

COMMISSIONERS' COURT MINUTES, SPECIAL SESSION, JANUARY 21, 2026

The Terrell County Commissioners' Court convened in special session on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the commissioners' courtroom of the Terrell County courthouse in the city of Sanderson, Texas, the regular meeting place thereof. Notices of this special session were timely posted at a place readily accessible to the general public at all times and remained posted for at least seventy-two hours preceding this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Officer, **The Hon. Dale Carruthers, County Judge**, with the following members of this Court attending: **The Hon. Adam Johnson, Commissioner Pct. 1, The Hon. Lupe Garza, Commissioner Pct. 2, The Hon. Ele Hagelstein, Commissioner Pct. 3, and The Hon. Gene Chavez, Commissioner Pct. 4. Mr. Kenneth D. Bellah, County Attorney, was present via zoom.**

Commissioner Garza gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge to the Texas Flag.

Minutes - A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes of the regular session held on December 8, 2025. Commissioner Chavez seconded, and the MOTION CARRIED. IT IS ORDERED THAT THESE MINUTES STAND APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

At this time, the Chairwoman opened applicant envelopes for the appointment to the position of the unexpired term of Terrell County Clerk and District Clerk. The applicants were as follows: Brittany Rivera, JoDale Arredondo, Elaina Smith, and Ashley Segovia.

Executive Session - The Court retired into executive session at approximately 10:05 a.m., under the provision of the Texas Government Code Sec. 551.074 Gov't Code, V.A.T.S. to deliberate and schedule interview for employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, and/or to hear complaint or charge against an officer or employee, to wit: Terrell County Clerk & District Clerk.

Report of Executive Session - The Court adjourned from its executive session and reconvened into open session at 12:44 p.m., due to the previous resignation of Raeline Thompson as the Terrell County & District Clerk, on January 12, 2026; the Court held interviews for possible appointees. **The following action was taken:**

County & District Clerk - After conducting interviews, the County Judge requested each Commissioner to name their candidate of choice for County and District Clerk. Each Commissioner named Brittany Rivera. Upon calling for a vote, all Commissioners answered "aye", and Judge Carruthers abstained from voting. Commissioner Chavez made the motion, and Commissioner Garza seconded THE MOTION CARRIED. The Court unanimously appointed Brittany Rivera as Terrell County and District Clerk, effective today, January 21, 2026.

Announcing - A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to announce Brittany Rivera for the position of the unexpired term of Terrell County Clerk and District Clerk. Commissioner Chavez seconded the motion. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT BRITTANY RIVERA BE APPOINTED FOR THE POSITION OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF THE TERRELL COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK.

Bond Approval - A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez to approve the Bond for the appointed County and District Clerk, Brittany Rivera. Commissioner Garza seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT THE BOND BE APPROVED FOR THE APPOINTED COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK, BRITTANY RIVERA.

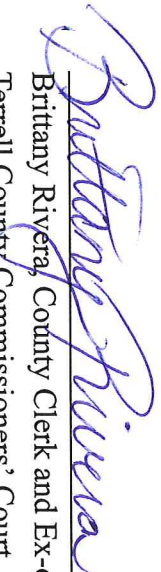
Removal/PCSB Accounts - A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez to remove the former County and District Clerk, Raeline Thompson, from all Pecos County State Bank checking accounts. Commissioner Garza seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT RAELINE THOMPSON, THE FORMER COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK BE REMOVED FROM ALL PECOS COUNTY STATE BANK CHECKING ACCOUNTS.

Adding/PCSB Accounts - A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez to add the appointed County and District Clerk, Brittany Rivera, to all Pecos County State Bank checking accounts. Commissioner Garza seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT BRITTANY RIVERA, THE APPOINTED COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK BE ADDED TO ALL PECOS COUNTY STATE BANK CHECKING ACCOUNTS.

Removing/Adding Checking Accounts - A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez to remove the former Clerk from all Clerk's checking accounts and add the new appointed clerk to all of the Clerk's checking accounts. Commissioner Johnson seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT THE FORMER CLERK, RAELINE THOMPSON, BE REMOVED FROM ALL CLERK'S CHECKING ACCOUNTS AND BRITTANY RIVERA BE ADDED TO ALL THE CLERK'S CHECKING ACCOUNTS.

Gaines County School Lands lease - The Court discussed the extension of the Gaines County School Lands lease with Joe David Yates. Commissioner Johnson suggested changing the extension from 5 years to 24 months. Commissioner Hagelstein, Commissioner Johnson, and Jon Tom Lowrance intend to inspect the property.

THERE BEING NO OTHER ORDER OF BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COURT AT THIS TIME, COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING, AND COMMISSIONER GARZA SECONDED. THIS SPECIAL SESSION NOW STANDS ADJOURNED.



Brittany Rivera, County Clerk and Ex-officio Clerk
Terrell County Commissioners' Court

ORDER APPROVING MINUTES OF SPECIAL SESSION

The above and foregoing minutes of the special session held on the 21st day of January, 2026, have been read and examined, and the same are hereby approved ~~as amended this~~ 9th day of February, 20 26 as presented IN OPEN COURT this 9th day



[Signature]
Presiding Officer

[Signature]
Attest: County Clerk