

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ORANGE

BE IT REMEMBERED that a Special Court Session was held on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Orange County Administration Building with the following in attendance:

John H. Gothia,	County Judge
Johnny A. Trahan,	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Chris Sowell,	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Kirk F. Roccaforte,	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Robert Viator Jr.,	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M., Chaplain Mike Eaves, gave the invocation, John Gothia led in the Pledge of Allegiance and the following business was transacted, to-wit:

1. COMMENTS

Cheryl Warren – Wanted to invite everybody to the Raymond Gould Center at 6:00 tonight.
Chris Sowell – We had a workshop earlier with the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension office and we do a disservice to that project in getting out how much good they do with the community. If you're looking for something to do they have a lot of great projects from the Master Gardeners to the Cooking classes for the kids they do over there. Most of the stuff is free.
Kirk Roccaforte – Happy Birthday Commissioner Viator.

2. PAYMENT
OF BILLS

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve payment of January 6, 2026 bills approved by the County Auditor as per attested listings and also specifically as follows:

- a) \$21,652.83 from the General Fund (001-111-54235) to U.T.M.B. for contract payment due January 2026.
- b) \$8,000.00 from the General Fund (001-681-53022) to Arceneaux, Wilson & Cole, L.L.C. for services 10/01/2025-10/31/2025 – Claiborne Park Bridge repairs.
- c) \$1,150.00 from the General Fund (001-111-54290) to Sparrow Funeral Home for indigent funeral expenses.

GENERAL FUND	\$108,341.88
ROAD & BRIDGE	720.72
MOSQUITO CONTROL	-
ADULT PROBATION	693.50
AIRPORT	466.58
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	-

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$110,222.68

All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

3. PAYMENT
OF BILLS

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Robert Viator to approve payment of January 13, 2026 bills approved by the County Auditor as per attested listing and also specifically as follows:

- a. \$98,604.92 from the General Fund (001-101-51270) to Amwins Group Benefits, Inc. for insurance for retirees age 65 and over.
- b. \$161,017.00 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53003) to McInnis Construction, Inc. for Pay App #11: Precinct 1 & 3 PODS – final invoice.
- c. \$1,150.00 from the General Fund (001-111-54290) to Claybar Funeral Home, for indigent funeral expenses.

GENERAL FUND	\$308,770.28
ROAD & BRIDGE	2,901.09
MOSQUITO CONTROL	374.80
ADULT PROBATION	1,165.19
AIRPORT	145.25
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	-
ARPA	161,017.00

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$474,373.61

All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

- 4. ADOPTING SPECIAL BUDGET Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Johnny Trahan to adopt a special budget as certified by the County Auditor, pursuant to LGC §111.0106, to recognize and establish operating budgets for funds received from the Sabine River Authority

Revenues:	037-000-46115	Sabine River Authority Grant	\$30,000.00
Expenses:	037-834-57590	Equipment > \$5,000.00	\$13,260.98
	037-834-57500	Equipment > \$2,000.00	\$ 2,697.94
	037-834-57550	Repairs/Rentals/Constr./Etc.	\$14,041.08

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

- 5. LINE ITEM TRANSFER No action taken on discussion and possible action regarding a line item transfer.

ROAD & BRIDGE

From: 001-111-53830 (Contingency).....(\$7,847.00)
 To: 002-573-57590 (Equip > \$5,000).....\$7,847.00

Purpose: To provide funds to cover the cost of a six-way dozer blade for skid steer.

- 6. ACCEPT PAYMENT Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve a \$12,000.00 Payment to Orange County Drainage District for expenses in the Kinard Estate Drainage Project not covered by grant.

All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.

- 7. APPROVE MOU Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve an MOU between the Orange County Sheriff's Office and Orange County regarding the use of facilities at the Expo Center for the Orange County Sheriff's Training Academy and authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same.

All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.

- 8. TAX CERTIFICATION Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell accepting the certification of the December 2025 Collection Report for the Tax Office as required under PTC 31.10.

All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.

- 9. TAX OFFICE CREDIT CARD Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to authorize Octavia Guzman, Orange County Tax Assessor Collector, to transition to a new credit card processing provider for both online and in-office transactions and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to execute and sign the contract upon final review and approval. The current credit card processor is no longer fully operational and can no longer support all tax office payment services.

All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.

- 10. SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to authorize Judge Courtney Arkeen to sign as the Administrative Judge for Orange County, Texas regarding Order #Q-11109826 with Thomson Reuters (Westlaw) for the renewal of the West Proflex online subscription in accordance with TX MSA DIR-CPO-5258 (TXM1)

All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.

- 11. VOTING LOCATIONS Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Robert Viator to approve early voting locations, dates, and times for the March 3, 2026, Joint Primary Election as follows:

Orange Public Library (Main Early Voting Location) 220 N 5 th Street Orange, TX 77630	Raymond Gould Community Center 385 Claiborne Street Vidor, TX 77662
Orange County Precinct 2 POD 5320 Arnel Lane Orange, TX 77632	Orange County Precinct 3 POD 2010 S Hwy 87 Orange, TX 77630

February 17 - February 20	Tuesday – Friday	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
February 21	Saturday	7:00 am – 7:00 pm
February 22	Sunday	1:00 pm – 7:00 pm
February 23- February 27	Monday – Friday	7:00 am – 7:00 pm

All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.

