

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

De Witt County Commissioners Court met in regular session July 14 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Courtroom at the De Witt 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:**

**Proclamation (No. 1)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive proclamation from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Healthy South Texas designating Yorktown Elementary School as a Healthy South Texas Recognized School. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**Call Sign Victor (No. 2)**

Court heard information from the director of Call Sign Victor. No action was taken by the court.

**Texas Historical Commission 2024 Distinguished Service Award Certificate (No. 3)**

Texas Historical Commission 2024 Distinguished Service Award Certificate was presented to the DeWitt County Historical Commission in recognition of its active and well-balanced preservation program.

**DeWitt County Historical Commission Appointment (No. 4)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to appoint Jason Obelgoner for the 2025-2026 term of service to the DeWitt County Historical Commission. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Historical Commission (No. 5)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adopt a Court Order No. 2025-027 to establish a money market account with First National Bank of Shiner, transitioning the existing account to an interest bearing checking account; and approve resolution for signature authority. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

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

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve a two year lease agreement of \$1,800 per month between DeWitt County and 1884 Investments LLC for the use of office space for the Justice of the Peace Pct. 2. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Alamo Monument (No. 7)**

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion for the approval of the location for the construction and display of the Alamo Letter Society's placement of a granite monument and bronze replica of Col. Wm. Barrett Travis' Letter from the Alamo on the courthouse grounds. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Economic Development Agreement (No. 8)**

No action taken by the court.

#### **Motorola Solutions System Upgrade Proposal (No. 9)**

No action taken by the court.

#### **Regional Public Defender Program (No. 10)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve an Interlocal Agreement with Lubbock County acting through the Regional Public Defender for Capital Cases and pursuant to the Fair Defense Act, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure 26.044(b) and Texas Government Code Chapter 791; and authorize the payment of invoices. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Independent External Audit (No. 11)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to authorize the annual outside audit of De Witt County financial statements for the year ending September 30, 2025; and nominate Harrison Waldrop & Uherek as the Certified Public Accountant to conduct the audit. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **US Bank Purchasing Card Application (No. 12)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to authorize County Auditor to complete and sign the US Bank Purchasing Card application on behalf of De Witt County, in connection with the State of Texas payment and travel card program transition from Citibank, N.A. (contract 946-M2) to US Bank National Association (contract 946-M4), as managed by the Texas Comptroller. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Certificate of Completion (No. 16)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive Certificate of Completion for DeWitt County Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 Lindsay Ruppert from the Office of the Attorney General of Texas for the successful completion of the Public Information Act training course. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Certificate of Completion (No. 17)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive Certificate of Completion for DeWitt County Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 Clerk Julia Olguin from the Office of the Attorney General of Texas for the successful completion of the Public Information Act training course. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Certificate of Completion (No. 18)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive Certificate of Completion for DeWitt County Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 Clerk Brittney Schlenker from the Office of the Attorney General of Texas for the successful completion of the Public Information Act training course. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Certificate of Completion (No. 15)**

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to receive Certificate of Completion from the V.G. Young Institute of County Government for Commissioner James Kaiser for successfully completing 11 hours of educational training during the 91st Annual South Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas Conference, June 2-5, 2025. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Certificate of Participation (No. 19)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive Certificate of Participation from the Texas School Safety Center for Emergency Management Coordinator Billy Jordan Jr. for successfully completing the 2025 Texas School Safety Conference, June 22-26, 2025. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Texas County and District Retirement System (No. 14)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive plan assessment for plan year 2026 effective January 1, 2026 to stay at the elective rate of 12.12%. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **AIA-A101 Contract Agreement for the Bates-Sheppard House Exterior Repairs and Restoration (No. 13)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve the standard AIA-A101 contract agreement between De Witt County and Joe R Jones Construction for the exterior repairs and restoration of the Bates-Sheppard House. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Saltwater Pipeline Lease Application (No. 21)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve a saltwater pipeline lease application from Repsol Services Company for installation of a saltwater pipeline along Seiler Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 3; and authorize county judge to execute lease. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports -- June 19-30, 2025 (No. 22)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive De Witt County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports from June 19th through June 30th, 2025, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 114. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports -- July 1-10, 2025 (No. 23)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive De Witt County Auditor's Reports dated July 1st through July 10th, 2025, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 114. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

#### **Monthly Report of Officials (No. 24)**

County Auditor Neomi Williams reported that the auditor's office had received monthly reports from all officials including Constable Pct. 2 May report that was reported missing last month.

