

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS
SPECIAL MEETING – MAY 4, 2026**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in special session May 4, 2026 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:

Executive and Closed Session (No. 2)

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to go into a closed session meeting pursuant to Sections 551.072(2) and 551.129 of the Texas Government Code and appoint the judge as the official keeper of the minutes. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Judge Fowler announced that the court returned to open session at 9:40 a.m.

Discussion and Potential Action (No. 3)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive the application for economic development from Thomaston Fire for the purchase of the brush truck and water tank and approve waiving the application fee. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

MOTION: Mr. Carson made a motion to approve Court Order No. 2026-020. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Public Announcements/Comments on Non-Agenda Item (No. 1)

None

Adjourn (No. 4)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 9:45 a.m.]

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS
REGULAR MEETING – MAY 11, 2026**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in regular session May 11, 2026 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:

Public Announcements/Comments on Non-Agenda Items (No. 1)

Mr. Stanley Jacks with Envirotech Services introduced himself and discussed services offered.

Health Insurance Mid-Plan Year Review Workshop (No. 2)

Court reviewed current employee health insurance benefit plan; receive and discussed information provided by Texas Association of Counties Health and Employee Benefits Pool.

Texas Flood Awareness Week Resolution (No. 3)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-022 establishing May 18th through 22nd, 2026 as Texas Flood Awareness Week in DeWitt County. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Affidavit Granting Permission to Enter Private Property (No. 6)

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion to receive and approve the affidavit granting permission to enter private property owned by Bob Stirneman on Stratton Road and FM 1447 for drainage purposes in Commissioner Precinct No. 2. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Estimate of Net Taxable Value for 2026 (No. 7)

MOTION: Mr. Varela 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. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

HVAC Maintenance Agreement (No. 8)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve HVAC service and maintenance agreement for the Cuero, Nordheim, Westhoff and Hochheim radio towers. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Minutes (No. 9)

MOTION: Mr. Varela 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 with Judge Fowler absent.

County Auditor's Deposit Receipt Audit for April 2026 (No. 10)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's April 2026 Deposit Receipt Audit Report pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 115. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent.

County Auditor's Payroll Audit Report April 2026 (No. 11)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's April 2026 Payroll Audit Report pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 115. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent.

County Auditor's Positive Pay Audit Report April 2026 (No. 12)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive DeWitt County Auditor's April 2026 Positive Pay Audit Report pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 115. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent.

Monthly Revenue Reports from County Officials and Department Heads (No. 13)

County Auditor Neomi Williams reported the auditor's office had received monthly reports from all officials and department heads.

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve Monthly Revenue Reports from County Officials and Department Heads. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent.

County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – April 23-30, 2026 (No. 14)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Report from April 23rd through April 30th, 2026 pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 114. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent.

County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – May 1-6, 2026 (No. 15)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Report from May 1st through May 6th, 2026 pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 114. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent

Accounts Payable (No. 16)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve accounts payable. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent.

Ratified Accounts Payable (No. 17)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve ratified accounts payable. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent.

Budget Amendment Requests (No. 18)

None

County Treasurer's Monthly Report (No. 19)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive report and approve Court Order No. 2026-021, an Order Approving Treasurer's Monthly Report. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler absent.

Payroll Reports (No. 20)

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

Courthouse/Annex/Museum Expenditures/Maintenance/Improvements (No. 21)

DeWitt County Historical Museum: Mr. Varela gave an update on the contractor's plans this week to touch up the outside paint. Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) prisoners are still painting the interior walls of the museum.

Courthouse: Mr. Varela gave an update on the concrete work for the installation of the Alamo monument.

Legislative Update (No. 22)

No Legislative update.

Discussion of Commissioner Precinct Operations (No. 23)

Commissioner Precinct No. 1 reported on normal precinct operations.

Commissioner Precinct No. 2 reported should be finishing the bridge project this week; waiting for the rest of the guardrails to be put up.

Commissioner Precinct No. 3 reported on normal precinct operations.

Commissioner Precinct No. 4 reported on normal precinct operations.

Executive and Closed Session (No. 4)

Court did not go into executive and closed session.

Discussion and Potential Action (No. 5)

MOTION: Mr. Carson made a motion to approve Court Order No. 2026-023, the Economic Development Agreement to be executed and implemented by and between DeWitt County, Texas and Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., an active Texas non-profit corporation doing business in De Witt County, Texas as a firefighting/fire suppression and emergency services provider, with said Agreement to provide for an authorized loan by the County of public funds to Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department in the amount \$222,000.00 and through Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department's execution and payment of a Secured Promissory Note in said amount, with interest, payable to the order of the County, with said public funds to be used for the purchase by Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department of certain, needed firefighting equipment, specifically one (1) fire truck and one (1) water tank, to assist the efforts of Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department to provide adequate fire and emergency services to the public in DeWitt County, Texas pursuant to Chapter 381 of the Texas Local Government Code and Chapter 614 of the Texas Government Code. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

MOTION: Mr. Carson made a motion to approve Court Order No. 2026-024, a budget amendment amending the FY2026 DeWitt County, Texas Budget for economic development and authorizing the transfer of funds in the amount of \$222,000 pursuant to a Secured Promissory Note executed by Thomaston Volunteer Fire Department, as Borrower. Mr. Varela seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Adjourn (No. 24)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 11:20 a.m.]

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS
SPECIAL MEETING – MAY 15, 2026**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in special session May 15, 2026 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:

Public Announcements/Comments (No. 1)

None

Schedule Public Hearing Date (No. 2)

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion placing a No Thru Truck Traffic road sign on McGehee Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 2 for a public hearing set on May 26, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the DeWitt County Courthouse. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Proposal for Repairs to Ratcliff Radio Tower (No. 3)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to rescind the prior motion awarding the bid to Armor Air for failure to comply with the bid. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Judge Fowler abstaining.

