

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ORANGE

BE IT REMEMBERED that a Regular Court Session was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, 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 Octavia Guzman, Tax Assessor Collector, informed the Court the tax office will be closed on August 27th, 8:00am to noon, for TxDMV training and safety training. The closure is posted on the website, Facebook page and on the doors.
2. PRESEN- The Court acknowledged the presentation of Q2 2025 tax abatement report from Golden
TATION Triangle Polymers.
3. RESOLUTION Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte authorizing the Orange County Commissioners' Court to issue a resolution honoring the life and achievements of Kate Pate Walker of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion of the Women's Army Corps. The 6888th was organized on March 4, 1945, at Birmingham, England and pitched mail at a facility there until after the end of the war in Europe. When they arrived in Birmingham, they found warehouses with mountains of mail and care packages. They were given six months to deliver all this mail; they did it in three. In May of 1945, with the war in Europe over, the 6888th was transferred to France where they were greeted with a backlog of mail two to three years old. Again, the battalion was ordered to deliver the mail in six months, and again, they did it in three.

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

4. TREASURER'S MONTHLY REPORT
- Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell approving the monthly reports from the County Treasurer for month ending July 31, 2025 and recording in the minutes of the Court:
- a. Approval of Investments in the amount of \$188,648.99
 - b. Approval of Interest Earned to date in the amount of \$2,094,280.22
 - c. Treasurer's Report of revenues received and disbursed in accordance with the Local Government Code 114.026(d) and affidavit of approval by the Court. This report will be available on the county's website for viewing.
 - d. Pledged Security Collateral for a total of \$22,612,839.76 summary as follows:
 - Wells Fargo Bank \$13,919,432.96
 - 1st Financial Bank \$ 8,693,406.80

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

5. DIRECT DEPOSIT
- Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to file in the minutes of the Court a direct deposit from the State Comptroller of Public Accounts in the amount of \$807,934.00. These funds represent the ½ -cent Sales and Use Allocation for the month of June 2025 and have been credited to the General Operating Fund.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

6. PAYMENT OF BILLS
- Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to record in the minutes regarding payment of bills approved by the County Auditor for August 12, 2025.

GENERAL FUND	\$61,764.94
ROAD & BRIDGE	-
MOSQUITO CONTROL	-
ADULT PROBATION	296.80
AIRPORT	328.80
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	-
ARPA	-

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$62,390.54

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

- 7a. CLOSED MEETING Closed meeting held pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code §552.071 to receive advice from legal counsel which would otherwise conflict with §552.

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

- 7b. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING Return to open meeting. Take any action deemed necessary based upon discussion in a closed meeting.

BILLS

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Robert Viator approving payment of August 19, 2025 bills approved by County Auditor as per attested listings and also specifically as follows with the exception of Line d:

- a. \$3,450.00 from the General Fund (001-111-54290) to Claybar Funeral Home for indigent funeral expenses.
- b. \$272,975.71 from the TDRA/GLO/Recovery Grants Fund (073-936-53001) to T Construction for services from 5/24/2025 – 6/21/2025 for CDBG-DR-20-065-C911 Drainage Improvements.
- c. \$1,621.25 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53000) to Atlas Technical Consultants, L.L.C. for professional services from 6/28/2025 – 7/25/2025 for Project 250093.00: New Health Services Building.
- d. \$884,661.17 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53002) to G&G Enterprises for Health Services Building Construction Invoice – Application #4.
- e. \$114,716.35 from the General Fund (001-101-51270) to Texas Association of Counties HEBP for group medical, dental, life – under age 65 for August 2025.
- f. \$91,955.56 from the General Fund (001-101-51270) to Amwins Group Benefits, Inc. for insurance for retirees age 65 and over for September 2025.
- g. \$44,550.00 from the General Fund (001-681-53024) to Rock Builders LLC for phase 2 of 2, fencing, painting and finishing.

