

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS  
SPECIAL MEETING – AUGUST 4, 2025**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in special session August 4, 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 No. 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:**

**2025 Anticipated Tax Collection Rate (No. 1)**

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to receive the 2025 Tax Assessor-Collector's certification of the anticipated tax collection rate for year 2025 at 100% for County and County Roads. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**2025 Tax Rate Calculation (No. 2)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive the 2025 tax rate calculations required by Property Tax Code §26.04 and consider budget implications. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive the proposed budget calendar for publication of public notices pursuant to Local Government Code §140.010. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Workshop on FY2026 Budget (No. 3)**

Court held a workshop on FY2026 Budget.

**Adjourn (No. 4)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 9:48 a.m.]

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS  
REGULAR MEETING – AUGUST 11, 2025**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in regular session August 11, 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 No. 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:**

**2025 Proposed Tax Rate (No. 1)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to propose the 2025 tax rate of 0.38576 for the Maintenance and Operating and a debt rate of zero. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion.

Record Vote: Commissioner Precinct 1 “Aye”  
Commissioner Precinct 2 “Aye”  
Commissioner Precinct 3 “Aye”  
Commissioner Precinct 4 “Aye”  
Judge Fowler “Aye”

Judge Fowler announced that the tax rate will be adopted at a meeting on August 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

**Update on SJRC Belong (No. 2)**

Court heard presentation from Cynthia Ramirez regarding SJRC Belong Organization.

**Road Closure (No. 3)**

Court heard announcement from Commissioner Pilchick on the need to close Chilek Road in Commissioner Precinct 2 for road repair starting August 18th until complete. Chilek Road will be closed from Hwy 111 to SH 443 in the community of Hochheim.

#### **Order of Special Election (No. 4)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive Order of Special Election for Governor-Ordered or County-Ordered Measure Elections for the Constitutional Amendments to be held November 4, 2025 signed by County Judge Daryl L. Fowler. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Grant Application for Home-Delivered Meals (No. 5)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing a county grant in support of services provided by Meals on Wheels South Texas. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Interlocal Agreement (No. 6)**

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion for the approval of an interlocal agreement for E9-1-1 Services between Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission and DeWitt County effective September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2027. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Sheriff's Office Insurance Claim Settlement Offer (No. 22)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive the total loss settlement offer of \$36,984.50 from TAC Risk Management Services for the total loss of the 2024 Dodge Durango and authorize the County Auditor to proceed with executing the necessary documents to settle the insurance claim. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Detention & Residential Services Agreement (No. 7)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve renewal of a one-year contract for detention and residential services between the Garza County Juvenile Board and the County of DeWitt beginning September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Detention & Residential Services Agreement (No. 8)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to renew the one-year contract between the Grayson County Juvenile Board and the County of DeWitt for pre-adjudication detention and post-adjudication secure residential services of juvenile offenders beginning September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Residential Services Agreement (No. 9)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve renewal of a one-year contract between the Hays County Juvenile Board and the County of DeWitt for residential treatment services of

juvenile offenders beginning September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Detention Services Agreement (No. 10)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve renewal of a one-year contract for detention services between the Youth Opportunity Investments LLC (Rockdale Youth Academy) and the County of DeWitt beginning September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Residential Services Agreement (No. 11)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve renewal of a one-year contract for residential services between the Youth Opportunity Investments LLC (Rockdale Youth Academy) and the County of DeWitt beginning September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Residential Services Agreement (No. 12)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve renewal of a two-year contract for post-adjudication residential treatment services between Travis County Juvenile Probation Department and the County of DeWitt beginning September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2027. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Detention Services Agreement (No. 13)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve renewal of a one-year contract for detention services between the Victoria County Juvenile Justice Center and the County of DeWitt beginning September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Residential Services Agreement (No. 14)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve renewal of a one-year contract for residential services between the Victoria County Juvenile Justice Center and the County of DeWitt beginning September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Release Forms for Opioid Settlement (No. 15)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve the Purdue Settlement Release Form related to the Opioid Settlement Resolution. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Texas Department of State Health Services Contract HHS001588400016 (No. 16)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive the contract between the Texas Department of State Health Services and Cuero-DeWitt County Health Department, in the amount \$75,738.00, effective dates of September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2027, Regional and Local Services System/Local Public Health Services Grant Program. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**DeWitt County Appraisal District Budget (No. 17)**

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to receive the adopted FY2026 budget of the DeWitt County Appraisal District pursuant to Property Tax Code §6.06. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Optional Vehicle Registration Fees 2026 (No. 18)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to select the \$10.00 County Road and Bridge fee pursuant to Transportation Code 502.401 for calendar year 2026. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Temporary Right of Way (No. 19)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve permit applications from EOG Resources for installation of a temporary water line along Hahn Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 1. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Certificates of Achievement (No. 20)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive certificate of achievement from the FEMA Emergency Management Institute for DeWitt County Judge Daryl Fowler for completion of the ICS 400 course. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Certificate of Completion (No. 21)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive Certificate of Completion for DeWitt County Constable Pct. 1 Roy Kuester from the Texas Department of Public Safety for the successful completion of the TCIC/TLETS Mobile Access Test training course. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Bid Workshop on Road Maintenance Services and Asphalt Maintenance Services (No. 23)**

Court held a bid workshop on road maintenance services and asphalt maintenance services.

