



Minutes for the Travis County Commissioners Court August 1, 2023 Voting Session

Minutes Prepared by the Travis County Clerk
512-854-4722 • www.traviscountytexas.gov • PO Box 149325, Austin, TX 78714-9325

Call to Order

Meeting called to order on August 1, 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 Jasmine Acosta.

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

Public Communication

Members of the Court heard from:

Ashley Harris, Legal Fellow, ACLU of Texas
Chris Harris, Policy Director, Austin Justice Coalition
Taylor Trevino, Texas Advocacy Corps Organizer, Texas Civil Rights Project
Shannon Steele, Benefits Manager, Human Resources Management Department (HRMD)

County Announcements

Clerk's Note: A moment of silence was held for the loss of life on Travis County roads.

Clerk's Note: The County Judge noted that Travis County had signed on to an Amicus Brief against House Bill 2127, Death Star Bill, that will severely limit local entities' response to natural disasters and public health crises.

Clerk's Note: A moment of silence was held in memory of Sandra Tenorio.

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)

C4. Approve the minutes for the Voting Session of July 11 and 18, 2023. (Judge Brown)

MOTION: Approve Items C1-C4.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard

SECOND CONSENT MOTION

MOTION: Approve Items 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11.a, 12.a-b, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22.a-b, 23, 25, 26.a-b, 27, 28, 30, and 31.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard

Public Hearings

1. Receive comments concerning a temporary detour and restriction of all traffic on County Line Road beginning on or about September 18, 2023, and continuing through September 18, 2024, or until work is complete, in Precinct Four. (Commissioner Gómez)

MOTION: Open the Public Hearing.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard

Members of the Court heard from:

John Routh, Assistant Director, Public Works and Capital Improvement
Projects, Transportation and Natural Resources (TNR)

MOTION: Close the Public Hearing.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard

Resolutions & Proclamations

2. Approve a proclamation recognizing the Del Valle Middle School ribbon-cutting celebration on August 5, 2023. (Judge Brown)

Members of the Court heard from:

Dr. Annette Tielle, Superintendent, Del Valle Independent School District

Jamie Moller, Principal, Del Valle Middle School, Del Valle Independent School District

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

Auditor

3. Consider and take appropriate action to approve the Travis County Travel Card Policy. (Commissioner Travillion)

Items 3 and 21 are associated with one another and were called for concurrent discussion.

Members of the Court heard from:

Patti Smith, Travis County Auditor
Bonnie Floyd, Travis County Purchasing Agent
Aerin-Renee Pfaffenberger, Assistant Budget Director, PBO
Robyn Wright, Business Support Director - ERP, County Auditor's Office
Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, TNR

MOTION: Approve Items 3 and 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

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 (Judge Brown)

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

Health & Human Services

5. Consider and take appropriate action to approve the CDBG program cooperation agreements with the cities of Bee Cave, Creedmoor, Lago Vista, Lakeway, San Leanna, West Lake Hills, and Webberville for the FY2024-2026 Travis County urban county requalification process, and authorize the CDBG Office to submit all attachments noted herein to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to requalify the Travis County CDBG program for the 2024-2026 fiscal years, as required by CPD Notice 23-02. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

6. Consider and take appropriate action on request to authorize Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the following engAGE Travis County volunteer stations: Interfaith Action, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and Sickie Cell Association of Texas. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

7. Consider and take appropriate action to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Austin Voices for Education and Youth to submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Education for a Full-Service Community Schools Grant. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Intergovernmental Relations

8. Consider and take appropriate action on an appointment to the Sobering Center Board of Directors. (Judge Brown)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Justice & Public Safety

9. Receive update on Counsel at First Appearance initiative. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

Vicki Ashley, Interim County Executive, Justice and Public Safety (JPS)
Terri Montgomery, Manager, Information Technology Services (ITS)
Gabe Stock, Interim Director, Facilities Management Department (FMD)
Sally Hernandez, Travis County Sheriff
Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, Planning and Budget Office (PBO)
Dorothy Doolittle, Member, Advocates for Social Justice Reform
Bob Batlan, Member, Advocates for Social Justice Reform
Chris Harris, Policy Director, Austin Justice Coalition
Adeola Ogunkeyede, Chief Public Defender
Maria Emerson, Travis County resident

RESULT: DISCUSSED

Planning & Budget

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

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

11. Consider and take appropriate action on the following grant programs, applications, contracts and related special budgets, and permissions to continue:
- A. New Contract with the Department of Defense for the Federal Voting Acting Program (FVAP) Electronic Absentee System for Elections (EASE) Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) grant for \$1,765,000 in the County Clerk's Office
(Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

12. Consider and take appropriate action to:
- A. Approve an order setting Calendar Year 2024 Sheriff's and Constables' civil fees
- B. Approve updated fees for the Medical Examiner for Calendar Year 2024
- C. Approve updated park user fees for the Transportation and Natural Resources Department for Calendar Year 2024
- D. Approve updated Fire Marshal fees for Fiscal Year 2024
- E. Approve updated Estray Unit fees in the Travis County Sheriff's Office for Fiscal Year 2024
- F. Receive an annual update on fees to be charged by towing companies called by the Sheriff's Office for non-consent towing
(Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

13. Consider and take appropriate action to approve text of notice of 2023 Tax Year (Fiscal Year 2024) proposed tax rate for Travis County. (Judge Brown)

Members of the Court heard from:

Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO
Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO
Barbara Wilson, Assistant County Attorney

MOTION: Approve text of the notice for the 2023 tax year.

