



Minutes for the Travis County Commissioners Court August 31, 2023 Budget Mark-Up

Minutes Prepared by the Travis County Clerk
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Call to Order

Meeting called to order on August 31, 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

Signature Motion

Clerk's Note: The members of the Commissioners Court discussed the voting session being held by video conference and that several Commissioners are not physically present.

MOTION: Each Commissioner not physically present delegates the authority to the County Judge to sign any documents, including orders related to items before the court today on their behalf.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: County Judge Andy Brown

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion

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

ABSENT: Brigid Shea

Public Comment

Members of the Court heard from:
Mary Jo McGuire, President, National Association of Counties (NACO)
J.D. Clark, Wise County Judge, Incoming President, NACO

Agenda Items

1. Consider and take appropriate action to approve and ratify a 2-month contract extension of the CDBG-DR Contract No. 19-281-000-B780 with the Texas General Land Office (GLO), which is scheduled to terminate on October 3, 2023. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

MOTION: Approve Item 1.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard

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

ABSENT: Brigid Shea

2. Consider and take appropriate action regarding FY 2024 Budget Mark-Up.

Members of the Court heard from:

Jessica Rio, County Executive, Planning and Budget Office (PBO)

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

RESULT: DISCUSSED

Mark-Up Items

1. Review process for viewing and tracking budget mark-up changes.

Members of the Court heard from:

Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Recap current budget status, including

A. Preliminary Budget

B. Revenue and other available funds (4th Revenue Estimate)

C. Tax rate; and

D. Changes to Preliminary Budget.

Members of the Court heard from:

Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Approve the Preliminary Budget to establish baseline for beginning budget mark-up process.

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

MOTION: Approve Preliminary Budget including Justice and Public Safety CDL training #155.

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion

FRIENDLY

AMENDMENT: Fund with one-time funds.

MOVER: Brigid Shea

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

4. Approve Changes to Preliminary Budget recommended by PBO.

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

Alex Braden, Assistant Budget Director, PBO

Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO

MOTION: Approve the changes.

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

5. Approve transactions to "re-budget" General Fund Capital Acquisition Resources Account Fiscal Year 2022 capital projects into Fiscal Year 2022, including adjusts to the Unallocated Reserve, if necessary.

RESULT: **NO ACTION NECESSARY**

6. Consider and take appropriate action on remaining FY 2024 compensation issues.

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

RESULT: **DISCUSSED**

BH-30 - Equalization funds for Commissioners Court staff.

MOTION: Approve the request.
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

BH-29 - Commissioners Court increase in staff

BH-18 (PO6B) – Reduction of \$150,000 Earmark for Virtual Court Meetings

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

MOTION: Approve the request.
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
SECONDER: County Judge Andy Brown

FRIENDLY

AMENDMENT: Earmark \$150,000.

MOVER: Brigid Shea

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

7. Review selected items on Budget Agenda Worksheet.

BH-07 - FM 812 Local Match

Members of the Court heard from:

David Greear, Director, Public Works, Transportation and Natural Resources
(TNR)

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO
Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO

MOTION: Approve the staff layout.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez
SECONDER: County Judge Andy Brown
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

BH-09 #79 - Eastern Crescent Water Study

Members of the Court heard from:

Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, TNR

MOTION: Approve the request.
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

BH-10 - Staff Interpreter - Public Defender's Office

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

MOTION: Approve the request.
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

BH-01 - Road and Bridge Career Ladder

Members of the Court heard from:

Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

MOTION: Approve the request.
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

BH-24 - Increase County Contribution for City of Austin Animal Services ILA for Spay/Neuter Services for additional vendors.

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

Michelle Surka, Budget Analyst II, PBO

MOTION: Approve the request.
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion

FRIENDLY

AMENDMENT: Target the funds for low-income clients.

MOVER: Brigid Shea

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

BH-04 (32A) - Revised Request Park Land Management - Wildland Fire 1st Phase

MOTION: Approve the request.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard

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

BH-08-#78 - Substandard Roads

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO

Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, TNR

MOTION: Approve the request.

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

BH-16 - Two Mental Health Public Defender Via Hope Level II Peer Support Social Services Aid SPWs

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

Vicki Ashley, Interim County Executive, Justice and Public Safety (JPS)

MOTION: Approve the request with an earmark against Allocated Reserve.

RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

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

BH-22 - Public Health 2FTEs: Planning Project Manager & Senior Planner
BH-23 - County Executive 2FTEs: Administrative Assistant & Senior Planner

Members of the Court heard from:

Pilar Sanchez, County Executive, Travis County Health and Human Services (HHS)
Vicki Ashley, Interim County Executive, Justice and Public Safety (JPS)
Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO
Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

MOTION: Approve the requested compromise.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
AYES: Andy Brown, Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez

BH-25 - Children's Crisis Respite Center Two Years One-time Earmark

Members of the Court heard from:

Laura Peveto, Director, Office of Children Services, HHS

MOTION: Approve an earmark of \$115,000.
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

BH-32 - JP Court Bailiff

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO
Michelle Surka, Budget Analyst II, PBO
Ujaala Rashid-Ferraro, Assistant County Attorney

MOTION: Earmark one-time funds \$25,000 overtime.
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

BH-36 - Revised Request - Active Shooter Training Funds for all Constables and Park Rangers

Members of the Court heard from:

Alex Braden, Assistant Budget Director, PBO

Jessica Rio, County Executive, PBO
Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO
Stacy Suits, Constable, Precinct 3

MOTION: Earmark \$95,00 one-time funds.
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

172-EDSI - Marshall Plan

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

MOTION: Move funds to Planning and Budget.
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

BH-03 (09A) - Forestry and Land Stewardship Operations Stewardship 1st Phase.
BH-03 (09B) - Forestry and Land Stewardship Operations Forestry 1st Phase.

Members of the Court heard from:
Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO
Charles Bergh, Division Director, Parks, TNR
Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, TNR

MOTION: Approve the request for BH-0309A - Stewardship.
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

BH-33 - Two additional CSCD Security Positions

Members of the Court heard from:
Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

MOTION: Approve one-time funds to continue SPW for 1 year for CSCD Security.
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

BH-23 - County Executive: 2 FTEs: Administrative Assistant & Senior Planner

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

MOTION: Approve 1 FTE: Administrative Assistant.

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

BH 05 - Parks Facilities Master Electrician

BH 12 (04A) - Office of Parental Representation Expansion Social Worker 1FTE

BH 13 (05A) - Office of Child Representation Expansion Social Services Manager 1FTE

BH 03 (09B) - Forestry and Land Stewardship Operations Forestry 1st Phase.

BH 39 - 3% Compensation Non-County Employees CSCD.

BH 15 (05A) - Internally fund Mental Health Public Defender Administrative Investigator

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

Vicki Ashley, Interim County Executive, Justice and Public Safety (JPS)

MOTION: Approve the request with an adjustment to the Allocated Reserve.

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard

SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion

SUBSTITUTE

MOTION: Approve BH39, 3% compensation and BH1508A, internally fund Mental Health Public Defender Administrative Investigator.

MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea

Clerk's Note: The Motion died for lack of a Second.

RESULT: **Passed (4-0)**

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

ABSTAIN: Brigid Shea

VCM4 - Add Earmark to the Allocated Reserve for VCM

VCM5 - Remove hold for VCM

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

Ralph Warren, Director, Information Technology Services (ITS)
Paul Hopingardner, Executive Director, Technology and Operations
Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, TNR

MOTION: One-time \$65,000 earmark for transition funds for Judge's office.
MOVER: County Judge Andy Brown

Clerk's Note: The Motion died for lack of a Second.

MOTION: Add \$34,974.00 to the Allocated Reserve for VCM and remove hold from VCM.
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

8. Authorize HRMD to post and advertise new positions.

MOTION: Authorize HRMD to post new positions.
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

9. Approve Fiscal Year 2024 earmarks on reserves: Allocated Reserve and Capital Acquisition Resources Reserve.

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

10. Authorize Planning and Budget Office to adjust Unallocated Reserve and balance budget against Allocated Reserve based on 5th (final) Revenue Estimate.

MOTION: Authorize PBO to adjust the Unallocated Reserve and balance the budget against the Allocated Reserve
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

Adjourn

Minutes Approved by the Commissioners Court

Date of Approval

Andy Brown, County Judge