



Minutes for the Travis County Commissioners Court July 30, 2024 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 July 30, 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 4 Margaret Gómez

Virtual: Commissioner Precinct 3 Ann Howard

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

Public Communication

Members of the Court heard from:

Joel Cole, Member, Vocal Texas
Yasmine Smith, Vice President, Justice and Advocacy, Austin Area Urban League
Peggy Morton, Member, Austin Sanctuary Network
Robert Lilly, Participatory Defense Organizer, Grassroots Leadership
Pat Vas-Trelles, Travis County Resident
Chantel Pridgon, Participatory Defense Organizer, Grassroots Leadership
Howard Hawhee, Volunteer, Austin Sanctuary Network
Sananda Velacheri, Travis County Resident
Lisa McKenzie, Travis County Resident

Alfredo Reyes Jr., Leader, Vocal Texas
Shaman Perskin, Member, Vocal Texas
Corbin Graham, Partner, Graham Development
Brad Bullock, Attorney, Messer, Fort & McDonald Municipal Law Firm
Viridiana Hernandez, Member, Austin Sanctuary Network
Shannon Steele, Benefits Manager, Human Resources

County Announcements

Clerk's Note: There were no County Announcements.

Consent Motion

MOTION: Approve Consent Items 1, 3. A-G, 4, 7, 8, 9. A-B, 12, 13, 14. A, 15. A-C, 16, 18, and 19.
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

Auditor

1. Approve payment of claims by the County Treasurer. (Judge Brown)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Emergency Services

2. 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 emergencies (Judge Brown)**RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY**

Health & Human Services

3. Consider and take appropriate action on a request to approve Environmental Exemptions for the following projects/activities that will receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and/or HOME funding during Program Year 2024 (PY24) from HUD:

- A. PY24 Administration & Planning (CDBG)
- B. PY24 HOME Program
- C. PY24 Cardinal Hills Estates R.O.W. Improvements (CDBG)
- D. PY24 Northridge Acres Wastewater System Improvements (CDBG)
- E. PY24 Home Rehabilitation Program (CDBG alternate project)
- F. PY24 General Infrastructure (CDBG alternate project)
- G. PY24 Disaster Response Interim Assistance (CDBG alternate project)
(Judge Brown & Commissioner Gómez)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Intergovernmental Relations

- 4. Consider and take appropriate action on community support for a grant application from Coherent Logix, Incorporated to the Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund.
(Commissioner Howard)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

- 5. Consider and take appropriate action to extend the deadline for the Call for Applications to the Strategic Housing Finance Corporation through August 9, 2024.
(Judge Brown)

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

- 6. Consider and take appropriate action to extend the deadline for the Call for Applications to the City of Austin Animal Advisory Commission through August 9, 2024.
(Judge Brown)

Members of the Court heard from:

Julie Wheeler, Intergovernmental Relations Officer, Intergovernmental Relations Office

MOTION: Extend the deadline for the Call for Applications to the City of Austin Animal Advisory Commission through August 9, 2024.

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

Planning & Budget

7. Authorize the County Treasurer to invest County funds. (Judge Brown)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
8. Consider and take appropriate action on budget amendments, transfers, and discussion items. (Commissioner Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
9. Consider and take appropriate action on the following grant programs, applications, contracts and related special budgets, and permissions to continue:
 - A. Permission to continue the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) through November 30, 2024, for up to \$103,383 in Health and Human Services
 - B. Annual contract with the Texas Veteran's Commission for a \$50,000 grant to support the Travis County Veteran's Court program in the Criminal Courts. (Commissioner Gómez)**RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT**

10. Consider and take appropriate action to:

Clerk's Note: Judge Brown announced that item 10. A-C would be pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion.

