



Minutes for the Travis County Commissioners Court April 18, 2023 Voting Session

**Minutes Prepared by the Travis County Clerk
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Call to Order

Meeting called to order on April 18, 2023, in the Travis County Administration Building, Commissioners Courtroom, 700 Lavaca Street, 1st Floor, Austin, TX, Dyana Limon-Mercado County Clerk, was represented by Deputy Gillian Porter.

Present: County Judge Andy Brown
Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard
Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret J. Gómez

Public Communication

Clerk's Note: There were no speakers for Public Communication.

County Announcements

Clerk's Note: The County Judge noted that there was a correction to the Public Hearing Notice for a Mass Gathering Permit for NOFX - The Last Tour. The public hearing was set for April 20, 2023, at 1:30pm.

Clerk's Note: Earth Day will be celebrated on April 22, 2023.

Clerk's Note: The County noted that Travis County is teaming up with the City of Creedmoor for their Annual Bulk Clean-Up Day on April 22, 2023. Residents of South Travis County and City of Creedmoor are welcome to drop off old appliances, furniture, scrap metal, lumber, and mattresses from 9am-1pm at 5008 Hartung Lane, Creedmoor, Texas.

Consent

- C1. Receive bids from County Purchasing Agent. (Commissioner Travillion)
- C2. Approve payment of claims by the County Treasurer. (Judge Brown)

C3. Authorize the County Treasurer to invest County funds. (Judge Brown)

MOTION: Approve Items C1-C3.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

Second Consent Motion

Members of the Court heard from:

Ann-Marie Sheely, Division Director, Travis County Attorney's Office

MOTION: Approve Items 3, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18.a-b, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27.a-b, 28, 29.a-d, and 32.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

Clerk's Note: The Commissioners Court agreed without objection to reconsider the Second Consent Motion as Item 20 has also been called up for action.

*Clerk's Note: The approved Second Consent Motion items are as follows:
3, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18.a-b, 19, 22, 23, 25, 27.a-b, 28, 29.a-d, and 32.*

Public Hearings

1. Receive comments regarding a request to authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate a drainage easement recorded as document #2020040076 of the Official Public Records of Travis County and associated with the Blocker Lane Expansion project in Precinct Four. (Commissioner Gómez)

MOTION: Open the Public Hearing.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

Members of the Court heard from:

Anna Bowlin, Division Director, Development Services and Long-Range Planning, Transportation and Natural Resources (TNR)

MOTION: Close the Public Hearing.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

Resolutions & Proclamations

2. Approve a proclamation recognizing April 22, 2023 as "National Prescription Drug Take Back Day" in Travis County. (Commissioner Travillion)

Members of the Court heard from:

Kathleen Cane, Environmental Technician, TNR
Adrian Wright, Senior Deputy, Constable Precinct 4 Office
Gabe Padilla, Sergeant, Constable Precinct 4 Office
Charles Lanterman, Chief Deputy, Constable Precinct 5 Office
Michael DeLeon. Lieutenant, Constable Precinct 2 Office

MOTION: Approve Item 1.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

Auditor

3. Receive revenue and expenditure reports, and other statutorily required reports, for the month of February 2022 from the County Auditor's Office. The reports are submitted electronically as allowed by Texas Government Code §114.023 (a) and prescribed by the County Auditor. (Judge Brown)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Emergency Services

4. Consider and take appropriate action regarding the following:
 - A. Outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of Travis County
 - B. County response to natural disaster or other emergency, including response, recovery and rehabilitation efforts resulting from Winter Storm Mara (Judge Brown)

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

5. Receive briefing and take appropriate action regarding items related to the County's response to and recovery from COVID-19 and other health crises, including but not limited to:
 - A. Periodic update from the Austin/Travis County Public Health Authority
 - B. Other necessary measures and actions, including any legal actions, steps, orders, policies, or communications related to COVID-19 and other health crises, and measures necessary to protect public health and safety of employees and residents
(Judge Brown)

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

6. Consider and take appropriate action related to renewing and amending the Interlocal Agreement between City of Austin and Travis County for Emergency Medical Services.
(Commissioners Shea & Howard)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Health & Human Services

7. Consider and take appropriate action to approve the renewal of the Host Agency Agreement with AARP for Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP).
(Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

8. Consider and take appropriate action on children's mental health and well-being in Travis County and the recommended strategies of
 - A. A public awareness and education campaign
 - B. Expansion of Mental Health First Aid training for the community
(Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