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 Purchasing Audit Report FY 2025 3rd Quarter (No. 25)**

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

**County Auditor's Cash Count Report FY 2025 3rd Quarter (No. 26)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive De Witt County Auditor's Cash Count Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

**County Auditor's Accounts Payable Audit Report FY 2025 3rd Quarter (No. 27)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive De Witt County Auditor's Accounts Payable Audit Report, pursuant to Local Government Code, Chapter 115. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

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

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive De Witt County Auditor's Deposit Audit Report for June 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 June 2025 (No. 29)**

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

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

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive De Witt County Auditor's Positive Pay Audit Report, 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 Elections (No. 31)**

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

**Declare Fixed Assets as Salvage (No. 32)**

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

### **Records and Proceeds from the Sale of Salvage or Surplus Property (No. 33)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive report from Auditor showing records and proceeds from the sale of salvage or surplus property pursuant to Local Government Code §263, Subchapter D. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Jury Donation (No. 34)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive updated jury donation form. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **County Treasurer's Monthly Report (No. 35)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive report and approve Court Order No. 2025-026, Approving Treasurer's Monthly Report. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **County Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report (No. 36)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to receive County Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Minutes (No. 37)**

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

### **Accounts Payable (No. 38)**

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. 39)**

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 Amendment Requests (No. 40)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve the following items in accordance with the orders presented including: the budget amendment requests for interdepartmental transfers for Non-Departmental, District Court, JP #1, EMC and Truancy. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Personnel Policy (No. 41)**

None

### **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.

### **Jury Report (No. 43)**

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. 44)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve Edwards Plumbing to replace the water heater in the courthouse totaling the amount of \$13,997.50. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Varela reported that he met with Joe R Jones Construction Inc. last week to go over a couple of things at the museum, windows and the crawl spaces under the house. He reported that he met last week with the ladies from the museum to make sure that they had moved everything away from the windows and walls.

Mr. Carson reported that the sheetrock is up in the new building office, break room and bathroom and should begin taping and floating today.

### **Legislative Update (No. 45)**

A Special Session will be starting up soon.

### **Discussion of Commissioner Precinct Operations (No. 46)**

Commissioner Precinct No. 1 reported that beginning tomorrow TxDOT will be altering the traffic flow for FM 240; Nessel Road construction has begun and are half way through the design; and otherwise normal precinct operations – mowing.

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.

**Public Announcements/Comments (No. 48)**

None

**Recess**

Court recessed until 2:00 p.m.

**Reconvene**

Court reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

**Workshop on FY2026 Budget (No. 47)**

Court held a workshop on FY2026 Budget. Court reviewed and discussed the budget summary request of department changes in staff, capital outlay and other request.

**Statement of Qualifications (No. 20)**

Court passed on this agenda item.

**Adjourn (No. 49)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 4:27 p.m.]

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

De Witt County Commissioners Court met in regular session July 28 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Courtroom at the De Witt 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:**

### **Certified Tax Appraisal Roll (No. 1)**

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to receive the 2025 Certified Appraised Values by Ashley D. Mraz from the DeWitt County Central Appraisal District. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Schedule Public Hearings (No. 2)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to schedule a public hearing for August 25, 2025 at the DeWitt County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. to conduct a hearing for the FY2026 proposed budget, the tax rate, and adopt the FY2026 budget and the 2025 tax rate. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Child Welfare Board Budget (No. 4)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget for the DeWitt County Child Welfare Board. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Child Welfare Board Interlocal Agreement (No. 5)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve the amended Interlocal Agreement between DeWitt County and the DeWitt County Child Welfare Board. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Schedule Public Hearing Date (No. 3)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to schedule a public hearing for an annual written archive plan for funding the preservation and restoration of the county clerk's records archive pursuant to Local Government Code 118.025 to take place on August 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Courtroom. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Field Agreement for Predatory Animal Control (No. 6)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve a Field Agreement between the County of DeWitt and the USDA, Texas AgriLife Extension and Texas Wildlife Damage Management Association, Inc. for predatory animal control beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Statements of Qualifications (No. 7)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to have Urban Engineering and Southwest Engineering submit proposals and proposal contracts to Commissioners Court. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Public Announcements/Comments (No. 24)**

George McNary, President of the Lockhart Community Cemetery Association, addressed the court regarding the Lockhart Community Cemetery and requested assistance from the commissioners to help with trim trees and other cleanup.