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to award the bid that Victoria Air Conditioning put in for \$9,870.00 to replacement of the air conditioning unit at the Ratcliff Tower. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Adjourn (No. 4)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 9:07 a.m.]

**MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DE WITT COUNTY, TEXAS
REGULAR MEETING – MAY 26, 2026**

DeWitt County Commissioners Court met in regular session May 26, 2026 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:

Public Announcements/Comments on Non-Agenda Items (No. 1)

None

Public Hearing (No. 2)

Public hearing held in order to provide opportunity for public comments on placing No Thru Truck Traffic road sign on McGehee Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 2. No one was present to speak either for or against the placing of the road sign.

Close Public Hearing (No. 3)

Judge Fowler closed the public hearing.

Rule on Public Hearing (No. 4)

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion approving the placing of No Thru Truck Traffic road sign on McGehee Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 2. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

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

MOTION: Mr. Pilchick made a motion for the placing of No Thru Truck Traffic signs on McGehee Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 2, on each end of McGehee Road, from Bramlette and Hahn Road effective today. Mr. Kaiser seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Health Insurance Renewal Workshop (No. 5)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive health insurance renewal rates from Texas Association of Counties. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Resolution (No. 11)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adopt a resolution adopting the DeWitt County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Action Plan, Court Order Number 2026-025. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Title VI Coordinator (No. 7)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to identify Ashley E. Hunt, Human Resource Director as DeWitt County's Title VI Coordinator. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Title VI Program (No. 8)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve and adopt the DeWitt County Title VI Plan, United States Department of Transportation Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances and Appendices, and Title VI Complaint Procedures and Forms and authorize the judge to execute the form. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Memorandum of Donation (No. 9)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to accept a monetary donation of \$3,075.00 from Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority for the purpose of replacing paddling trail kiosks along the Guadalupe Valley Paddling Trail for DeWitt County Commissioner Precinct No. 1 and pursuant to Local Government Code section 81.032. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Certification of Funds (No. 10)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive letter from County Auditor certifying funds for the DeWitt County Commissioner Precinct No. 1 Office from Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports – May 7-20, 2026 (No. 13)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive the County Auditor's Semi-Monthly Reports from May 7th through May 20th, 2026 and pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 114. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Human Resources Statutory Compliance Audit for FY2025 (No. 14)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to receive the Human Resources Statutory Compliance Audit for FY2025 and 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. 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.

Temporary Right of Way (No. 16)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve permit application from Select Water Solutions for installation of a temporary water line along Muschalek Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 3. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Temporary Right of Way (No. 17)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve temporary right of way agreement with Select Water Solutions for installation of a temporary water line along Klein Road in Commissioner Precinct No. 3. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Temporary Right of Way (No. 18)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve permit applications from EOG Resources Inc. 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.

Accounts Payable (No. 19)

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. 20)

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. 21)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to approve the following items in accordance with the orders presented: the budget amendment requests for interdepartmental transfers for JP No. 1, County Attorney, Sheriff and Commissioner Precinct No. 2. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Payroll Reports (No. 22)

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. 23)

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. 24)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to approve Quote No. 355522 to Trane to repair a valve at the county courthouse in the amount of \$3,616.00. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Varela gave an update on the concrete for the monument slab at the courthouse.

DeWitt County Historical Museum: Mr. Varela gave an update on the inside painting and that the museum will remain closed for the summer.

Legislative Update (No. 25)

No Legislative update.

Discussion of Commissioner Precinct Operations (No. 26)

Commissioner Precinct No. 1 reported receipt of final draft of the drawings for the Old Gonzales Road water crossing replacement and will be looking for closure soon. Mr. Varela also reported on normal precinct operations.

Commissioner Precinct No. 2 reported the bridge on Matthew-Adams Road is completed and the rails are up. Mr. Pilchick reported on chip sealing Stratton Road.

Commissioner Precinct No. 3 reported on normal precinct operations.

Commissioner Precinct No. 4 reported on normal precinct operations.

Insurance Consultant (No. 6)

Court received information from Orlando Espinoza, Benefits Consultant with Higginbotham Public Sector.

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to appoint Higginbotham Public Sector (Principal/Writing Agent: Coby James), Tax ID Number 87-2676854, Texas General Lines 2767899, 2175 N. Glenville Drive, Richardson, Texas 75082, as the Agent of Record for with respect to DeWitt County medical, pharmacy, dental and vision employee benefits. Mr. Pilchick seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

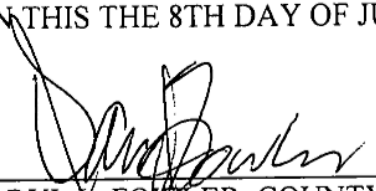
Authorize Auditor to Advertise for Request for Proposals (No. 11)

MOTION: Mr. Varela made a motion to authorize the County Auditor to advertise for request for proposals for employee health, dental and vision insurance for DeWitt County. Mr. Carson seconded the motion. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Adjourn (No. 27)

MOTION: Mr. Kaiser made a motion to adjourn. [Adjourned at 10:32 a.m.]

THE FOREGOING MINUTES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY A.D. 2026 WERE READ AND APPROVED IN REGULAR SESSION OF COURT ON THIS THE 8TH DAY OF JUNE, A.D. 2026.



DARYL E. FOWLER, COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: Natalie Carson
NATALIE CARSON, COUNTY CLERK