**Authorize Auditor to Advertise for Bids (No. 24)**

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion authorizing the county auditor to advertise for bids: 1) Road Maintenance Services, and 2) Asphalt Maintenance Services. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – July 25-31, 2025 (No. 25)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Reports, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 114. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – August 1-7, 2025 (No. 26)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Report for August 1<sup>st</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 114. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Monthly Report of Officials (No. 27)**

County Auditor Neomi Williams reported 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. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Deposit Receipt Audit for July 2025 (No. 28)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Deposit Receipt Audit Report for July 2025, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Payroll Audit Report July 2025 (No. 29)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Payroll Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 115 for July 2025. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Positive Pay Audit Report July 2025 (No. 30)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Positive Pay Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 115 for July 2025. Mr. seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Attorney Compliance Audit FY2024 (No. 31)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Compliance Audit Report for the County Attorney for FY2024, pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 115. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for Commissioner Precinct #4 (No. 32)**

MOTION: Mr. Carson made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Inventory of Fixed Assets Audit Report for Commissioner Precinct No. 4, pursuant to Local Government Code Section 262.011(i). Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for District Clerk and District Court (No. 33)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Audit Report for District Clerk and District Court, pursuant to Local Government Code Section 262.011(i). Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for County Court (No. 34)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Inventory of Fixed Assets Audit Report for County Court, pursuant to Local Government Code Section 262.011(i). Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for the Courthouse (No. 35)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's Inventory of Fixed Assets Audit Report for the Courthouse, pursuant to Local Government Code Section 262.011(i). Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Authorize Auditor to Dispose of Salvage or Surplus Property (No. 36)**

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.

**Resolution to Adopt Banking Signature Authority (No. 37)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to consider adoption of Banking Resolution for signature authority on the County Clerk Registry of the Court Funds bank account at First National Bank of Shiner, Court Order No. 2025-030. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **County Treasurer's Monthly Report (No. 38)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive and approve Court Order No. 2025-029, Order Approving Treasurer's Monthly Report. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Minutes (No. 39)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive and approve minutes of the previous term of court with corrections. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Accounts Payable (No. 40)**

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

### **Ratified Accounts Payable (No. 41)**

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

### **Payroll Reports (No. 42)**

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

### **Courthouse/Annex/Museum Expenditures/Maintenance/Improvements (No. 43)**

Judge Fowler reported on the courthouse last Friday both chillers were down and not working, which was after the quarterly maintenance was performed. During the quarterly maintenance, Trane found that one (1) of the coils in one of the chillers was leaking.

Judge Fowler reported that he had visited by email with Historical Commission in Austin about the replacement of the ADA rail.

Judge Fowler reported on the courthouse security meeting that was held last week. Judge Fowler reported on looking into modifying the door in the courtroom in order to make it functioning in an event if the occupied courthouse and the people inside need to exit out this door. There was also some suggestion of monitoring camera stations on each floor.

Mr. Varela reported we are still waiting for approval of windows. Porch has no uprights support inside the columns, columns are being repaired. Builders unplugged the sprinkler system and almost killed all of the plants. A Commissioner Precinct No. 1 employee is going every morning to water the plants.

Mr. Carson reported that the final walk through of the Commissioner Precinct No. 4 building should be on August 19<sup>th</sup> and the keys should be turned over by August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Legislative Update (No. 44)**

No Legislative update.

**Discussion of Commissioner Precinct Operations (No. 45)**

Commissioner Precinct No. 1 reported that FM 240 in Westhoff is near completion; they are on the last bit of construction; both lanes are open right now; it is not limited traffic on that road; currently there are road blocks on FM 240 behind the school and on Van Vleck Road; and currently working on the cul-de-sac. Mr. Varela also reported on normal precinct operations.

Commissioner Precinct No. 2 reported on normal precinct operations.

Commissioner Precinct No. 3 reported on normal precinct operations.

Commissioner Precinct No. 4 reported on normal precinct operations.

**Workshop on FY2026 Budget (No. 46)**

Court held a workshop on the FY2026 Budget. Judge Fowler announced that the proposed budget FY2026 will be filed with the County Clerk today for posting online.

**Public Announcements/Comments (No. 47)**

None

**Adjourn (No. 48)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 11:43 a.m.]

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS  
REGULAR MEETING – AUGUST 25, 2025**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in regular session August 25, 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 No. 2  
Commissioner James Kaiser, Precinct No. 3  
Commissioner Brian Carson, Precinct No. 4

A quorum was present at the meeting, but it was later determined that the notice of the meeting and the agenda of the meeting were not concurrently posted to the county's website ([www.dewitt.tx.us](http://www.dewitt.tx.us)). Since concurrent posting of the agenda with the notice of the meeting is required by the Texas Open Meetings Act, it was determined that the motions made were likely to be found invalid if challenged in a court of law. Public hearings on the budget and tax rate on this meeting's agenda will be rescheduled for late September and proper notices will be given in order to maximize the opportunity for citizen input.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST A.D. 2025 WERE READ AND APPROVED IN REGULAR SESSION OF COURT ON THIS THE 13TH DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D. 2025.



DARYL L. FOWLER, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:



NATALIE CARSON, COUNTY CLERK