### **Sheriff's Office Insurance Claim Settlement Offer (No. 8)**

Court passed on this agenda item.

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

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to enter into an agreement between DeWitt County and Victoria Engineering, Inc. dba Urban Engineering for professional engineering services for non-housing projects under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Program. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Resolution Opposing Efforts to Prohibit County Legislative Communications (No. 10)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve a resolution opposing legislation prohibiting the use of county funds to retain experts, consultants, and lobbyists to influence legislation, pay dues to associations that influence legislation, and to reimburse county officials for influencing legislation, Resolution Number 2025-028. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **HB2521 Division Orders (No. 11)**

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to receive division orders from EOG Resources Inc. (HB2521) for the Schuetzeberg Unit #1H and Schuetzeberg Unit B #2H. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Temporary Right of Way (No. 12)**

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve permit application from AJ's Logistics for installation of a temporary water line along Westhoff Cemetery Road, Schulle Road, Walter Mueller Road, Schlenstedt Road, and Hilbrich Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 1. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – July 11-24, 2025 (No. 13)**

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

### **County Auditor's Inventory Audit of Fixed Assets Report for Emergency Management Coordinator (No. 14)**

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. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Declare Fixed Assets as Salvage (No. 15)**

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

### **Accounts Payable (No. 16)**

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. 17)**

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 Amendment Requests (No. 18)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve the following items in accordance with the orders presented including: the budget amendment requests for interdepartmental transfers for Veterans, Non-Departmental, JP #1, JP #2, EMC, Commissioner Pct. #2, Commissioner Pct. #3. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

### **Payroll Reports (No. 19)**

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

### **Courthouse/Annex/Museum Expenditures/Maintenance/Improvements (No. 20)**

Mr. Varela gave an update on the De Witt County Historical Museum. He reported that the east wall has been replaced, all the siding has been ripped down and replaced back with Hardie Plank Lap Siding, all windows and screens have been removed from the building and have been shipped

off for repair and restoration, pest control sprayed for carpenter ants on the widow toward the south and currently working on some broken siding, putting it back and getting ready for painting.

Judge Fowler reported that a flood light on the southwest corner of the courthouse has been damaged. He is going to review the camera footage to see what caused the damage.

Judge Fowler reported that there has been some fire alarms going off at the 2021 Annex. The issue is being checked on and appears to be some communication issues.

Mr. Carson gave an update on the Precinct No. 4 office/building. The electrician should finish this today, cabinets should go in this week, should clean the floors next week and looking at maybe three (3) weeks to be moving in.

#### **Legislative Update (No. 21)**

No Legislative update.

#### **Discussion of Commissioner Precinct Operations (No. 22)**

Commissioner Precinct No. 1 reported that the drains have been installed on Nessel Road and getting ready to move on to Phase 2. He reported normal precinct operations otherwise – mowing, cleaning ditches and blading roads. Mr. Varela also reported that FM 240 is operable with limited traffic.

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.

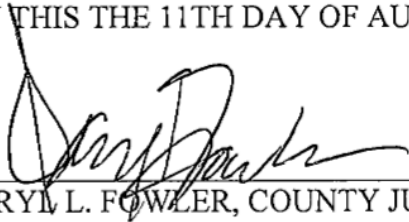
#### **Workshop on FY2026 Budget (No. 23)**

Court held a workshop on the FY2026 Budget.

#### **Adjourn (No. 24)**

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 11:48 a.m.]

THE FOREGOING MINUTES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY A.D. 2025 WERE READ AND APPROVED IN REGULAR SESSION OF COURT ON THIS THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, A.D. 2025.

  
DARYL L. FOWLER, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST   
NATALIE CARSON, COUNTY CLERK