Laura Peveto, Director, Office of Children Services, Travis County Health and Human Services (HHS)
Courtney Bissonnet Lucas, Senior Planner, HHS
Dr. Desmar Walkes, Health Authority, Austin Public Health (APH) and Health Authority, Austin-Travis County
Stacy Spencer, Practice Administrator, Integral Care
Anne Nagelkirk, Chief Strategy Officer, Integral Care
Jen Samp, Public Information and Marketing Director, APH
Leylee Morris, Program Manager, Integral Care

Marlene Buchanan, Director, System of Care, Integral Care
Pilar Sanchez, County Executive, HHS
Jessica Rio, County Executive, Planning and Budget Office (PBO)

MOTION: Direct staff to locate \$170,000 for the 10 trainers to be able to reach 2,000 people, plus \$100,000 for the campaign.

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard

SECONDER: County Judge Andy Brown

RESULT: **NO VOTE TAKEN**

SUBSTITUTE

MOTION: Consider the request in Item 8 during the Special Voting Session on Thursday April 20, 2023, for Local and Fiscal Recovery Funds (LFRF). If it is not funded on Thursday, then direct staff to bring back a plan for funding to the Commissioners Court.

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4, Margaret Gómez

Clerk's Note: The Court took a vote on the Substitute Motion before the Standing Motion.

RESULT: **UNANIMOUS**

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez

9. Receive briefing from the Local Mental Health Authority, Integral Care, on their crisis response services available in Travis County. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

Sherry Blythe, Director, Crisis Services, Integral Care

Marisa Malick, Practice Administrator, Integral Care

Dawn Handley, CEO, Integral Care

Louise Lynch, Provider Network Authority Officer, Integral Care

RESULT: DISCUSSED

Justice & Public Safety

10. Consider and take appropriate action on a proposal to restructure the county divisions currently organized administratively under the Justice & Public Safety Department by creating a new County Department that will include only those divisions that provide direct legal representation and services to eligible Travis County residents, and by creating a new County Executive (FTE) position to head the new department. The divisions remaining in the Justice & Public Safety Department will continue to be organized under the currently existing County Executive position. (Judge Brown and Commissioner Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

Vicki Ashley, Interim County Executive, Justice and Public Safety (JPS)
Cynthia Simons, Texas Central Justice and Equity
Melissa Shearer, Director, Mental Health Public Defender Office
Nathan Fennell, Attorney, Texas Fair Defense Project
Maria Emerson, Member, Advocates for Social Justice Reform
Ofelia Zapata, Founder, Advocates for Social Justice Reform
Julie Fleming, Member, Advocates for Social Justice Reform
Bob Batlan, Member, Advocates for Social Justice Reform
Chantel Pridgon, Participatory Defense and Bail Bonds Organizer, Grassroots Leadership
Annette Price, Co-Executive Director, Grassroots Leadership
Mariette Hummel, Member, Advocates for Social Justice Reform
Rebecca Sanchez, Organizing Manager, Grassroots Leadership
Andrea Marsh, Chair, Organizational Development Committee
Kameron Johnson, Juvenile Public Defender
David Johnson, Policy and Research Organizer, Grassroots Leadership
LoraAnn Gerson, Travis County resident

MOTION:

Direct staff to:

- Create the new department, create the new position of the County Executive and develop a job description for the new County Executive with a name to be determined by community engagement.
- Develop a proposal for the development of an oversight board with a process that includes a public engagement process that consults with external and internal stakeholders, legal experts including public defenders and returns to Commissioners Court with recommendations,
- Delete the solid line in the chart between the County Executive and the Public Defender and replace it with a dotted line.

RESULT:

Passed (4-0)

MOVER:

County Judge Andy Brown

SECONDER:

Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

AYES:

Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard

ABSTAIN:

Margaret Gómez

Planning & Budget

11. Consider and take appropriate action on budget amendments, transfers, and discussion items. (Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

12. Consider and take appropriate action on request to:

- A. Accept and open applications and good faith checks from local banks interested in being Travis County's Depository Bank
- B. Authorize the Bank Depository Review Committee to consider the applications and recommend a Depository Bank to the Court (Commissioner Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

Debbie Laudermilk, Chief Investment Officer, Economic Development & Strategic Investments, Planning and Budget Office (PBO)

MOTION: Accept and open applications on good faith checks from local interested in being Travis County's depository bank and to authorize the bank depository review committee to consider the applications and recommend a depository bank to the Commissioners Court.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: County Judge Andy Brown