RESULT: APPROVED - UNANIMOUS

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard

14. Consider and take appropriate action on Fiscal Year 2024 budget hearings. (Judge Brown)

Members of the Court heard from:
Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO

MOTION: Approve the dates of the Budget Hearings, allowing for flexibility around timing of the compensation discussion.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard

Purchasing

15. Approve Contract Award for Professional Engineering Services for Expo Center Electrical Panel Assessment & Repair, RFQ No. 2209-005-TL, in the amount of \$175,500.00, to the most highly qualified respondent, IMEG Corp (Facilities Management Department) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

16. Approve Modification No. 3 to Contract No. 4400004363 with Sandad Inc., dba ProResults, as-needed, for drug and alcohol testing services. (Human Resources Management Department) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

17. Approve Change Order No. 4 to Contract No. 4400005569 with Muniz Concrete & Contracting Inc., an overall decrease in the contract amount of \$69,992.00, for Forest Bluff ROW Improvements. (Transportation & Natural Resources) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

18. Approve contract award for Staffing Analysis Service, RFS No. 2210-009-GC, in the amount of \$116,000.00, to the highest-ranked respondent, Matrix Consulting Group, LTD. (Travis County Sheriff's Office) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

19. Approve exemption and contract award of Contract No. 4600000730 with Austin Free-Net, in the amount of \$110,258.00, for digital skills and literacy services. (Juvenile Probation) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

20. Approve exemption and Contract No. 4400007049 with The McMillion Group, LLC, in the amount of \$84,985.07, for in-house training for a leadership development/culture shift program. (Transportation & Natural Resources) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

21. Consider and take appropriate action to approve revisions to the Purchasing Procedures Guide Section 5 Purchasing Cards. (Commissioner Travillion)

Items 3 and 21 are associated with one another and were called for concurrent discussion. Please refer to Item 3 for a summary of the action taken by the Court.

Technology & Operations

22. 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

23. Receive an update on Travis County Employee Health Care Fund for the period October 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. (Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

24. Consider and take appropriate action on elected official pay and approval of advertisement for Fiscal Year 2024. (Commissioners Gómez and Travillion)

Members of the Court heard from:

Todd Osburn, Assistant Director, Human Resources Management Department (HRMD)

Barbara Wilson, Assistant County Attorney

Zenobia Joseph, Travis County resident

MOTION: Approve the edit to the advertisements as discussed and setting the elected office pay increase up to the amount of 5%, with the expectation that the elected official increase would follow the rank-and-file employee increase.

RESULT: APPROVED - UNANIMOUS

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

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

Transportation & Natural Resources

25. Consider and take appropriate action on a Final Plat for recording: Sweetwater Crossing, Replat of Lot 9, Block A (Short Form Final Plat – one commercial lot – 36.4627 acres - No ETJ in Precinct Three). (Commissioner Howard)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

26. Consider and take appropriate action on the following requests regarding the streets and drainage in Bella Fortuna Phase 2, in Precinct Four

- A. The acceptance of the dedication of public streets and drainage facilities as dedicated in the Bella Fortuna Phase 2 final plat
- B. The acceptance of a proposed License Agreement between Clayton Properties Group Inc., doing business in Texas as Brohn Homes, and Travis County for improvements within the public right of way (Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

27. Consider and take appropriate action on a Construction Agreement between Sun Bluebonnet LLC and Travis County for traffic mitigation associated with the proposed Bluebonnet Lakes Manufactured Homes development in Precinct One. (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

28. Consider and take appropriate action on a Phasing Agreement between Kellam Land Investments, LP, Texas Essential Housing Public Facility Corporation, and Travis County for the Kellam/City Street Development project in Precinct Four. (Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Other

29. Determine composition of Elected Officials Salary Grievance Committee for 2023, as required by §152.014 & §152.015 of the Texas Local Government Code. (Judge Brown)

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

30. Authorize and approve the County Attorney to sign a joint amicus letter to President Joseph R. Biden regarding student loan debt relief following *Biden v. Nebraska*, 143 S.Ct. 2355 (June 30, 2023). (*This item may be taken into executive session under Texas Government Code, §551.071 Consultation with Attorney*) (Judge Brown)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

31. Consider and take appropriate action to approve Travis County signing on to the America Is All In coalition's comment letter addressing the EPA's proposed power plant regulations. (Commissioner Shea)

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

32. Consider and take appropriate action on judicial vacancies, including Travis County Probate Court No. 2. ¹ (Judge Brown)

Judge Brown announced that Item 32 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

MOTION: Appoint the honorable Nicholas Chu, Travis County Justice of the Peace, Precinct #5 to the new Probate 2 Court effective October 1, 2023.

RESULT: APPROVED - UNANIMOUS

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion

AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea

ABSENT: Ann Howard

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

Judge Brown announced that Item 33 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney and Gov't Code Ann 551.089, IT Security.

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

34. Update on issues related to ARPA funded subrecipient agreement with Workforce Solutions. ¹ (Judge Brown)

Judge Brown announced that Item 34 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

MOTION: Direct PBO to work with HHS to modify the Guidehouse contract to support the submission of materials for prompt payment and submit documents for prompt payment.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: County Judge Andy Brown
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea
ABSENT: Ann Howard

35. Receive briefing and take appropriate action regarding potential amendments to the Travis County Code, including Chapter 482, and Title 30, Austin/Travis County Subdivision Regulations, in light of recent legislation. 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.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

36. Consider and take appropriate action regarding letter requesting approval to change the use of approximately 147 acres of land in Precinct One to an auto salvage yard. ¹ &
² (Commissioner Travillion)

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. 551.072, Real Property.

MOTION: Deny the change-of-use request of approx. 147 acres of land to an auto salvage in Precinct 1 and authorize the County Executive of Transportation and Natural Resources to send a response on the County's behalf.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea
ABSENT: Ann Howard

Adjourn

Minutes Approved by the Commissioners Court

Date of Approval

Andy Brown, County Judge