



Minutes for the Travis County Commissioners Court February 27, 2024 Voting Session

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

Meeting called to order on February 27, 2024, in the Travis County Administration Building, Commissioners Courtroom, 700 Lavaca Street, 1st Floor, Austin, TX, Dyana Limon-Mercado County Clerk, was represented by Deputy Lola Ogunro.

Present: County Judge Andy Brown
Commissioner Precinct 1, Jeffrey Travillion
Commissioner Precinct 2, Brigid Shea
Commissioner Precinct 3, Ann Howard

Virtual: Commissioner Precinct 4, Margaret Gómez

Public Communication

Members of the Court heard from:

Barbara Wilson, Travis County Attorney
Leslie Dippel, Senior Chief Deputy, Travis County Attorney's Office
Zephyr Stone, Talent Planning and Engagement Manager, Human Resources
Management Department (HRMD)
Robert Battaile, Travis County Resident

County Announcements

Clerk's Note: The County Judge announced Lights Out Texas, which is an initiative to save birds, conserve energy, and reduce light pollution. Spring migration season begins March 1st and ends on June 1st. Peak migration will be from April 22nd to May 12th. The Court urges Travis County residents to turn off all nonessential lighting from 11 pm to 6 am to help protect the billions of migratory birds that fly over Texas each year.

Clerk's Note: Early Voting for the 2024 Primary Election will continue until March 1st, 2024. The official Election Day is March 5th, 2024. The County Judge encourages all Travis County residents and employees to exercise their right to vote. Information on polling locations, voter registration, and sample ballots can be found on the Travis County Clerk website.

Consent Motion

MOTION: Approve Consent items 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.a-f, 14.a-e, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24.a, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36.
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

Signature Motion

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

Resolutions & Proclamations

1. Approve a Proclamation to honor and celebrate the career of Melinda Mallia and express our special recognition and heartfelt thanks to her for her distinguished 31-year career as a dedicated, motivated, and determined public servant.
(Commissioners Shea & Howard)

Members of the Court heard from:

Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, Transportation and Natural Resources
(TNR)

Jon White, Director, Natural Resources and Environmental Quality Division,
TNR

Melinda Mallia, Natural Resources Program Manager, TNR

MOTION: Approve a Proclamation to honor and celebrate the career of Melinda Mallia.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 1 Jeffrey Travillion
AYES: Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez
ABSENT: Andy Brown

2. Approve proclamations honoring two legendary African American athletes, educators, and coaches, Coach Retha Swindell and the late Coach John E. Kincaide, and announce the Texas Black Legacy Fund (TBLF)'s "Celebrating Texas Great Athletes" program on March 27th, 2024. (Commissioner Travillion)

Members of the Court heard from:

Bill Lyons, Travis County Resident

MOTION: Approve proclamations honoring two legendary African American athletes, educators, and coaches, Coach Retha Swindell and the late Coach John E. Kincaide.
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

Clerk's Note: Commissioner Travillion announced the Texas Black Legacy Fund (TBLF)'s "Celebrating Texas Great Athletes" program on March 27th, 2024.

3. Approve a proclamation recognizing March 1st, 2024, as Capital IDEA 25th Anniversary Celebration Day in Travis County. (Judge Brown)

Members of the Court heard from:

Fannie Akingbala, Board Member, Capital Idea
Toni Swinton, Board Member, Capital Idea

MOTION: Approve a proclamation recognizing March 1st, 2024, as Capital IDEA 25th Anniversary Celebration Day in Travis County.
RESULT: **APPROVED - UNANIMOUS**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez
AYES: Jeffrey Travillion, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez
ABSENT: Andy Brown

Auditor

4. Approve payment of claims by the County Treasurer. (Judge Brown)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
5. Consider and take appropriate action on Management Representation Letter to be provided to Atchley & Associates, LLP regarding the fiscal year 2023 County-wide annual financial audit. (Judge Brown)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Emergency Services

6. 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

7. Consider and take appropriate action to approve an Interlocal Agreement with Austin ISD Interlocal Agreement for the Chronic Absenteeism Case Management Program. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
8. Consider and take appropriate action to approve renewal of Interlocal Agreement No. 4400004356 with Austin ISD for the Family Resource Center Program. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
9. Consider and take appropriate action to approve and ratify Modification 15 of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Integral Care for System of Care services. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
10. Consider and take appropriate action to approve the County Judge to sign the Affidavit for the Texas Department of Agriculture Home Delivered Meal close out for the grant program year 2023. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Planning & Budget

11. Authorize the County Treasurer to invest County funds. (Judge Brown)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
12. Consider and take appropriate action on budget amendments, transfers, and discussion items. (Commissioner Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
13. Consider and take appropriate action on the following grant programs, applications, contracts and related special budgets, and permissions to continue:

- A. Ratification of an amendment to the annual application to the Office of the Governor for \$177,456 including \$35,491 in County match funds, for the General Victim Assistance Grant in the District Attorney's Office to support two Victim Counselor Senior positions in the Family Violence Division
- B. New Application to the Department of Energy for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant for \$293,610 to fund a lighting conversion in the Blackwell Thurman Criminal Justice Center in the Facilities Management Department
- C. Annual contract with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program contract for \$330,170 in Health and Human Services
- D. Amendment to the contract with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the U.S. Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program to add \$42,328 to the grant award, increasing the total award to \$314,712 in HHS
- E. Contract amendment to the Travis County PDO and MAC Enhancement Grant with Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC) in the Public Defender's Office and the Criminal Courts (CAPDS) to make adjustments to the grant to allow funds to be expended for an approved external evaluation
- F. Permission to continue the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) through May 31, 2024 for up to \$100,752 in Health and Human Services (Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

- 14. Consider and take appropriate action to approve a resolution of the Commissioners Court of Travis County, Texas
 - A. Determining the costs of certain public improvements to be financed within Improvement Area #1 of the Longview 71 Public Improvement District
 - B. Approving a preliminary service and assessment plan, including a proposed Improvement Area #1 assessment roll
 - C. Directing the filing of such proposed assessment roll with the County Tax Assessor- Collector to make available for public inspection
 - D. Noticing a public hearing for March 19, 2024 to consider a resolution levying assessments on Improvement Area #1 of the Longview 71 Public Improvement District and other matters related thereto

- E. Directing County staff to publish and mail notice of said public hearing
(Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

15. Receive presentation from the Planning and Budget Office and take appropriate action on Travis County's FY 2025 Budget Guidelines (Commissioner Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

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

Travis Gatlin, Budget Director, PBO

Aerin-Renee Pfaffenberger, Assistant Budget Director, PBO

Alex Braden, Assistant Budget Director, PBO

RESULT: DISCUSSED

Purchasing

16. Receive bids from County Purchasing Agent. (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

17. Approve contract award for mail screener device, RFP No. 2305-004-LR, in the amount of \$195,830.00, to the sole respondent, Eclipse Screening Technologies, LLC. (Sheriff's Office) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

18. Approve contract award for drive through points of distribution services, RFS No. 2303-003-BH, as-needed, to Luna Services LLC 360 Valet, 360 Parking. (Office of Emergency Management) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

19. Approve Modification No. 1 to Contract No. 4400007143 with Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP, in the amount of \$100,000.00, for legal services. (County Attorney's Office) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

20. Approve exemption and award of Contract No. 4400007108 with Dr. Tania Glenn and Associates, PA, as-needed, for Psychiatric Services. (Starflight) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

21. Approve Modification No. 1 to Contract No. 4400006561 with The Segal Company (Western States), Inc., in the amount of \$140,000.00, for compensation consultant services. (Human Resources Management Department) (Commissioner Travillion)

Members of the Court heard from:

Todd Osburn, Assistant Director, HRMD

Dr. June Mighty, Director, HRMD

Melissa Shearer, Director, Travis County Mental Health Public Defenders

Paul Hopingardner, Executive Director, Technology and Operations

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 on the use of general funds for the purchase of food and beverages for the Purchasing Office Vendor Conference to be held on March 21, 2024. (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

23. Approve Modification No. 1 to Contract No. 4400007280 with McGriff Insurance Services, LLC, in the amount of \$1,730,137.00, for sole insurance broker of record services for property, boiler and machinery insurance. (Human Resources Management Department) (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Technology & Operations

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

- A. Routine Personnel Actions
(Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

25. Consider and take appropriate action to provide additional implementation guidelines for the classified bilingual pay policy. (Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

Todd Osburn, Assistant Director, HRMD

Dr. June Mighty, Director, HRMD

MOTION: Approve Item 25.

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

26. Receive the Compensation Committee's recommendations for the FY 2025 Budget process. (Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

Todd Osburn, Assistant Director, HRMD

Victoria Ramirez, Chair of Compensation Committee, HRMD

Monica Reyes, Vice Chair of Compensation Committee, HRMD

RESULT: DISCUSSED

27. Consider and take appropriate action regarding a contract between Travis County and The Texas Motor Vehicle Records Department.

