



Ector County Commissioners' Court

February 25, 2025

10:00 AM

Commissioners' Courtroom, Ector County Administration Building Annex, 1010 E. 8th St.,
Odessa, Texas

CALL TO ORDER- JUDGE DUSTIN FAWCETT

Dustin Fawcett, County Judge
Mike Gardner, Commissioner Precinct #1
Greg Simmons, Commissioner Precinct #2
Samantha Russell, Commissioner Precinct #3
Billy Hall, Commissioner Precinct #4
Minutes taken by Jennifer Martin, County Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

INVOCATION- COMMISSIONER BILLY HALL

The invocation was led by Commissioner Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- UNITED STATES AND TEXAS

Commissioner Gardner led the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag and the pledge of allegiance to the Texas flag.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REQUESTS/RESOLUTIONS

1. Public Participation/Comments, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To receive public comments on non-agenda related items.

Sheriff Mike Griffis addressed the court to ask for prayers for Michelle Pierce, wife of Charlie Pierce retired Building Maintenance Director.

Jim Moody - addressed the court to inform them of the water problems and trash in West Odessa. He also stated that he believes there is mismanagement at ECUD.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

2. Public Health Updates, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *receive* public health updates from Brandy Garcia, Health Department Director.

Brandy Garcia, Director of Ector County Health Department, addressed the court to discuss the confirmed case of the measles. She also informed the court of their investigation and protocols that the department has taken. There was discussion about what constitutes an

outbreak and providing information to the public.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

2a. Public Health Events, Shelby Rigtrup - Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action in relation to recent public health events regarding, including but not limited to, emergency purchase orders, contracts/agreements, etc., and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Judge Fawcett discussed the possibility of offering tests to the public and the roadblocks that could occur with weekend tests being of concern due to the need to store the tests in a cooler until the State can pick them up on Monday morning.

Brandy Garcia said that purchasing the freezer could be used under different and ongoing circumstances. She stated that it could be used to store blood samples as well. They have had some samples go bad in the past due to not having proper storage. The other option is to contract with MCH which would be charged per sample per day and if there is an outbreak could spend as much as a freezer costs.

Hall - Is there a cost to transfer the sample to the state?

Garcia - There is no fee from the State but if they use a commercial lab there is. The cost for storage at MCH would be \$50 per day per sample.

Gardner - How many samples were there last weekend?

Garcia - Two

Simmons - Can we charge a storage fee to the physicians?

Garcia - Yes we can. Would also recommend having the agreement with MCH on an as needed basis.

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to authorize the purchase of the freezer and to establish a storage rate of \$25 per day per sample; a second was made by Commissioner Hall.
MOTION PASSED 5-0

3. Presentation, Dusty Gallivan- District Attorney

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *receive* a presentation from the District Attorney's Office regarding their annual report.

Dusty Gallivan addressed the court to give a presentation on the District Attorney's Office.

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to take 5 minute recess to reboot the system for the benefit of having the slide show on the record; a second was made by Commissioner Hall.
MOTION PASSED 5-0

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to reconvene; Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

Mr. Gallivan resumed the presentation.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

4. Presentation, Amber Valles- Public Works Department Coordinator

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *receive* a presentation by Kimley-Horn on the *Safe Streets for All Program*.

ITEM WITHDRAWN

5. Proclamation: Child Abuse Awareness Month , Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* a *Proclamation* declaring April 2025 as "*Child Abuse Awareness Month*", and authorize the County Judge, County Commissioners, and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #5.pdf](#)

Commissioner Gardner made a motion to approve a *Proclamation* declaring April 2025 as "*Child Abuse Awareness Month*", and authorize the County Judge, County Commissioners, and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; a second was made by Commissioner Simmons. MOTION PASSED 5-0

6. Amended Notice of Election, Lisa Sertuche- Elections Director

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the *Amended Notice of Election* for the May 3rd, 2025, *Joint General Election* , and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with the agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #6.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall to approve the Amended Notice of Election for the May 3rd, 2025, Joint General Election, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with the agenda item; Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

7. Out-of-State Travel Request, Mike Griffis- Sheriff

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to approve out-of-state travel for a Lieutenant to attend *The National Police Memorial Service* in Washington D.C.

