

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ORANGE

BE IT REMEMBERED that a Special Court Session was held on Tuesday, October 21, 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
Cheryl Warren, Orange County, asked if other departments submit their agenda items because she thinks there is an error on agenda item #4.
Preston Young, Junior Vice Commander at VFW Post 2775, said thank you for approving funds for the VFW.
Chris Sowell stated weekend before last the Orange County Livestock Association held their livestock show and raised \$91,000. He commends them for that.
Kirk Roccaforte said he wanted to talk about the pie in the face.
John Gothia spoke about the pie to the face on a fundraising program to feed kids.
2. TREASURER'S MONTHLY REPORTS
Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell approving the monthly reports from the County Treasurer for month ending September 30, 2025 and recording in the minutes of the Court:
 - a. Approval of Investments in the amount of \$357,725.73
 - b. Approval of Interest Earned to date in the amount of \$2,275,989.97
 - 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 \$26,399,223.68 summary as follows:

- Wells Fargo Bank \$19,758,819.73
- 1st Financial Bank \$ 6,640,403.95

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

3. **TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT** Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve for filing in the minutes of the Court of the County Treasurer's Quarterly Investment report as required by Public Funds Investment Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 2256. This report is for Quarter ending September 30, 2025 and will be available for viewing on the County's website.

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

4. **DIRECT DEPOSIT** Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Robert Viator to file in the minutes of the Court a direct deposit from the State Comptroller of Public Accounts in the amount of \$664,306.94. These funds represent the ½ -cent Sales and Use Allocation for the month of August 2025 and have been credited to the General Operating Fund.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

5. **PAYMENT OF BILLS** Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Johnny Trahan to approve payment of bills approved by County Auditor for October 21, 2025.

GENERAL FUND	\$87,811.09
ROAD & BRIDGE	-
MOSQUITO CONTROL	-
ADULT PROBATION	2,850.65
AIRPORT	2,121.85
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	-

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$92,783.59

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

6. **BILLS**

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve payment of October 21, 2025 bills approved by the County Auditor as per attested listings and also specifically as follows:

- a. \$115,401.06 from the General Fund (001-101-51270) to Texas Association of Counties HEBP for Group Medical, Dental, Life – under age 65 for October 2025.
- b. \$93,945.72 from the General Fund (001-101-51270) to Amwins Group Benefits, Inc. for insurance for retirees 65 and over for November 2025.
- c. \$20,985.00 from the General Fund (001-681-53023) to Arceneaux, Wilson & Cole, L.L.C. for professional services 8/1/2025 – 9/30/2025: Bailey Camp Lake Street Fishing Project ORC-080.
- d. \$4,725.00 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53000) to Architects, Inc. for professional services through 9/30/2025: Public Health Building.
- e. \$2,800.00 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53020) to Capital Plumbing for 3805 Hwy. 12, Vidor, Texas – water line project.
- f. \$250.00 from the Special Grants Fund (081-927-53000) to Atlas Technical Consultants, L.L.C. for professional services 8/30/2025 – 9/26/2025 Project 250093.00: New Health Services Building.
- g. \$1,150.00 from the General Fund (001-111-54290) to Claybar Funeral Home for indigent funeral expenses.

GENERAL FUND	\$745,787.28
ROAD & BRIDGE	63,166.75
MOSQUITO CONTROL	3,206.34
ADULT PROBATION	4,255.91
AIRPORT	2,365.27
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS	12,500.00
ARPA	7,775.00

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT	\$839,056.55

IN ADDITION TO:
QUARTERLY STATE
CRIMINAL COSTS AND FEES: \$153,653.79

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

7. LINE ITEM TRANSFER Motion made by Robert Viator seconded by Chris Sowell to authorize the line item transfer as follows:

ORANGE COUNTY JAIL

From: 001-743-57500 (Equip. Non-Inv. < \$2,000).....(\$62,500.00)
To: 001-743-57590 (Equip. > \$5,000).....\$62,072.00
001-743-57595 (Equip. between \$2,000 & \$4,999).....\$ 428.00

Purpose: To move approved capital outlay for new jail camera system to proper line item and cover remaining amount for purchase of shredder due to increased quote.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

8. APPROVE LETTER Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Johnny Trahan approving an engagement letter from Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same.

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

9. APPROVE LETTER Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving an engagement letter from CapRisk Consulting Group to provide actuarial services related to the Orange County retirement plan for "other (than pension) postemployment benefits" (OPEB) and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same.

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

10. BURN BAN EXTENDED Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Chris Sowell extending the prohibition or restriction on any outdoor burning in all or part of the unincorporated areas of the county for 30 days unless there is a weather event that would allow the County Judge to rescind.