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Transportation & Natural Resources

28. Consider and take appropriate action for approval of an Amended Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between Travis County and the University of Texas at Austin for a Sourcewater Study of Hamilton Pool Preserve and Reimers Ranch Park. (Commissioners Shea & Howard)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

29. Consider and take appropriate action on an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Austin to share costs and update the Austin Travis County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. (Commissioner Shea)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

30. Consider and take appropriate action regarding the Year in Review update on the 2017-2022 Bond Program in Travis County. (Judge Brown)

Judge Brown announced that Item 30 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

Members of the Court heard from:

David Greear, Director, Public Works, TNR
John Routh, Assistant Director, Public Works and Capital Improvement
Projects, TNR
Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, TNR
Jessy Milner, President, Frontline Advisory Group (FLAG)
Bill Parks, Project Controller, FLAG
Hyeon Park, Senior Program Analyst, FLAG

RESULT: DISCUSSED

31. Receive briefing from Natural Resources Program on new species listings under the Endangered Species Act. (Commissioner Shea)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

32. Set a public hearing on March 26, 2024, to receive comments regarding the renaming of Kellam Road to Circuit of the Americas Boulevard, in Precinct Four. (Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Other

33. Approve the minutes for the Travis County Voting Sessions of January 9, January 16, January 23, 2024, and the Special Voting Session of January 25th, 2024. (Judge Brown)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

34. Consider and take appropriate action regarding an Order Modifying the Designation of Election Day Polling Places for the March 5, 2024 Joint Primary Election. (Judge Brown)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

35. Consider and take appropriate action on a request to use FY2024 operating funds for training the incoming Tax Assessor-Collector. (Judge Brown)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

36. Consider and approve request to join as a signatory in proposed amicus brief to be filed by Public Rights Project in support of the San Francisco City Attorney's Office in *U.S. News & World Report, L.P. v. Chiu*, No. 3:24-cv-395 in the Northern District of California (San Francisco Division) and delegate signature authority to Travis County Attorney Delia Garza.¹ (Judge Brown)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

37. Consider and take appropriate action to approve bond for Gary Howell for the position of Travis County Fire Marshal. (Judge Brown & Commissioner Travillion)

MOTION: Approve bond for Gary Howell for the position of Travis County Fire Marshal.
RESULT: **PASSED 4-0**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard
AYES: Andy Brown, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez
ABSTAIN: Jeffrey Travillion

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

Note 8: Gov't Code Ann 551.089, security personnel/critical infrastructure

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

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

39. Receive briefing and take appropriate action regarding Travis County security and information security issues.^{1, 4 & 6} (Commissioners Travillion & Howard)

Judge Brown announced that Item 39 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney Gov't. Code Ann. 551.076, Security, and Gov't Code Ann 551.089, IT Security.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

40. Receive briefing and take appropriate action regarding status of hiring Community Legal Service County Executive.^{1&3} (Commissioner Howard and Commissioner Travillion)

Judge Brown announced that Item 40 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney and Gov't. Code Ann. 551.074, Personnel Matters.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

41. Approve sole source exemption and contract award for a Fleet Service Plan from Pratt & Whitney Canada, an estimated requirements contract with a one-time buy-in fee of \$2,646,459.00, from the competitive procurement process, pursuant to County Purchasing Act § 262.024(a)(7)(A), and authorize Purchasing Agent to issue purchase orders.¹ (Emergency Services) (Commissioner Travillion)

Judge Brown announced that Item 41 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

MOTION: Approve sole source exemption and contract award for a Fleet Service Plan from Pratt & Whitney Canada, an estimated requirements contract with a one-time buy-in fee of \$2,646,459.00, from the competitive procurement process, pursuant to County Purchasing Act § 262.024(a)(7)(A) and authorize Purchasing Agent to issue purchase orders as discussed in executive session.

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

42. Approve order exempting the STAR Flight helicopter engine repairs for engines BP0162 and BP0165 from Pratt & Whitney Canada, for estimated requirements, from the competitive procurement process, pursuant to County Purchasing Act § 262.024(a)(7)(A) and authorize Purchasing Agent to issue purchase orders.¹ (Emergency Services) (Commissioner Travillion)

Judge Brown announced that Item 42 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

MOTION: Approve order exempting the STAR Flight helicopter engine repairs for engines BP0162 and BP0165 from Pratt & Whitney Canada, for estimated requirements, from the competitive procurement process, pursuant to County Purchasing Act § 262.024(a)(7)(A) and authorize Purchasing Agent to issue purchase orders as discussed in executive session.

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

43. Discuss and consider candidate(s), including Gary Howell, for the position of Travis County Fire Marshal and take appropriate action regarding the duties, performance, and appointment of that position.¹ & ³ (Judge Brown)

Judge Brown announced that Item 43 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney and Gov't. Code Ann. 551.074, Personnel Matters.

MOTION: Approve Gary Howell to serve as the Travis County Fire Marshal for a period of three months.
RESULT: **Passed (4-0)**
MOVER: Commissioner Precinct 2 Brigid Shea
SECONDER: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard
AYES: Andy Brown, Brigid Shea, Ann Howard, Margaret Gómez
ABSTAIN: Jeffrey Travillion

44. Receive legal briefing and take appropriate action regarding groundwater and land use issues, including permit applications submitted by Clancy Utility Holdings LLC to the Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District, the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.¹ (Commissioners Shea & Howard)

Judge Brown announced that Item 44 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

Adjourn

Minutes Approved by the Commissioners Court

Date of Approval

Andy Brown, County Judge