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to approve out-of-state travel for a Lieutenant to attend the National Police Memorial Service in Washington, D.C.; a second was made by Commissioner Gardner. MOTION PASSED 5-0

CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/GRANTS

8. Verizon Connect Contract: GPS Services, Lucy Soto- Purchasing Director, Jeffrey Avery- Public Works Director

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the *Verizon Connect Contract* for GPS services on Ector County vehicles, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; Sourcewell Cooperative has awarded contract #020221-NWF to Verizon Connect.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #8.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to approve the Verizon Connect Contract for GPS services on Ector County vehicles, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

9. Engineering Agreement, John Henderson- Commissioners' Court Attorney and Grant Writer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the *Engineering Agreement* by and between Ector County, Texas, and Odessa Industrial Development Corporation d/ b/ a Grow Odessa regarding the Union Pacific Railroad Crossing located in Penwell, Texas, in relation to the Union Pacific Project 781641, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #9.pdf](#)

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the Engineering Agreement by and between

Ector County, Texas and Odessa Industrial Development Corporation d/b/a Grow Odessa regarding the Union Pacific Railroad Crossing located in Penwell, Texas, in relation to the Union Pacific Project 781641, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; a second was made by Commissioner Russell. MOTION PASSED 5-0

10. Commercial Lease Agreement: 315 E. 2nd St., Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding a *Commercial Lease Agreement* by and between Ector County, Texas, and Permian Tire for the premises located at 315 E. 2nd St. Odessa, TX 79761, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

ITEM WITHDRAWN

11. Change Order No. 2: HOK Agreement, Lucy Soto- Purchasing Director, Kevin Mann- Juvenile Probation Director, Mike Gardner- Commissioner, Pct. #1

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding *Change Order No. 2* to the *Agreement* by and between Ector County, Texas, and HOK for architectural services for the new Juvenile Detention Center, and authorize the County Judge to sign any documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #11.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to approve Change Order No. 2 to the Agreement by and between Ector County, Texas, and HOK for architectural services for the new Juvenile Detention Center, and authorize the County Judge to sign any documents associated with the agenda item; Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

PERSONNEL REQUESTS

12. Step Change for Hiring Request, Eddie Landrum- Development Services Director

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to approve hiring above Step 3 for the Water Quality Specialist position in Development Services due to the criteria of the position.

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to approve hiring above Step 3 for the Water Quality Specialist position in Development Services due to the criteria of the position; a second was made by Commissioner Gardner. MOTION PASSED 5-0

POLICIES/PROCEDURES

13. P-Card Policies & Procedures, Samantha Russell- Commissioner, Precinct #3

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding policies and procedures in relation to P-Card use, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Commissioner Russell stated that the P-card policies need to be tightened up and they need to look at the process of P-card issuance.

Commissioner Gardner indicated that he would like to sit down with each department head to go over the usage of the card.

Commissioner Simmons suggested setting up sub-committee to work on these matters.

Commissioner Russell made a motion to set up a sub-committee to review procurement procedures for the P-card usage; Gardner seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

14. Purchasing Department Training, Samantha Russell- Commissioner, Precinct #3

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding a Purchasing Department Training Session, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Commissioner Russell wanted to set a date for the department training that was discussed previously.

Lucy Soto stated that they have not had time to put it together and would like for it to be more precise and detailed.

Commissioner Simmons suggested that they contact TAC to do the training.

Debbie Clay also suggested contacting Narita Holmes for the training since she does presentations for TAC and is local.

Ms. Soto informed the court that even if they bring in someone to do the training she will still need to update her local policies and procedures.

Commissioner Simmons asked Lucy Soto to bring the item back to the court at the second meeting in March with an update.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

PUBLIC WORKS

15. Installation Request: Stop Sign, Amber Valles- Public Works Department Coordinator

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the installation of a stop sign on VFW and Ector Street.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to approve the installation of a stop sign on VFW and Ector Street; Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

CONSENT AGENDA

16. Proposed Consent Agenda, Tristan Marquez- County Auditor

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding the following *Proposed Consent Agenda*:

16a.) Line-Item Transfer- Sheriff:

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve a line-item transfer* to General Fund, Sheriff, Special Departmental Equipment, 001-360-5507, from Uniform Supplies, 001-360-5176, for \$21,090.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #16.pdf](#)

Commissioner hall made a motion to approve a *line-item transfer* to General Fund, Sheriff, Special Departmental Equipment, 001-360-5507, from Uniform Supplies, 001-360-5176, for \$21,090.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; a second was made by Commissioner Simmons. MOTION PASSED 5-0