GENERAL FUND	\$1,072,940.68
ROAD & BRIDGE	11,356.50
MOSQUITO CONTROL	5,912.72
ADULT PROBATION	861.36
AIRPORT	4,110.69
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	-
ARPA	1,697.10

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$1,096,879.05

IN ADDITION TO:
WIRE TRANSFER-AMEGY BANK \$31,081.25

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

8. LINE ITEM TRANSFER

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PRECINCT 2

From: 001-111-57040 (Regional Crime Lab).....(\$15,000.00)
To: 001-226-54851 (General Misc. Collections).....\$15,000.00

Purpose: To cover increase of Graves, Humphries, Stahl (GHS) fees for the remainder of the budget year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

9. LINE ITEM TRANSFER

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 3

From: 001-777-52100 (Office Supplies).....(\$300.00)
To: 001-777-59999 (Other).....\$300.00

Purpose: Required TCOLE online training for Deputy Constables.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

10. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

ROAD & BRIDGE

From: 001-681-53022 (Pct. 2 Parks Project).....(\$184,050.00)
001-681-53023 (Pct. 3 Parks Project).....(\$184,050.00)
To: 002-573-57590 (Equip > \$5,000).....\$368,100.00

Purpose: To cover the cost of 2 Kubota M6S-111SHDC Boom Mowers, contingent upon approval and release of funds previously assigned to the Pcts. 2 & 3 Parks Projects. This is a capital outlay purchase.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

11. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

ROAD & BRIDGE

From: 002-573-54120 (Engineering & Lab Fees).....(\$27,000.00)
To: 002-573-57590 (Equip > \$5,000).....\$27,000.00

Purpose: To cover the cost of an oil sprayer. This is a capital outlay purchase.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

12. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Johnny Trahan to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

ROAD & BRIDGE

From: 002-573-53022 (Water Tank & Well Construction).....(\$3,000.00)
To: 002-573-54551 (Travel/Education).....\$3,000.00

Purpose: To cover the cost of CDL certifications for the remainder of the budget year, contingent upon approval and release of funds previously assigned to the Water Tank and Well Construction Project (Pct. 1).

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

13. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

ROAD & BRIDGE

From: 001-111-53830 (Contingency).....(\$82,342.53)
To: 002-573-57590 (Equip > \$5,000).....\$82,342.53

Purpose: To cover the cost of a Kubota SVL7-3HFCC Skid Steer. This is a capital outlay purchase.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

14. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

AGRILIFE EXTENSION

From: 001-655-54550 (Travel/Reg./Dues/Etc.).....(\$3,000.00)
To: 001-655-52275 (Program Supplies).....\$3,000.00

Purpose: To provide funds for the remainder of the budget year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

15. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

From: 001-740-52300 (Fuel, Oil, Gas & Grease).....(\$2,000.00)
To: 001-740-54550 (Travel, Reg. Dues/Etc.).....\$2,000.00

Purpose: To pay for the remaining charges for the cold case travel and to cover future charges until the end of budget.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

16. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

COUNTY AUDITOR

From: 001-111-54122 (Lawsuits, Claims & Settlements).....(\$51,430.00)
 001-101-52344 (Flood Insurance).....(\$ 1,000.00)
To: 001-787-51110 (Regular Salaries).....\$ 9,425.00
 001-787-51210 (Social Security).....\$ 715.00
 001-787-51230 (Retirement).....\$ 1,280.00
 063-805-51250 (Unemployment).....\$ 10.00
 074-791-52700 (Utilities).....\$40,000.00
 001-101-52346 (Officials' Liability Insurance).....\$ 1,000.00

Purpose: To correct budgeting error and provide funds for the remainder of the year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

17. ADOPT SPECIAL BUDGET Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell approving the adoption of a Special Budget(s) with the provisions of Local Government Code §111.0106:

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION

Revenue: 001-000-43770 Transportation Grant Revenue.....(\$109,552.00)
All Expenses:.....\$109,552.00

Purpose: To recognize the supplemental grant funds awarded to support reassignment of territory from Orange Community Action Association to Orange County Transportation.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

18. AUDITOR'S MONTHLY REPORTS Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator to accept the County Auditor's Monthly Financial Reports.

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

19. APPROVE CONTRACT Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving the City of Jasper Pilot Project contract between Orange County and Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same. This contract was originally approved on June 10, 2025. The program dates have been updated to reflect the period beginning July 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026.

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

20. ACCEPT CERTIFICATION Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte accepting the certification of the July 2025 Collection Report for the Tax Office as required under PTC 31.10.

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

21. CONTINUING EDUCATION Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan to accept into the record the Tax Assessor-Collector Continuing Education Transcript evidencing that Octavia Guzman has satisfied the continuing education requirements mandated by Texas Property Tax Code §6.231.

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

22. ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving the annual contributions for local community programs as follows:

A. OCAA: Meals on Wheels	\$ 45,000.00
B. Spindletop MHMR Services	\$ 40,000.00
C. Casa	\$ 2,500.00
D. Heritage House	\$ 10,000.00
E. Southeast Texas R & D	\$ 500.00
F. Lower Sabine Neches Soil and Water Cons	\$ 1,000.00
G. VFW	\$ 10,000.00
H. Gift of Life Program	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>
	\$119,000.00

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

28. APPROVE DATES FOR AUCTION

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Robert Viator approving the dates for the online auction.

