

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS
REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 14, 2025**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in regular session April 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Courtroom at the DeWitt County Courthouse in Cuero, Texas, with the following members present:

County Judge Daryl L. Fowler
Commissioner Ryan Varela, Precinct No. 1
Commissioner James Kaiser, Precinct No. 3
Commissioner Brian Carson, Precinct No. 4

Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation

Judge Fowler called the meeting to order and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Carson gave the invocation.

New Business:

Soil & Water Stewardship Week Proclamation (No. 1)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to adopt a proclamation establishing April 27, 2025 through May 4, 2025 as 2025 Texas Soil & Water Stewardship Week. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Monument on Courthouse Grounds (No. 2)

Court heard request from William Blackwell and Fain McDougal with the Alamo Letter Society for the placement of a granite monument and bronze replica of Col. Wm. Barrett Travis' Letter from the Alamo on the courthouse grounds. No action was taken by the court.

Joint Election Agreement (No. 3)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive and approve contract for elections services between De Witt County and Cuero ISD, City of Cuero, De Witt Medical District and Yorktown ISD. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

User Agreement (No. 7)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive and ratify the agreement between the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas and DeWitt County authorizing DeWitt County to perform Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) checks on county employees. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Zero Lost Time Safety Award (No. 8)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive the Zero Lost Time Safety Award from the Texas Association of Counties, Risk Management Pool, Workers' Compensation Program,

recognizing DeWitt County for having no lost time in the calendar year of 2024. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Employer Rewards Fund (No. 9)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive information regarding the Texas Association of Counties Healthy County Program and the 2024 Employer Rewards earned by DeWitt County; approve Court Order No. 2025-015 towards the DeWitt County's Wellness initiatives. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Interlocal Agreement with County of DeWitt for Sharing Contracted Services (No. 10)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve Court Order No. 2025-016, an Interlocal Agreement between the County of DeWitt and the North Cuero Watershed for the mutual benefit of sharing the services of general contractors operating under competitively bid contracts conforming to Chapter 262 of the Texas Local Government Code (the County Purchasing Act) and Chapter 2269 of the Government Code; and establishing a reimbursement process. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Health Insurance Mid-Plan Year Review Workshop (No. 6)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive the Health Insurance Mid-Plan Review Report from Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits Pool. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Resolution (No. 9)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adopt a resolution supporting House Bill 13 to promote the creation of the Texas Interoperability Council and a statewide grant program to strengthen local emergency communication systems, Court Order No. 2025-017. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Executive/Closed Session (No. 4)

Judge Fowler announced that a closed session will be held pursuant to Sections 551.076 and/or 551.079, and 418.181, ET. seq., of the Texas Government Code for the Commissioners Court to deliberate on matters relating to acts of terrorism including discussions of security systems, vulnerability of critical infrastructure, and details about communication systems, to prevent, detect, investigate or respond to terrorist acts or related criminal activity.

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to enter into executive/closed session and appoint the judge as the keeper of the minutes. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Judge Fowler announced that the executive session ended at 10:51 a.m. on this morning of April 14th. The court is back in open session at 10:52 a.m.

Discussion and Potential Action (No. 5)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve Commissioners Court Order No. 2025-018, amending the Fiscal Year 2025 county budget to address the case of grave public necessity in order to meet an unusual and unforeseen condition that could not have been included in the original budget through the use of reasonable diligent thought and attention and compliance with §111.010(b) of the Local Government Code. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Certificates of Achievement (No. 12)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive certificates of achievement from the FEMA Emergency Management Institute indicating that the following employees have completed the ICS 400 course: Lisa A. Campos, Natalie D. Carson, Michael R. Dietzel, Chelsea R. Gloshen, Billy Jordan, Ashley E. Hunt, Desi Poth-Garibay, Amanda Stehling, and Neomi Williams. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Commissioners Court Meeting Schedule (No. 13)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to change the regularly scheduled Commissioners Court Meeting of May 26, 2025 due to the Memorial Day holiday to the day after which would be May 27, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the DeWitt County Courthouse. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

DeWitt County Appraisal District (No. 14)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive the audited DeWitt County Appraisal District Financial Statements dated December 31, 2024. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

HB2521 Division Order (No. 15)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive division order from BPX Operating Company due to HB2521 for the Non-Unitized Tract U6 located between the P Frisbie A Unit and Kolodziejczyk Unit A. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Temporary Right of Way (No. 16)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve application from Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP for installation of a temporary water line along Respondek Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 1. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Temporary Right of Way (No. 17)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve permit application from Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP for installation of a temporary water line along Warzecha Lane in Commissioner Precinct No. 1. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Pipeline Crossing Permits (No. 18)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve permit application for two (2) pipelines from BPX Energy to cross Kozielski Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 1. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Pipeline Crossing Permits (No. 19)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve permit application for two (2) pipelines from BPX Energy to cross Westhoff Cemetery Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 1. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – March 21-31, 2025 (No. 20)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – March 21st through 31st, 2025 according to Local Government Code, Chapter 114. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – April 1-10, 2025 (No. 21)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Reports pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 114 for the County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports April 1st through 10th, 2025. Mr. Varela seconded the motion