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez

AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

Purchasing

- 13. Approve contract award for Construction Materials Testing for the Tom Sassman Road at Maha Creek project, in the amount of \$62,777.00, to the most highly qualified respondent, Terracon Consultants, Inc. (Transportation & Natural Resources) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

- 14. Approve exemption and Modification No. 1 to Contract No. 4400006781 with Chapman and Cutler LLP, in the amount of \$50,001.00, for legal services. (County Attorney's Office) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

- 15. Approve order exempting the purchase of recruitment services for Travis County Sheriff's Office from Indeed Inc., for estimated requirements, from the competitive procurement process, pursuant to County Purchasing Act § 262.024 (a)(2). (Travis County Sheriff's Office) (Commissioner Travillion)

Members of the Court heard from:

Bonnie Floyd, Travis County Purchasing Agent
Sally Hernandez, Travis County Sheriff

MOTION: Approve Item 15.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard

AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

16. Approve Modification No. 54 to Contract No. 4400000562 with Easy Access, Inc., in the amount of \$10,625.00, for Tax Office Computer System. (Tax Office)
(Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Technology & Operations

17. Consider and take appropriate action to hold an employee public hearing concerning benefits and compensation on June 1, 2023 at 4:30pm at the Commissioners Courtroom at 700 Lavaca, Austin, Texas 78701. (Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

18. Consider and take appropriate action on the following Personnel Amendments:

A. Routine Personnel Actions

B. Non-Routine Personnel Actions
(Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

19. Consider and take appropriate action on an automobile total loss claim recommendation for the date of loss, October 4, 2021. (Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Transportation & Natural Resources

20. Consider and take appropriate action on a request to authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate a drainage easement recorded as document #2020040076 of the Official Public Records of Travis County and associated with the Blocker Lane Expansion project in Precinct Four. (Commissioner Gómez)

MOTION: Approve Item 20.

RESULT: APPROVED - UNANIMOUS

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

21. Consider and take appropriate action on the 2022 Fiscal Year Travis County Sustainability Report. (Commissioner Shea)

Members of the Court heard from:

Jon White, Director, Natural Resources and Environmental Quality Division,
TNR
Emily Ackland, Environmental Quality Program Manager, TNR
Amanda Kemp, Environmental Project Manager, TNR
Paiton Upshaw, Environmental Specialist Senior, TNR
Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, TNR

MOTION: Approve Item 21.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

22. Consider and take appropriate action regarding a License Agreement to allow Waterloo Outdoors, LLC, to operate a Recreational Rental Rack, to include single and double kayaks, paddle boards, and pedal kayak concessions at Arkansas Bend Park. (Commissioner Shea)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

23. Consider and take appropriate action on an Interlocal Agreement with Texas State University Institute of Government Innovation for a Vulnerability Assessment for Travis County. (Commissioner Shea)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

24. Consider and take appropriate action on a request to use Alternative Fiscal Security for the construction of Provence Phase 1, Section 7 subdivision, in Precinct Three. (Commissioner Howard)

Members of the Court heard from:

Anna Bowlin, Division Director, Development Services and Long-Range Planning, TNR

MOTION: Approve Item 24.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

25. Consider and take appropriate action on the acceptance of the dedication of the public street and drainage facilities within Elm Creek North Phase IV - a subdivision in

Precinct One. (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

26. Consider and take appropriate action on a letter in support of Travis County's involvement in Phase I of the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. (Commissioner Shea)

Members of the Court heard from:

Johanna Arendt, Environmental Project Manager, TNR
Max Morales, Environmental Specialist Sr., TNR
Jon White, Director, Natural Resources and Environmental Quality Division,
TNR

MOTION: Approve Item 26.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez

AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

27. Consider and take appropriate action regarding the following requests:

- A. Plat for recording: Easton Park Section 5A Final Plat (Long Form Final Plat – Nine Total Lots on 58.478 Acres) – located in the City of Austin's Limited Purpose in Precinct Four.
- B. Subdivision Construction Agreement between Travis County and Carma Easton, LLC and Easton QOZB, LLC.
(Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

28. Set a public hearing on May 9, 2023, to receive comments regarding a request to authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate a drainage easement over and across Tract 103, Travis Hollow Section Three Subdivision, in Precinct Two. (Commissioner Shea)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

29. Set a public hearing date, for May 9, 2023, to receive comments regarding the following easement vacation requests associated with Entrada Phase 5 subdivision, in Precinct Two
- A. Authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate a drainage easement dedicated per document #2018190760 of the Official Public Records of Travis County
- B. Authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate a lateral support easement

dedicated per document #2018190762 of the Official Public Records of Travis County

