mathews located in Precinct 3.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 4 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Amber Hielscher, County Inspector & Office of Development & Permitting**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
Commr. McBroom, **Recused**
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

5. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action concerning the following applications requesting the division of real property: Natalie Foreman located in Precinct 1.**

ACTION: **Approved Application requesting the division of real property: Natalie Foreman located in Precinct 1.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 5 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Amber Hielscher, County Inspector & Office of Development & Permitting**

MOVED BY COMMR. **McBroom**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

6. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in signing a Resolution in support of citizens opposed to data center projects in Fayette County.**

ACTION: **Signed a Resolution in support of citizens opposed to data center projects in Fayette County.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 6 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Commissioner Clint Sternadel; William Bernsen; Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney**

See attached hereto marked "Exhibit B"

MOVED BY COMMR. **Brossmann**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
Commr. McBroom, vote for ____, vote against **X**
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

7. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action authorizing the County Auditor to advertise for proposals for a billing, bill collection, and records services for Fayette County Emergency Medical Services.**

ACTION: **Authorized the County Auditor to advertise for proposals for a billing, bill collection, and records services for Fayette County Emergency Medical Services; and**

Amended the Bid Application to replace the words "physical office located" with "physical presence".

`Additional Note: The verbiage being referred to can be found on page 2, section 4 (Minimum Qualifications), number 11.

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 7 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Josh Vandever, EMS Director; Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Brossmann**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

8. **SUBJECT: Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action in approving a renewed lease, included changes to the terms, with USDA for office space located at the Fayette County Agriculture Building.**

ACTION: **Deferred to the next regular scheduled Meeting.**

NOTES: **Requested that a Contract be drawn up to reflect a monthly rent fee of $4000, and a one-time carpet cleaning and paint touch ups. The storage shed would not be included in the lease.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 8 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney; Cindy Havelka, County Auditor**

MOVED BY COMMR. **McBroom**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Brossmann**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

9. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in approving Ranger Co-Op Agreement between Magnolia Oil & Gas Operating, LLC and Fayette County, Texas.**

ACTION: **Approved Ranger Co-Op Agreement between Magnolia Oil & Gas Operating, LLC and Fayette County, Texas.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 9 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney**

MOVED BY COMMR. **McBroom**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

10. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action concerning approving Fayette County's participation in the Texas Association of Counties Cybersecurity Course for Counties, and approving execution of the enrollment form.**

ACTION: **Approved Fayette County's participation in the Texas Association of Counties Cybersecurity Course for Counties, and**

Approved execution of the enrollment form.

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 10 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Cassie Austin, Court Administrator**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Brossmann**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

11. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in approving the purchase for Road & Bridge Precinct 4 a new M6131 Kubota Tractor, located at Ewald Kubota, 4545 W State Hwy 71, La Grange, TX 78945, in the amount of $96,075.97, using funds available in the 2026 Road & Bridge Precinct 4 budget.**

ACTION: **Approved the Purchase for Road & Bridge Precinct 4 a new M6131 Kubota Tractor, located at Ewald Kubota, 4545 W State Hwy 71, La Grange, TX 78945, in the amount of $95,961.00, using funds available in the 2026 Road & Bridge Precinct 4 budget.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 11 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Commissioner Drew Brossmann**

MOVED BY COMMR. **McBroom**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

12. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in approving the purchase for Road & Bridge Precinct 4 a new 2026 2500HD Silverado, located at Oviedo Chevrolet GMC, 1910 TX-71 W, La Grange, TX 78945, in the amount of $53,100.00, using funds available in the 2026 Road & Bridge Precinct 4 budget.**

ACTION: **Approved the Purchase for Road & Bridge Precinct 4 a new 2026 2500HD Silverado, located at Oviedo Chevrolet GMC, 1910 TX-71 W, La Grange, TX 78945, in the amount of $53,100.00, using funds available in the 2026 Road & Bridge Precinct 4 budget.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 12 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Commissioner Drew Brossmann**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **McBroom**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

13. **SUBJECT: Authorize the County Judge to renew the contract with the Texas Association of Counties for the ACA Reporting and Tracking Service (ARTS).**

ACTION: **Authorized the County Judge to renew the contract with the Texas Association of Counties for the ACA Reporting and Tracking Service (ARTS).**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 13 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Jacquelyn Kohleffel, Human Resources Manager/Payroll Coordinator; Cindy Havelka, County Auditor**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

14. **SUBJECT: Hear report from the Auditor's office and Human Resource office regarding budget reports and salary changes.**

ACTION: **Acknowledged Reports from the Auditor's office and Human Resource office regarding budget reports and salary changes.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 14 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Cindy Havelka, County Auditor**; **Jacquelyn Kohleffel, Human Resources Manager/Payroll Coordinator**

MOVED BY COMMR. **McBroom**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

15. **SUBJECT: Discuss, consider and take appropriate action on request from Jacquelyn Kohleffel, HR Payroll Coordinator, regarding each Road & Bridge Department paying for the full uniforms for all employees and requiring them to wear a county shirt, and jeans are optional.**

ACTION: **Accepted all Comments concerning the Road & Bridge Department uniforms.**

Approved using Road & Bridge Funds from each Precinct to cover 100% of the cost for Employee uniforms, beginning with the next pay period.