County Auditor's Purchasing Audit Report FY 2025 2nd Quarter (No. 22)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive County Auditor's Purchasing Audit Report FY 2025 2nd Quarter, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Cash Count Report FY 2025 2nd Quarter (No. 23)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive County Auditor's Cash Count Report FY 2025 2nd Quarter, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Accounts Payable Audit Report FY 2025 2nd Quarter (No. 24)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Accounts Payable Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Deposit Receipt Audit for March 2025 (No. 25)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Deposit Receipt Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Payroll Audit Report March 2025 (No. 26)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Payroll Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Positive Pay Audit Report March 2025 (No. 27)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Positive Pay Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for Juvenile Probation (No. 28)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Inventory of Fixed Assets Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Section 262.011(i). Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for Tax Assessor-Collector (No. 29)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Inventory of Fixed Assets Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Section 262.011(i). Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1 (Exit Audit for Peggy Mayer) (No. 30)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive De Witt County Auditor's Inventory of Fixed Assets Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Section 262.011(i). Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1 (Entry Audit for Blanca McBride) (No. 31)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive De Witt County Auditor's Inventory of Fixed Assets Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Section 262.011(i). Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Rescind Awarded Bid to Ancira Partners Chevrolet GMC (No. 32)

MOTION: Mr. Carson made a motion to rescind the previously approved motion on October 14, 2024, awarding the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet 3500 HD Cab and Chassis, in the amount of \$62,569.56 to Ancira Partners Chevrolet GMC, as the vendor has notified the County of their inability to fulfill the bid due to GM constraint issues. I also move to reject the second ranked vendor and only other bid received from Weber Motor Company since they are no longer an option due to timing and circumstances. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Authorize Auditor to Advertise for Bids (No. 33)

MOTION: Mr. Carson made a motion to authorize County Auditor to advertise for bids for the purchase of a new one ton truck for Commissioner Pct. #4. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Request for Qualifications (No. 34)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to authorize the county auditor to advertise for requests for qualifications (RFQ) for architectural services for a new West Annex building project in Yorktown. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Monthly Report of Officials (No. 35)

County Auditor Neomi Williams advised that the auditor's office had received monthly reports from all officials.

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve monthly report of officials. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Treasurer's Monthly Report (No. 36)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive and approve Treasurer's Monthly Report; Order Approving Treasurer's Monthly Report, Court Order No. 2025-014. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

County Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report (No. 37)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive County Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Minutes (No. 38)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive and approve minutes of the previous term of court. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Accounts Payable (No. 39)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve accounts payable. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Ratified Accounts Payable (No. 40)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve ratified accounts payable. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Payroll Reports (No. 41)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive and ratify payroll reports. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

Courthouse/Annex/Museum Expenditures/Maintenance/Improvements (No. 42)

Judge Fowler reported that the vendor selected to do a cleaning of the exterior building and windows of the courthouse will be starting his work on Monday. Energy Waste will be providing the man lift. As the cleaning work is being done, the plan is to take a snapshot of the glazing on all of the windows to see which ones will need repairs.

Judge Fowler reported that Kenneth Swope has attended some training at Trane facilities in San Antonio on the control system. He will also be attending the Courthouse Stewardship conference.

Mr. Varela reported that last week he had walk thru with two (2) contractors at the DeWitt County Historical. This morning one of the vendors came back for a second walk thru and are waiting for the proposals to be turned in. The deadline for proposals has been extended to May 1, 2025.

Commissioner Carson provided an update on his new building. The plumbing has been installed and is waiting for the pest control to spray the dirt work for termites.

Legislative Update (No. 43)

No Legislative update.

Discussion of Commissioner Precinct Operations (No. 44)

Commissioner Precinct No. 1 reported on normal precinct operations; blading roads, patching paving roads and fixing ditches.

Commissioner Precinct No. 2 was absent.

Commissioner Precinct No. 3 reported on normal precinct operations.

Commissioner Precinct No. 4 reported on normal precinct operations. He also reported on a log jam at the Thomaston River Bridge.

Public Announcements/Comments (No. 45)

None

Adjourn (No. 46)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 11:33 a.m.]

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS
REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 28, 2025**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in regular session April 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Courtroom at the DeWitt County Courthouse in Cuero, Texas, with the following members present:

County Judge Daryl L. Fowler
Commissioner Ryan Varela, Precinct No. 1
Commissioner James B. Pilchick Jr., Precinct 2
Commissioner James Kaiser, Precinct No. 3
Commissioner Brian Carson, Precinct No. 4

Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation

Judge Fowler called the meeting to order and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Carson gave the invocation.

New Business:

DeWitt County Historical Commission (No. 1)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive 2024 Annual Report for DeWitt County Historical Commission. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Payment (No. 2)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive 2025 Texas Department of State Health Services payment from tobacco settlement proceeds in the amount of \$12,670.96. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Unclaimed Rural Electric Cooperative Capital Credits (No. 3)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to authorize a written request to Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Pursuant to §74.602 of the Texas Property Code for allocation of a portion of unclaimed capital credits received from electric cooperatives back to counties in cooperatives' service area and certify the purpose of the funds is in compliance with the provisions of §381.004 of the Local Government Code for 2025 reporting year. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Estimate of Net Taxable Value for 2025 (No. 4)

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to receive the preliminary value estimate of appraised taxable property from the Chief Appraiser pursuant to Texas Property Tax Code Sec. 26.01(e). Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Engineering Services Proposal (No. 5)

Court passed on this agenda item.

