

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TERRELL**

**IN COMMISSIONERS' COURT
REGULAR SESSION**

COMMISSIONERS' COURT MINUTES, REGULAR SESSION, MARCH 9TH, 2026

The Terrell County Commissioners' Court convened in regular session on Monday, March 9th, 2026, at 9:00 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 three business days preceding this meeting. Notice of this meeting was also published on the County's webpage.

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
The Hon. Gene Chavez	Commissioner Pct. 4.
Mr. Kenneth D. Bellah	County Attorney
Carl Esser, via ZOOM	Grant Writer

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

Public Comments - NO PUBLIC COMMENTS AT THIS TIME.

Minutes - A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes of the regular session held on February 9, 2026, and the financial workshop on February 9, 2026. Commissioner Chavez seconded, and the MOTION CARRIED. IT IS ORDERED THAT THESE MINUTES STAND APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

Air Med Care - rescheduled. NO ACTION.

Land Owner Compensation Program - Jeremiah Mendoza and Matthew Nino with the Joint Operations Intelligence Center appeared before the Court to provide information regarding the Texas State Guard Border Patrol Landowner Compensation Program. During their presentation, they discussed the program's purpose, eligibility requirements, and the process for landowners to seek compensation for damages related to border enforcement activities. The information was presented to the Court for awareness and informational purposes only. NO ACTION.

Subdivision Regulation Exemption - Mrs. Leila Cash, on behalf of Thomas R. Whistler, Executor of the Estate of Betsy J. Whistler, appeared before the Court requesting an exemption from the requirements of the Terrell County Comprehensive Interim Subdivision Regulations and the platting requirements under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 232. The request was made in order to divide the estate property into two residential tracts. The proposed division would allow for the sale of the south portion of Lots 15 and 16, Block 136, Kerr Addition, while maintaining ownership of the north portion of Lots 15 and 16, Block 136, Kerr Addition. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Chavez to grant the requested exemption. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS ORDERED BY THE COURT TO GRANT THE EXEMPTION FROM THE

REQUIREMENTS OF THE TERRELL COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE INTERIM
SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS AND PLATTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EXECUTOR
THOMAS WHISTLER OF THE BETSY J. WHISTLER ESTATE.

Pre and Post Funding Administration Services - During the meeting, the Court received and opened two sealed proposals for a Resolution of Award for Pre-Funding Administration Services and Post-Funding Administration Services related to the preparation of an application to the Texas General Land Office. The application, due March 23, 2026, is submitted in response to damages sustained during the 2024 Terrell County Tornado Event. After review of the submitted proposals, a motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to award the Pre-Funding Administrative Services and Post-Funding Administrative Services to Esser and Company, LLC. Commissioner Chavez seconded. This application will assist the County in preparing and submitting the funding application for disaster recovery efforts, mitigation, prevention, and repairing items that failed during the tornado event. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT ESSER AND COMPANY, LLC BE AWARDED THE PRE-FUNDING AND POST-FUNDING ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE ON BEHALF OF TERRELL COUNTY.

Pre and Post Funding Engineering Services - During the meeting, the Court received and opened one sealed proposal for a Resolution of Award for Pre-Funding Engineering Services and Post-Funding Engineering Services related to the application to the Texas General Land Office. The application, due March 23, 2026, is submitted in response to damages sustained during the 2024 Terrell County Tornado Event. After review of the submitted proposal, a motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to award the Pre-Funding Engineering Services and Post-Funding Engineering Services to Burgess & Niple. Commissioner Chavez seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT BURGESS & NIPLE BE AWARDED THE PRE-FUNDING AND POST-FUNDING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE ON THE BEHALF OF TERRELL COUNTY.

CDBG CDV 23-0095 Senior Citizens Project- A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to schedule the Final Public Hearing on Monday, March 9th at 5:15 pm in the Terrell County Courthouse for the CDBG CDV 23-0095 Senior Citizens Project. Commissioner Garza seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT THE FINAL PUBLIC HEARING BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 9TH, AT 5:15 PM IN THE TERRELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE FOR THE CDBG CDV 23-0095 SENIOR CITIZENS PROJECT.

Bravo Health - NO ACTION.

Community Building Rental Agreement - The community building rental agreement presented has been revised to add a \$50 non-refundable cleaning fee. A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez to adopt the revised Community Building Rental Agreement. Commissioner Garza seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT THE REVISED COMMUNITY BUILDING RENTAL AGREEMENT BE ADOPTED AND IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

Terrell County Fair Association - The Terrell County Fair Association submitted a request for a \$1,000 donation from the County's Hotel/Motel Tax account to support the buyers' pool for the 2026 County Fair, which was held in January. The Association explained that the request was not submitted prior to the event as required because the member responsible for submitting the request failed to do so. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to approve the \$1,000 donation from the County's Hotel/Motel Tax account to the Terrell County Fair

Association for the 2026 County Fair. Commissioner Garza seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT TO DONATE \$1,000 FROM THE HOTEL/MOTEL TAX ACCOUNT TO THE TERRELL COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION FOR THE 2026 COUNTY FAIR.