NOTE**: Uniform expenditures will now have its own line item for tracking.**

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Jacquelyn Kohleffel, Human Resources Manager/Payroll Coordinator; Cindy Havelka, County Auditor**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Brossmann**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

16. **SUBJECT: Discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding the CDL class in Victoria and what we are agreeing to pay for the employee to get their CDL.**

ACTION: **Approved the Cost for the DOT physical and the CLP (Commercial Learners Permit fee) of the employee for the CDL class in Victoria.**

NOTE**: These Payments are in addition to the $2500 cost for the CDL class already being covered by the County.**

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Jacquelyn Kohleffel, Human Resources Manager/Payroll Coordinator; Cindy Havelka, County Auditor**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

17. **SUBJECT: Discuss, consider and take appropriate action in possibly approving a commitment letter for two or three years with a payback from the Road & Bridge employee if they leave early.**

ACTION: **Deferred to the next regular scheduled Meeting.**

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Jacquelyn Kohleffel, Human Resources Manager/Payroll Coordinator; Cindy Havelka, County Auditor; Randy Noviskie, Chief Deputy Sheriff; Blake Watson, Assistant County Attorney**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

18. **SUBJECT: Acknowledge and/or approve departmental budgets for SB22 Grant Funds for the Fayette County Sheriff's Department, Fayette County Attorney's Office and the Fayette County Constables Precinct 1 and 2.**

ACTION: **Acknowledged and Approved departmental Budgets for SB22 Grant Funds for the Fayette County Sheriff's Department, Fayette County Attorney's Office and the Fayette County Constables Precinct 1 and 2.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 18 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Cindy Havelka, County Auditor**

MOVED BY COMMR. **McBroom**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

19. **SUBJECT: Acknowledge and approve/certify budget for 287(g)-ICE Program.**

ACTION: **Acknowledged Budget for 287(g)-ICE Program.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 19 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Cindy Havelka, County Auditor**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

20. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in appointing Paul Zapalac, Justice of Peace #4 and Cindy Havelka, County Auditor as Investment Officers for Fayette County and compile the policy and committee.**

ACTION: **Appointed Paul Zapalac, Justice of Peace #4 and Cindy Havelka, County Auditor as Investment Officers for Fayette County and compile the policy and committee.**

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Cindy Havelka, County Auditor**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **McBroom**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

21. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action in approving 2025 Budget Amendments.**

ACTION: **Approved 2025 Budget Amendments.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 21 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Cindy Havelka, County Auditor; William Bernsen; Brenda Fietsam, County Clerk; Jacquelyn Kohleffel, Human Resources Manager/Payroll Coordinator**

See attached hereto marked "Exhibit B"

MOVED BY COMMR. **Brossmann**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **Berckenhoff**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

22. **SUBJECT: Consider and take appropriate action concerning approving the payment of currently due Fayette County bills and expenses.**

ACTION: **Approved the Payment of currently due Fayette County bills and expenses.**

See attached hereto marked "Agenda Action 22 Exhibit"

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE COURT: **Cindy Havelka, County Auditor; Jacquelyn Kohleffel, Human Resources Manager/Payroll Coordinator**

MOVED BY COMMR. **Sternadel**, SECONDED BY COMMR. **McBroom**
Commr. McBroom, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Sternadel, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Berckenhoff, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Commr. Brossmann, vote for **X**, vote against _____
Judge Mueller, vote for **X**, vote against _____

UNOFFICIAL

VIII.

Meeting adjourned at **10:34 a.m.**, **February 26, 2026**, on motion by Commissioner **Brossmann**, seconded by Commissioner **Berckenhoff**, votes for **5**, votes against **0**.

APPROVED this 12th day of March, 2026.

Absent

Dan Mueller
Fayette County Judge

Jason McBroom
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Clint Sternadel
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Absent

Harvey Berckenhoff
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Drew Brossmann
Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Brenda Fietsam
Brenda Fietsam
County Clerk

COMMISSIONERS COURT FAYETTE COUNTY TEXAS

UNOFFICIAL