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Assistant Budget Director, Planning and Budget Office

- A. Approve a proposed tax rate to include a possible \$.025 per \$100 valuation tax rate increase above the voter approval tax rate
- B. Approve procedures for setting tax rate and appropriate disclosures, including the upload of the proposed tax rate as required by law
- C. Approve the final setting of the date for the tax rate hearing (Judge Brown)

MOTION: Approve item 10. A-C.

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

11. Consider and take appropriate action on Fiscal Year 2025 budget hearings. (Commissioner Gómez)

Members of the Court heard from:

Travis Gatlin, Assistant Budget Director, Planning and Budget Office

MOTION: Approve Item 11.
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

Purchasing

12. Receive bids from County Purchasing Agent. (Commissioner Travillion)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
13. Reject all responses received for RFP No. 2207-006-JJ, Constable, and Park Police Report Writing Software. (Constables) (Commissioner Travillion)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Technology & Operations

14. Consider and take appropriate action on the following Personnel Amendments:
 - A. Routine Personnel Actions (Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT
15. Consider and take appropriate action to approve the following items for the Travis County Deferred Compensation Oversight Committee.
 - A. Replace the Tax Office committee member with Reynaldo Garcia
 - B. Allocation of a portion of the excess revenue generated by the Travis County Deferred Compensation (457 plan) to support the activities of the Deferred Compensation Oversight Committee
 - C. Empower Complimentary Financial Services Program (Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

16. Receive an update on the Travis County Employee Health Care Fund for the period October 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. (Commissioners Travillion & Gómez)
RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

Transportation & Natural Resources

17. Consider and take appropriate action on the creation of an abatement program to assist with clean-up and removal of certain public nuisances that pose a hazard to safety, health, or public welfare, as defined by Sec. 343.011 of the Health and Safety Code. (Commissioner Howard)

Members of the Court heard from:

Cynthia McDonald, County Executive, Transportation and Natural Resources

MOTION: Direct Cynthia McDonald, County Executive of the County's Transportation and Natural Resources Department, to bring back the details for a pilot abatement program to assist with clean up and removal of certain public nuisances, and earmark the funds needed to create the pilot.

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

18. Consider and take appropriate action on the acceptance of the dedication of the public street and drainage facilities within Sorento, Phase 6 in Precinct One. (Commissioner Travillion)

RESULT: ADDED TO CONSENT

19. Consider and take appropriate action on a Deed Without Warranty to the City of Austin from Travis County for 75.947 acres of land, previously annexed by the City of Austin and considered to be Parmer Lane Right-of-Way, in Precinct One. (Commissioner Travillion)

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

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

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

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

21. Consider and take appropriate action regarding the potential sale of excess, unused right-of-way owned by Travis County and comprised of approximately .65 acres of undeveloped land designated as Parcel #1X, located at or near the intersection of Burklund Farms Road and F.M. 812 in Precinct Four.^{1&2} (Commissioner Gómez)

Judge Brown announced that Item 21 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: Approve the sale of excess, unused right-of-way owned by Travis County and comprised of approximately .65 acres of undeveloped land designated as Parcel #1X, located at or near the intersection of Burklund Farms Road and F.M. 812 in Precinct Four as discussed in executive session.

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

22. Receive legal briefing and take appropriate action regarding the County's regulatory authority over land use, flood risk, and development projects.^{1&2} (Judge Brown)

Judge Brown announced that Item 22 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.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

23. Receive briefing from outside counsel 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 & Commissioner Howard)

RESULT: NO ACTION NECESSARY

24. Receive legal briefing and take appropriate action regarding the MoPac South project.¹ (Commissioner Shea)

Judge Brown announced that Item 24 would be considered in Executive Session pursuant to Gov't. Code Ann. 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

25. Receiving briefing and take appropriate action regarding recruitment, interview, and hiring process for County Executive, Innovative Justice & Program Analysis.^{1&3} (Judge Brown)

Judge Brown announced that Item 25 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

Adjourn

**Minutes Approved by the Commissioners
Court**

Date of Approval

Andy Brown, County Judge