March 3, 2026 Election Canvass - The party chairs will conduct the canvass on March 12, 2026, at 9:00 am. NO ACTION.

Swimming Pool - The Court held an open discussion regarding the operation of the county swimming pool for the upcoming summer season. Judge Carruthers informed the Court that the swimming pool's operation was not included in the current fiscal year budget. As a result, Terrell County is seeking community sponsorships and donations to assist with the operational costs necessary to open the pool for the summer. The goal is to raise approximately \$15,000 to cover operating expenses. The discussion was presented for informational purposes. NO ACTION.

Executive Session - The Court retired into executive session at approximately 9:40 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: Road and Bridge.

Report of Executive Session - The Court adjourned from its executive session and reconvened into open session at 10:33 p.m. NO REPORT.

Bills - A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to pay and ratify the list of bills and other bills presented. Commissioner Chavez seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT TO PAY AND RATIFY THE LIST OF BILLS AND OTHER BILLS PRESENTED HEREIN.

Authorizing Treasurer - A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to authorize the Treasurer's office to pay: payroll, and utility bills not yet received from previous months: Rio Grande Electric; Lone Star Copiers; Dial Tone; Citibank (for credit card); Desert Treads; Alvin E. Stock Contractor LLC; Verfurth Electrical LLC; and Sadie Burche LLC. Commissioner Chavez seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE TO PAY PAYROLL AND THE UTILITY BILLS HEREIN LISTED NOT YET RECEIVED FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS.

Amendments and Transfers in Budget - A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson to authorize the county treasurer to make the necessary Amendments and Transfers in the budget; \$4,982.40 from 020-653-461 to 020-610-455 to pay out Vacation and \$2,857.60 from 020-635-461 to 020-660-487 to help cover equipment costs. Commissioner Chavez seconded. Upon calling for a vote, all members answered "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE TO MAKE THE NECESSARY AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS HEREIN LISTED.

Monthly Reports - Commissioner Johnson motioned to approve the following monthly reports. Commissioner Garza seconded the motion. Upon calling for a vote, all members voted "aye." MOTION CARRIED. IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COURT THAT THE FOLLOWING MONTHLY REPORTS BE APPROVED.

Sheriff's Department

Verbal - Rosamaria Fuentes

*Ms. Fuentes informed the Court that the Terrell County Sheriff's Office will be changing the combination to the back door of the Terrell County Courthouse. Judge Carruthers requested that the new combination be provided to her, as she is required to have access for emergency situations and serves as an authorized signer on the jail accounts. The matter was presented to the Court for informational purposes.

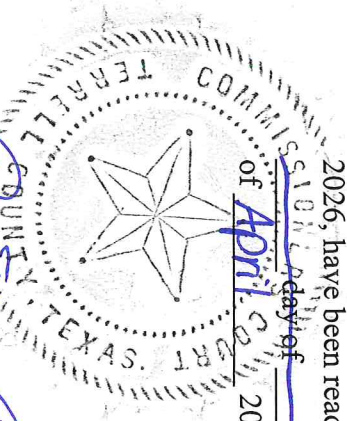
Animal Control	No report
Friends of the Shelter	No report
Treasurer's Investment Report and monthly report	February & Verbal - Pamela Blaylock
Justices of the Peace	February
County & District Clerk- OCA Final report	February
EMS	Verbal - Troy Sparks
Road & Bridge Superintendent	February
Senior Citizens Transportation	February
AgriLife Extension	No Report
Museum & Historical Commission	Verbal
Terrell County Library	February
Visitor Center	Verbal - Judge Carruthers
Sanitation	February
Clinic Report	Verbal - Judge Carruthers
Volunteer Fire Department	No report
Airport Report	No report
Food Pantry	February

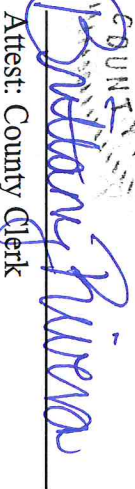
THERE BEING NO OTHER ORDER OF BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COURT AT THIS TIME, COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING, AND COMMISSIONER HAGELSTEIN SECONDED. THIS REGULAR SESSION NOW STANDS ADJOURNED AT 10:48 A.M.


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

ORDER APPROVING MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION

The above and foregoing minutes of the regular session held on the 9th day of March, 2026, have been read and examined, and the same are hereby approved ~~as attached~~ ^{as presented} this 13th day of April, 2026 as presented IN OPEN COURT this 13th day




Attest: County Clerk


Presiding Officer