BUDGET/FINANCIAL

17. Purchase Request: Detention Center Radios, Mike Griffis- Sheriff

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the purchase of radios through MCA for the Detention Center, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; the total cost of this purchase is \$83,750.00.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #17.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the purchase of radios through MCA for the Detention Center, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

18. Purchase Request: Motorola APX 8000 Portable Radios, Mike Griffis- Sheriff

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the purchase of 82 *Motorola APX 8000 Portable Radios* for patrol officers, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; the total cost of this purchase is \$840,357.32.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #18.pdf](#)

Commissioner Simmons made a motion approve the purchase of 82 *Motorola APX 8000 Portable Radios* for patrol officers to be paid out of the sales tax fund, and authorize the County Judge to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; a second was made by Commissioner Hall. MOTION PASSED 5-0

19. Budget Amendment Request: Sales Tax- Road Department, Tristan Marquez- County Auditor

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve a budget amendment* to Sales Tax Fund, Road Department, Land ROW Acquisition, 005-810-5501, from Unreserved Fund Balance, 005-3310, for \$225,000.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #19.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve a budget amendment to Sales Tax Fund, Road Department, Land ROW Acquisition, 005-810-5501, from Unreserved Fund Balance, 005-3310, for \$225,000.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; Commissioner Russell seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

20. Budget Amendment Request: Treasurer, Tristan Marquez- County Auditor

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve a budget amendment* to General Fund, Treasurer, Departmental Furniture & Equipment, 001-270-5199, from Unreserved Fund Balance, 001-3310, for \$1,199.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #20.pdf](#)

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to approve a budget amendment to General Fund, Treasurer, Departmental Furniture & Equipment, 001-270-5199, from Unreserved Fund Balance, 001-3310, for \$1,199.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; a second was made by Commissioner Gardner. MOTION PASSED 5-0

21. Budget Amendment Request: Juvenile, Tristan Marquez- County Auditor

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve a budget amendment* to General Fund, Juvenile Probation, Motor Vehicle Equipment, 001-440-5505, from Unreserved Fund Balance, 001-3310, for \$44,500.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #21.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall to approve a budget amendment to General Fund, Juvenile Probation, Motor Vehicle Equipment, 001-440-5505, from Unreserved Fund Balance, 001-3310, for \$44,500.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

22. Budget Amendment Request: Library, Tristan Marquez- County Auditor

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve a budget amendment* to General Fund, Library, Improvements & Construction, 001-690-5509 for \$4,009.00, Subscriptions, 001-690-5207, for \$5,000.00, and to Donated Revenues, 001-4171, for \$9,009.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #22.pdf](#)

Commissioner Gardner made a motion to approve a budget amendment to General Fund, Library, Improvements & Construction, 001-690-5509 for \$4,009.00, Subscriptions, 001-690-5207, for \$5,000.00, and to Donated Revenues, 001-4171, for \$9,009.00, and authorize the County Judge and County Clerk to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; a second was made by Commissioner Simmons. MOTION PASSED 5-0

23. Budget Discussion: Coliseum Barn Renovation, Tristan Marquez- County Auditor

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding the *budget* for the *Coliseum Barns B and C Renovation Project*.

ITEM WITHDRAWN

24. Quarterly Investment Reports, Cleopatra Callaway- Ector County Treasurer, Tristan Marquez- Ector County Auditor

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the *Ector County Quarterly Investment Reports* for the quarters ending *September 2024* and *December 2024*, and authorize the County Treasurer and County Auditor to sign all documents associated with this agenda item. In addition, it is requested that these reports be archived with the official minutes of this meeting.

Minutes Attachments

1. [Agenda Item #24.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the Ector County Quarterly Investment Reports for the quarters ending September 2024 and December 2024, and authorize the County Treasurer and County Auditor to sign all documents associated with this agenda item; Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

25. Financial Reports/Statements, Tristan Marquez- County Auditor

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *approve* the *Accounts Payable Fund Requirements Report* for February 25th, 2025, and review County financial statements and reports.

Minutes Attachments

1. [AP Department Payment Report - 4746.pdf](#)

2. [AP Department Payment Report - 4745.pdf](#)

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Fund Requirements Report for February 25th, 2025, and review County financial statements and reports; a second was made by Commissioner Simmons. MOTION PASSED 5-0

COURTHOUSE DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT

26. Proposed Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *receive* a presentation pertaining to the *Proposed Stakeholder Engagement Plan* in relation to the Courthouse Design-Build Project, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

Shawn Butler and Ryan Bray of Butler-Cohen along with April Pottorff of DLR Group addressed the court.