- C. Authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate a lateral support easement dedicated per document #2018190761 of the Official Public Records of Travis County
- D. Authorize the filing of an instrument to vacate a portion of a lateral support easement dedicated per document #2018190763 of the Official Public Records of Travis County (Commissioner Shea)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Other

- 30. Consider and take appropriate action on an appointment to the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (CTRMA) Board of Directors. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Shea)

MOTION: Appoint John Langmore as an interim Member of the CTRMA Board of Directors.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion

AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

- 31. Consider and take appropriate action to establish data management and coordination of technology systems across Travis County. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Howard)

Members of the Court heard from:

Paul Hopingardner, Executive Director, Technology and Operations
Vicki Ashley, Interim County Executive, Justice and Public Safety (JPS)

MOTION: Direct Paul Hopingardner, Executive Director, Technology and Operations to bring back a plan for a governance mechanism and to coordinate among all the elected officials and separate entities.

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez

FRIENDLY

AMENDMENT: Direct Vicki Ashley, Interim County Executive, JPS to work with the County Attorney, ITS, Health and Human Services, Sheriff's Office, health care providers, and other stakeholders to develop and implement a data use agreement Travis County can use across

criminal justice and public health systems including the courts, jails, law enforcement, CommunityCare, Integral Care, Central Health, and hospital systems.

MOVER: County Judge Andy Brown

RESULT: **FRIENDLY AMENDMENT ACCEPTED**

Clerk's Note: A Vote on the Standing Motion was taken.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

32. Consider and take appropriate action to reappoint Travis County Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez to the Austin/Travis County Sobriety Center Board of Directors, to be effective immediately. (Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: **ADDED TO CONSENT**

Executive Session

The Commissioners Court will consider the following items in Executive Session. The Commissioners Court may also consider any other matter posted on the agenda if there are issues that require consideration in Executive Session and the Commissioners Court announces that the item will be considered during Executive Session.

Note 1: Gov't Code Ann 551.071, Consultation with Attorney

Note 2: Gov't Code Ann 551.072, Real Property

Note 3: Gov't Code Ann 551.074, Personnel Matters

Note 4: Gov't Code Ann 551.076, Security

Note 5: Gov't Code Ann 551.087, Economic Development Negotiations

Note 6 Gov't Code Ann 551.089, IT Security

Note 7: Gov't Code Ann 551.0745, Deliberation by Commissioners Court about County Advisory Body

33. Receive legal briefing on fire code enforcement in Travis County. ¹ (Commissioners Shea & Howard)

Judge Brown announced that Item 33 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

RESULT: **DISCUSSED**

34. Receive briefing and take appropriate action regarding Travis County information security issues. ¹ & ⁶ (Commissioners Travillion & Howard)

RESULT: **NO ACTION NECESSARY**

35. Receive legal briefing and take appropriate action regarding claims for damage, including damage sustained during Winter Storm Uri. ¹ (Judge Brown)

Judge Brown announced that Item 35 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

MOTION: Authorize the County Attorney's Office to enter into additional tolling agreements to facilitate resolution of claims with AFM Global related to Winter Storm Uri.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez

AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

36. Receive a briefing and take appropriate action on compliance matters related to the Economic Development Agreement for Property Tax Rebates between Travis County and Charles Schwab & Co. Inc. ¹ & ⁵ (Commissioners Shea & Gómez)

Judge Brown announced that Item 36 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney and Gov't. Code Ann 551.087, Economic Development Negotiations.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

37. Receive briefing and take appropriate action on compliance matters related to the Economic Development Agreement for Property Tax Rebates between Travis County and Samsung Austin Semiconductor, LLC. ¹ & ⁵ (Commissioners Shea & Gómez)

Judge Brown announced that Item 37 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney and Gov't. Code Ann 551.087, Economic Development Negotiations.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

38. Consider and take appropriate action on legislative matters, including SB 2332. ¹ , ³ & ⁷ (Commissioner Shea & Commissioner Travillion)

Judge Brown announced that Item 38 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

39. Receive legal briefing and take appropriate action regarding Travis County Supportive Housing Initiative Pipeline (TCSHIP), including issues related to work progress, supportive housing programs and facilities. ¹ (Commissioners Howard & Gómez)

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

Adjourn

Minutes Approved by the Commissioners Court

Date of Approval

Andy Brown, County Judge