12. ACCEPT NOTICE
Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded Johnny Trahan to accept the Notice of Election for Tuesday, March 3, 2026, Joint Primary Election. The Notice will be posted on the county's website.
All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.
13. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve an Interlocal Agreement between Orangefield ISD and Orange County as presented by Texas A&M Agrilife Extension and authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same.
All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.
14. VETERANS QUARTERLY REPORT
No action on discussion and possible action regarding recognizing and accepting the Veterans Office quarterly report as presented by the Orange County Veterans Services Officer.
15. MAINTENANCE DEPT. PROJECTS
Kurt Guidry, Maintenance Director, stated they are working on the POD buildings. POD 1 & 3 doors completed. POD 2 & 4 should be completed today. Once the doors are completed, they plan to go back to POD 1 to finish up the kitchen and wall.
16. ROAD & BRIDGE PROJECTS
Tracy Leach, County Road Administrator, updated the court with December work orders. Precinct 1 work orders: 2 open, 3 completed, 5 total. Precinct 2 work orders: 2 open, 23 completed, 25 total. Precinct 3 work orders: 23 open, 3 completed, 26 total. Precinct 4 work orders: 3 open, 76 completed, 79 total. Culvert fees collected, \$2,925.00. Bridge openings 21. Collections receipts were \$11,615.00. Recycling receipts \$3,459.30. Also, working on FEMA repairs.
17. NO ACTION
No action taken on acceptance of check number 3650, in the amount of \$135,000.00, from the Orange County Economic Development Corporation (OCEDC). The check represents funds from a grant awarded on behalf of DOW to Orange County Health Services for future Public Health Facility.
18. APPROVE RENEWAL
Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve the renewal of IFB-23008, Prescription Pharmacy Services and authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same. This is the second (2) renewal available under the contract.
All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.

19. APPROVE RENEWAL Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve the renewal of IFB-23007-2, Oil and Grease and authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same. This is the second (2) renewal available under the contract. There is no price increase.
- All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.
20. ADVERTISE FOR BIDS No action taken on authorization of the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids on the Drug and Alcohol Testing for Orange County.
21. AWARD BID Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Johnny Trahan to award IFB-25007, Crushed Concrete and authorize Orange County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same.
- All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.
22. REVISED POLICIES Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve Orange County Purchasing Department's revised Policies and Procedures Manual pursuant to Chapter 262, Texas Government Code, The County Purchasing Act, and CFR Sections 200.318-327.
- All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.
23. RACIAL PROFILING REPORT Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to accept the Orange County District Attorney's Office Racial Profiling Report and acknowledge the electronic filing of same with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE).
- All Voted Aye. Motion Carried.
24. CLOSED MEETING Closed meeting held pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code §551.074, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or a charge against one or more officers or employees.
- The Court went into closed meeting. This meeting was recorded.
25. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING Return to open meeting. Take any action deemed necessary based upon discussion in closed meeting.
- NO ACTION No action take on closed meeting pursuant to Tex. Gove. Code §551.074, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or a charge against one or more officers or employees.

26. CLOSED MEETING Closed meeting held pursuant to Tex. Gove. Code §551.071, to discuss with Assistant County Attorney one or more discrete and unrelated matters regarding pending or threatened litigation, as well as to seek or receive information and advice from Assistant County Attorney on legal matters that are not related to litigation or settlement of litigation but are matters in which the duty of the attorney to the Court otherwise conflicts with Chapter 551.

The Court went into closed meeting. This meeting was not recorded.

27. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING Return to open meeting. Take any action deemed necessary based upon discussion in closed meeting.

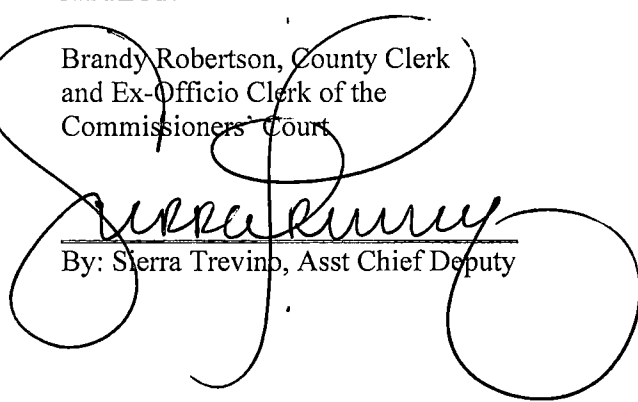
NO ACTION No action was taken on closed meeting pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code §551.071, to discuss with Assistant County Attorney one or more discrete and unrelated matters regarding pending or Threatened litigation, as well as to seek or receive information and advice from the Assistant County Attorney on legal matters that are not related to litigation or settlement of litigation but are matters in which the duty of the attorney to the Court otherwise conflicts with Chapter 551.

28. ADJOURN MEETING There being no further business, a motion was made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to adjourn Commissioners' Court meeting.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
John Gothia adjourned the Commissioners' Court meeting.

ATTEST:

Brandy Robertson, County Clerk
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the
Commissioners' Court


By: Sierra Trevino, Asst Chief Deputy

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