

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ORANGE

BE IT REMEMBERED that a Regular Court Session was held on Tuesday, September 23, 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 Ida Schossow, President of Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce, updated the Court on the Economic Impact from the Bassmasters Elite tournament. Again, Orange County broke the attendance record of 43,297 people attending the tournament. There were 555 hotel room nights and these number are from the surveys they received back from the hotels. Some of the hotels didn't complete the surveys but had rooms booked. The Hotel Occupancy Tax collected for the City of Orange at 7% sales tax is \$61,649 and for the County at 2% sales tax is \$17,614. The total economic impact was \$4,288,456.00.
- Cheryl Warren, Orange County, asked about the posting of the Elected Officials salary.

2. ADOPT BUDGET Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Robert Viator to adopt the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year Budget in accordance with Local Government Code §111.008.

John Gothia: AYE
Johnny Trahan: AYE
Chris Sowell: AYE
Kirk Roccaforte: AYE
Robert Viator: AYE
Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

3. **ADOPT
TAX RATE** Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to order the adoption of the property tax as assessed by the Orange County Appraisal District and the adoption of the tax rate of .492847 for Taxable Year 2025 per Local Government Code §111.008.
- John Gothia: AYE
Johnny Trahan: AYE
Chris Sowell: AYE
Kirk Roccaforte: AYE
Robert Viator: AYE
Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
4. **PROCLA-
MATION** Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell authorizing the Orange County Commissioners' Court to recognize and accept the National 4-H Week 2025 Proclamation.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
5. **TREASURER'S
MONTHLY
REPORTS** Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell approving the monthly reports from the County Treasurer for month ending August 31, 2025 and recording in the minutes of the Court:
- a. Approval of Investments in the amount of \$181,991.93
 - b. Approval of Interest Earned to date in the amount of \$2,281,956.86
 - 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 \$20,760,451.68 summary as follows:
 - Wells Fargo Bank \$14,048,499.89
 - 1st Financial Bank \$ 6,711,951.79
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
6. **DIRECT
DEPOSIT** Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Johnny Trahan to file in the minutes of the Court a direct deposit from the State Comptroller of Public Accounts in the amount of \$829,178.75. These funds represent the ½ -cent Sales and Use Allocation for the month of July 2025 and have been credited to the General Operating Fund.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

7. REVENUE RECEIVED Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to file in the minutes of the Court revenue received from City of Rose City, check #21516, in the amount of \$1,791.36. These funds are reimbursement for road materials.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

8. PAYMENT OF BILLS Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve payment of bills approved by County Auditor for September 16, 2025.

GENERAL FUND	\$121,977.28
ROAD & BRIDGE	-
MOSQUITO CONTROL	-
ADULT PROBATION	16,121.45
AIRPORT	2,119.30
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	-

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$140,218.03

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

9. BILLS Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve payment of September 25, 2025 bills approved by the County Auditor as per attested listings and also specifically as follows:

- a. \$113,800.54 from the General Fund (001-101-51270 to Texas Association of Counties HEBP for Group Medical, Dental, Life – under age 65 for September 2025.
- b. \$66,000.00 from the General Fund (001-301-54130) to SpindleMedia for maintenance for Tax Collection Software 10/1/2025 – 9/30/2025.
- c. \$52,331.75 from the General Fund (001-101-52345 to Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool for Workers Comp Quarterly Payment #4.
- d. \$2,300.00 from the General Fund (001-111-54290) to Claybar Funeral Home for indigent funeral expenses.
- e. \$250.00 from the General Fund (001-111-53192 to Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool for a Claim Deductible Invoice for Claim AL20241836-1 Public Works 10/3/2024 (Contessa Davis).
- f. \$20,000.00 from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund (070-813-52240) to Orange County Economic Development Corporation for billboards.
- g. \$81,242.04 from the TDRA/GLO/Recovery Grants Fund (073-936-53001) to Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. for CDBG DR #20-065-150-C911 from 9/2/2024 – 8/3/2025.

- h. \$223,672.45 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53003) to McInnis Construction, Inc. for Pay App #7 & #8 (PODS).
- i. \$7,087.50 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53000) to Architects, Inc. for A&E Fee for Public Health Building construction admin. phase.