Shawn Butler discussed the frequency of updates to the court and to the public.

April Pottorff went over a detailed presentation with timelines and meeting expectations.

Simmons - have no department interviews been done?

After the presentation there was general discussion amongst the court and design build representatives.

Kris Crow - addressed the court to discuss his concern regarding the lack of community engagement that was presented in the project schedule. He would like the community to be asked what they would like since they are the ones paying for it. He stated that he would like it to be an efficient, affordable courthouse. He requested having community engagement before there is stakeholder engagement?

Jeff Russell - Stated to the court that he would have thought community engagement would have happened prior to the issuance of COs. He referenced Smith County as an example of the pre-work that was done for their courthouse.

Commissioner Russell agreed that she would encourage more community engagement.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

27. Courthouse Design Build Scope of Work & Design, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding the scope of work, work to be performed, and design for the Courthouse Design-Build Project, and authorize the County Judge, and any other necessary party, to sign all documents associated with this agenda item.

There was discussion regarding which departments would go to the new courthouse.

Commissioner Gardner made a motion to leave Commissioner's Offices and Court at the annex; a second was made by Commissioner Hall. MOTION PASSED 4-1 (Judge Fawcett voted against)

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to keep the Human Resources, Auditor and Treasurer's Offices at the annex; Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 4-1 (Judge Fawcett voted against)

Lindy Wright addressed the court to discuss the growth of the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office. She went on to discuss the pros of being in the courthouse and the conveniences of being close to the County Clerk's office for the customers.

After showing the court a survey that she conducted from her precinct, Commissioner Russell made a motion to keep the Tax Assessor-Collector at the annex; a second was made by Commissioner Simmons. MOTION PASSED 4-1 (Judge Fawcett voted against)

Kris Crow - addressed the court to thank Commissioner Russell for conducting the survey regarding the annex. He also questions if the Post Office had been purchased and if so, when would it close? Mr. Crow asked if the county would have to buy out the lease contract? Stating these are the questions that the public would want answers to.

Time: 1:16 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall to adjourn into Executive Session; Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

Time: 3:01 p.m.

Commissioner Gardner made a motion to reconvene; a second was made by Commissioner Hall. MOTION PASSED 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

28. Economic Development , Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action to *receive* a presentation from Project Van Zandt regarding potential Economic Development negotiations, pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.087, Texas Government Code.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

29. Legal Matters, Shelby Rigtrup- Public Information Officer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding legal matters pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, in relation to Papaw Street.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

30. Legal Matters, Samantha Russell- Commissioner, Precinct #3

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding legal matters pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, in relation to unemployment cases leading to litigation.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

31. Real Estate Issues/Transactions, John Henderson- Commissioners' Court Attorney and Grant Writer

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding real estate issues/transactions pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.072, Texas Government Code, in relation to the *property purchase* and *commercial contract* for the premises located at 300 and 302 N. Texas Ave.

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to finalize the purchase of the premises located at 300 and 302 N. Texas Avenue as discussed in Executive Session and authorize the Auditor to release the check pursuant to the receipt of the closing statement as required; a second was made by Commissioner Hall. MOTION PASSED 5-0

32. Personnel Matters, Samantha Russell- Commissioner, Precinct #3

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action reading personnel matters pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.074, Texas Government Code, in relation to personnel issues related to the Human Resources Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to authorize the implementation of the Interim Director of Human Resources as discussed in Executive Session; Commissioner Russell seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED 5-0

33. Personnel Matters, Tristan Marquez- County Auditor, Delia Ortiz- Human Resources Generalist

To consider, discuss, and take any necessary action regarding personnel matters pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551, Section 551.074, in relation to the Internal Auditor #1 position in the Auditor's Office.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM

ADJOURN

Time: 3:03 P.M.

With no further business to discuss a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Gardner with a second by Commissioner Simmons. MOTION PASSED 5-0

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ECTOR

I, Jennifer Martin, County Clerk, do hereby attest to the accuracy of the Commissioners Court Proceedings for the meeting held on the above date.

March 04, 2025 at 04:41 PM



Jennifer Martin, Ector County Clerk