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

11. APPROVE LEASE Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving a Space Lease between Orange County and Sabine Credit Union and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same. The 5-year lease provides dedicated space for a Sabine FCUITM machine within the Orange County Administration Building.

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

12. TABLED
AGENDA
ITEM

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan to table agenda item, discussion and possible action regarding the approval of the Hotel Occupancy Tax funds allotment for FY 2025-2026 from recommendations from the EDC Board as discussed in prior workshop.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

13. APPROVE
RENEWAL

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to approve the Appriss Service Agreement Renewal Contract and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same. This is the Certification for SAVNS (Statewide Automated Victim Notification Service) and VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) Program, which alerts victims of offender release, maintenance grant. This grant contract is between Orange County and the Office of the Attorney General of Texas and all future reports pertaining to the contract for reporting purpose, and covers the period from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

14. INTERLOCAL
AGREEMENT

Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to enter into a multi-jurisdictional Interlocal Agreement for Southeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force, to participate in a combined task force funded by the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) of the State of Texas for FY 2026 Senate Bill 224 Grant and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same.

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

15. INTERLOCAL
AGREEMENT

Motion made by Robert Viator, seconded by Johnny Trahan to enter into a multi-jurisdictional Interlocal Agreement for FY 2026 Southeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force, to participate in a combined task force funded by the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) of the State of Texas and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same.

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

16. APPROVE
CONTRACT

Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving an extension of terms for an Interlocal Cooperation Contract for Jail Based Competency Restoration Services between Orange County and Spindletop Center for the period of September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026 and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign same.

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

17. APPROVE
CONTRACT
- Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell approving Region 5 to extend terms to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract for Jail Services between Orange County and Spindletop Center and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign same. The amendment extends the existing agreement for one (1) year, from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026, and will automatically renew on a year-to-year basis at the same amount as the initial term of the agreement.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
18. APPROVE
AMENDMENT
- Motion made by Kirk Roccaforte, seconded by Johnny Trahan approving Amendment #1 of the Interlocal Cooperative Contract between Orange County and Spindletop Center for the additional Mental Health Liaison Program through the DOJ Federal Program and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same. Effective dates are October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
19. APPROVE
CONTRACT
- Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Chris Sowell to approve the Interlocal Cooperative Contract between Orange County and Spindletop Center for Mental Health Liaison Program through the State Program and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the same. Effective dates are September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
20. NO ACTION
- No action taken on discussion and possible action to receive and act upon projects as presented by the Road & Bridge Department.
21. MAINTENANCE
DEPT.
PROJECTS
- Kurt Guidry, Maintenance Director, updated the Court on projects. They still need to do the cement for 1442 for the lean-to for the furniture for the Health Clinic. It will also be a climate controlled, multi-purpose lean-to. Biggest project coming up on the 28th will be at Transportation. The transfer switch for the generator needs to be replaced. On the PODS, they need to build a shed for water wells so they don't freeze up during winter.
22. PROVIDE
FUNDING
- Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Robert Viator to approve emergency funding from Sheriff's Office funds for the cost of the ARGIS cloud migration in the amount of \$9,974.84 and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the agreement.
- All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)

23. REPLACE SERVER
Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to provide emergency funding for the cost to replace the Spillman server, which has reached end of life, and the Spillman Software Maintenance and authorizing the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign said maintenance agreement. Funding for the Spillman Server will come from the MIS line item 001-105-52115 and the funds for the Spillman Software Maintenance will come from the Sheriff's Office Software program and MIS line item.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
24. PROVIDE FUNDING
Motion made by Chris Sowell, seconded by Johnny Trahan to provide emergency funding from Sheriff's Office funds for the cost of the VMWare Maintenance in the amount of \$10,848.60 and to authorize the County Judge or Judge Pro Tem to sign the agreement.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
(See Exhibits for this date.)
25. APPROVE PURCHASE
Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte approving the purchase of a Ford F250 truck for \$56,909.20 from line item 001-681-57590 (Equip > \$5,000). This purchase was initially approved for purchase for \$56,000 but the price increased with the updated quote.

All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.
26. CLOSED MEETING
Closed meeting held pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code §551.071, to discuss with Assistant County Attorney matters regarding pending or threatened litigation. Multiple discrete matters will be discussed.

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.
- SUBMIT OFFER
Motion made by Johnny Trahan, seconded by Kirk Roccaforte to authorize the Assistant County Attorney to submit a settlement offer on a threatened litigation matter and authorizing the County Judge to sign said paperwork once approved.

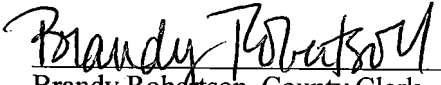
All Voted AYE. Motion Carried.

28. 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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