GENERAL FUND	\$914,579.68
ROAD & BRIDGE	404,236.65
MOSQUITO CONTROL	6,265.91
ADULT PROBATION	15,269.64
AIRPORT	15,628.87
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	20,232.87
ARPA	230,759.95
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TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$1,606,973.57

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

10. LINE ITEM
TRANSFER

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

COUNTY JUDGE

From: 001-107-59999 (Other).....(\$140.00)
To: 001-107-54550 (Travel/Reg/Dues/Etc.).....\$140.00)

Purpose: To replenish line for remainder of year.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

11. ADOPT
SPECIAL
BUDGET

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to adopt a Special Budget within the provisions of Local Government Code §111.0106:

Revenues: 037-000-46110 (VINE Program Grant).....(\$460.44)
Expenses: 037-821-54130 (Contracted Services & Maintenance).....\$460.44

Purpose: To properly reflect award provided through the SAVNS/VINE grant program.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

12. OCAD
BOARD

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte authorizing the Resolution for Orange County Appraisal District Board of Directors Election and Nominations, nominating Karen Fisher and Phillip Welch. Allowed 1486 votes between two seats. Each elected will serve a 4-year term from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2029.

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

13. AMENDED
NOTICE OF
ELECTION

Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Chris Sowell authorizing the approval and signature of the amended Notice of Election for the Constitutional Amendment Election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

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

14. CIVIL
PROCESS
FEES

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to accept and approve the Civil Process fees for Orange County. These fees must be set by October 1st of each year and will become effective January 1, 2026. This is in accordance with Local Government Code Section 118.131. A notice setting out the fees shall be posted in the same manner in which notices are posted under Section 81.007 and shall be posted in the office of the County Officials who are authorized to charge the fee.

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

15. AIRPORT
PROJECT

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving a Resolution authorizing the request of financial assistance from the Texas Department of Transportation for a two-phase drainage improvement project at the Orange County Airport, designating the Texas Department of Transportation as the County's agent for the purpose of applying for, receiving and disbursing all project funds, and acknowledging the County's commitment to provide a 5% local match for Phase 1 (2026) and a 10% local match for Phase 2 (2027).

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

16. APPROVE
PLAT

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Robert Viator approving a Minor Plat of a survey of a 9.72 -acre tract of land out of the R.H. Day survey, Abstract Number 464, Orange County, Texas and being a portion of that certain 16.335 -acre tract of land conveyed to John W. Kellogg and Annette Kellogg by deed recorded in Volume 403, Page 505 of the Deed Records of Orange County, Texas into Tract Numbers 1 & 2, McWhirter Addition. This Minor Plat is located within unincorporated Orange County within Precinct 2. This plat has been reviewed and approved by Orange County Engineering and the Orange County Drainage District. The proper review, filing and reproduction fees have been paid and proof of tax payment has been provided.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Maps. Volume 16, Page 42)

17. APPROVE
PLAT

Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell approving a Minor Plat of a survey of a 19.69 -acre tract of land out of the John M. Henrie survey, Abstract Number 14, Orange County, Texas and being a portion of that certain 30.00 -acre tract of land recorded in Volume 52, Page 543 of the Deed Records of said Orange County, Texas into Tract Numbers I & II, Luker Estates. This Minor Plat is located in Precinct 3. This plat has been reviewed and approved by Orange County Road and Bridge and the Orange County Drainage District. The proper review, filing and reproduction fees have been paid and proof of tax payment has been provided.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Maps. Volume 16, Page 43)

18. EXTENSION
AGENT
POSITION

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan approving the selection of Magen Lee to fill the vacant Orange County Extension Agent Position for Agriculture & Natural Resources with a start date of October 1, 2025.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

19. CLOSED
MEETING

Closed meeting pursuant to Section §551.087 of the Texas Local Government Code Deliberation regarding 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 to such a business prospect, under section 551.087 of the Act, regarding any current confidential Orange County Economic Development Corporation Projects.

The Court went into closed meeting. This meeting was recorded.

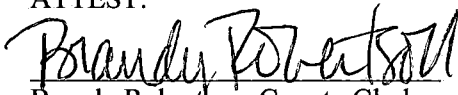
20. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING Return to open meeting. Take any action deemed necessary based upon discussion in closed meeting.

NO ACTION No action taken on closed meeting pursuant to Section §551.087 of the Texas Local Government Code Deliberation regarding 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 to such a business prospect, under section 551.087 of the Act, regarding any current confidential Orange County Economic Development Corporation Projects.

21. ADJOURN COURT There being no further business, a motion was made by Robert Viator, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to adjourn the 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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