Auctioneer: Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc.
 Start date for VIEW ONLY: Thursday, September 10, 2025
 Date open for Online Bidding: Monday, September 15, 2025
 Close Date: Friday, September 26, 2025 @ 10:00a.m. CST

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

29. APPROVE CONTRACT

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to accept and to authorize the Orange County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign contract with Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. to conduct Orange County On-line Surplus Auction on an as needed basis utilizing Buy Board Contract 780-23.

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

30. TRANSFER ASSETS

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving the transfer of the following items:

ASSET	DESCRIPTION	VIN OR SERIAL #	FROM	TO
17202	Rosco Self Propelled Roller	35685	RB	Surplus
17197	1990 Dump Truck Ford	LVA09451	RB	Surplus
17198	1995 Dump Truck International	TSCAAN5SH641443	RB	Surplus
17233	2000 Ford F250 Truck	1FTNF20F8YEC85243	RB	Surplus
17375	2007 F-250 Truck	1FTSF20P97EA93923	RB	Surplus
17213	Accuturn Heavy Duty Tire Changer	11980035	RB	Surplus
17243	Duratank, 5,000 Gallon	50205	RB	Surplus
19368	2018 Chevy Tahoe (160,000 Miles)	1GNLCDEC4JR162586	SO	Surplus
19684	2010 ELKH Bus	1FDPE4SZADA28308	SO	Surplus

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

31. ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving the Purchasing Agent to advertise for proposals for grant administration services for the County's FY2025 Post-Fire Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grants under RFP-25012 and to appoint a selection committee. The selection committee will be Johnny Trahan, Robert Viator, Morgan Turner, Leon George and Joel Ardoin.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

32. ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving the Purchasing Agent to advertise for proposals for engineering services for the County's FY2025 Post-Fire Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grants under RFQ-MC-2025 and to appoint a selection committee. The selection committee will be Johnny Trahan, Robert Viator, Morgan Turner, Leon George and Joel Ardoin.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
33. AWARD CONTRACT Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to award the contracts under RFP-25003, Principal Managing Bank, Participating Depository and Sub-Depository Banks and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same. The evaluation committee recommends Wells Fargo Bank as the Primary Depository and First Financial Bank as the Sub-Depository Bank.
- Voted AYE: Johnny Trahan, Chris Sowell, Kirk Roccaforte, Robert Viator
Abstained from Voting: John Gothia
Motion Carried.
34. CLOSED MEETING Closed meeting held pursuant to §551.087 of the Texas Local Government Code, to discuss commercial or financial information that the Orange County Economic Development Corporation has received from a business prospect that the Commissioners' Court seeks to locate, stay or expand in or near the territory of Orange County and with which the Commissioners' Court is conducting economic development negotiations, or to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive regarding any current confidential Orange County Economic Development Corporation Projects.
- The Court went into closed meeting. This meeting was recorded.
35. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING Return to open meeting. Take any action deemed necessary based upon discussion in a closed meeting.
- NO ACTION No action taken on closed meeting held pursuant to §551.087 of the Texas Local Government Code, to discuss commercial or financial information that the Orange County Economic Development Corporation has received from a business prospect that the Commissioners' Court seeks to locate, stay or expand in or near the territory of Orange County and with which the Commissioners' Court is conducting economic development negotiations, or to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive regarding any current confidential Orange County Economic Development Corporation Projects.

36. CLOSED MEETING Closed meeting held pursuant to the Tex. Gov. Code §551.071, to discuss with Assistant County Attorney matters regarding pending or threatened litigation. Multiple discrete matters may be discussed.

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

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

NO ACTION No action taken on closed meeting held pursuant to the Tex. Gov. Code §551.071, to discuss with Assistant County Attorney matters regarding pending or threatened litigation. Multiple discrete matters may be discussed.

38. CLOSED MEETING Closed meeting held pursuant to the 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.

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

RECLASSIFY POSITION Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Robert Viator to move the Assistant County Attorney - Chief Civil Attorney position from P3 to P4 classification, effective October 13, 2025.

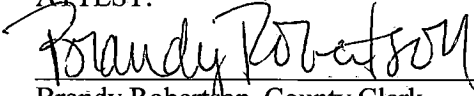
All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

40. 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

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