Temporary Right of Way (No. 8)

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to approve temporary right of way permit application from AJ's Logistics for installation of a temporary water line along Wild Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 2. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Pipeline Crossing Permits (No. 9)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve pipeline crossing permits for three (3) pipelines from Burlington Oil & Gas Company LP to cross Schendel Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 3. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – April 11-24, 2025 (No. 10)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports from April 11th through 24th, 2025, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 114. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

County Clerk Statutory Compliance Audit FY 2024 Q2-Q4 (No. 11)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Audit Report of County Clerk's Statutory Compliance Audit FY 2024 Quarter 2 through Quarter 4, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Declare Fixed Assets as Salvage (No. 12)

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion declaring certain inventory items as worn, damaged or obsolete, pursuant to Local Government Code 263.152 from the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Authorize Auditor to Dispose of Salvage or Surplus Property (No. 13)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to authorize Auditor to dispose of salvage or surplus property, pursuant to Local Government Code 263, Subchapter D by means of an online auction. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Accounts Payable (No. 14)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve accounts payable. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Accounts Payable for Carson Services LLC

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve accounts payable. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Mr. Carson abstaining.

Ratified Accounts Payable (No. 15)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve ratified accounts payable. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Budget Amendments (No. 16)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve the following items in accordance with the orders presented including: the budget amendment requests to increase the General Fund Sheriff's Department Radio and Vehicle Equipment and Commissioner Precinct No. 2 Contract/Lease Services; also the budget amendment request for interdepartmental transfers for Veterans Office, Non-Departmental, Justice of the Peace Pct. 1, New Annex, Weber Annex, Courthouse Building, Sheriff/Jail, Commissioners Precinct No. 2 and No. 3. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Payroll Reports (No. 17)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve and ratify payroll reports. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Jury Report (No. 18)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive and ratify jury report. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Courthouse/Annex/Museum Expenditures/Maintenance/Improvements (No. 19)

Judge Fowler discussed the following items:

1. the condition of the parking lot on Live Oak Street side of the courthouse;
2. the courthouse windows are still being worked on and replaced as needed;
3. Trane issue of the chillers not switching weekly like they are supposed to and now Trane is saying that it probably needs some additional communication equipment built into the units; and
4. cleaning of the exterior of courthouse is scheduled to start this week

Mr. Varela reported that he had received an email from Komatsu regarding the drawings with the Historical Museum. They issued some updated drawings which has been updated on the county's website. The request for qualifications deadline has been extended.

Mr. Carson provided an update on the new building at Commissioner Precinct No. 4. He reported that the foundation was poured last week, doing some site preparation waiting for the building to be delivered.

Legislative Update (No. 20)

Judge Fowler discussed some bills that can help counties and some that can hurt counties. One of the bills that could hurt counties is HB 3159.

Discussion of Commissioner Precinct Operations (No. 21)

Commissioner Precinct No. 1 reported that over 100 tires were dumped on Ed Blackwell Road. He also reported that a backhoe was vandalized on Respondek Road.

Commissioner Precinct No. 2 reported that approximately 30-40 tires were dumped on Old Yoakum Road. He also reported that he had received a letter from PSI regarding the project that was done on Isdale Road and Bluebonnet Road where the road materials didn't meet the grade.

Commissioner Precinct No. 3 reported on normal precinct operations and waiting on H & C to be available to perform road work.

Commissioner Precinct No. 4 reported on normal precinct operations. He also reported on a dumping situation of household items in his precinct.

Public Announcements/Comments (No. 22)

None

Executive/Closed Session (No. 6)

Judge Fowler announced that a closed session will be held pursuant to §551.074 of the Texas Government Code for the Commissioners Court to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to go into executive session and judge be appointed as the record keeper. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Judge Fowler announced that the executive session ended and court returned to open session at 11:27 a.m. on this same date.

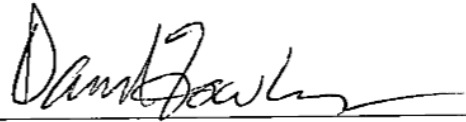
Discussion and Potential Action (No. 7)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to establish a closed session for Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in the DeWitt County Courthouse Courtroom for the purpose of interviewing the applicants for Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 selection. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Adjourn (No. 23)

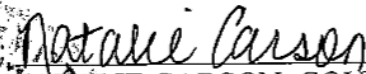
MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 11:29 a.m.]

THE FOREGOING MINUTES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL A.D. 2025 WERE READ AND APPROVED IN REGULAR SESSION OF COURT ON THIS THE 12TH DAY OF MAY, A.D. 2025.



DARYL L. FOWLER, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:



NATALIE CARSON, COUNTY CLERK

