

**COLORADO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT**  
**NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING**

DATE OF MEETING: December 15, 2025 – 9:00 A.M.  
BUILDING: Colorado County Courthouse, County Courtroom 106  
STREET LOCATION: 400 Spring Street  
CITY OF LOCATION: Columbus, Texas 78934

Pursuant to the authority granted under Government Code, Chapter 551, the Commissioners Court may convene in a closed meeting to discuss and deliberate agenda item(s) subject to the closed meeting exceptions. A final action, decision, or vote on a matter deliberated in a closed meeting shall only be made in an open meeting. Commissioners Court may use a telephone conference call, video conference call, or communications over the Internet to conduct a public consultation with its attorney in an open meeting of the governmental body or a private consultation with its attorney in a closed meeting of the governmental body. Immediately before any closed meeting, the specific section or sections of Government Code, Chapter 551, which provides statutory authority for closed meetings, will be announced.

**On this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025, the Commissioners Court of Colorado County, Texas met in Special Session at 9:00 A.M., in their regular meeting place at the Colorado County Courthouse, County Courtroom, 400 Spring Street, in the City of Columbus, Texas.**

**The Following Members were present to wit:**

<b>Honorable Ty Prause</b>	<b>County Judge</b>
<b>Honorable Shannon Owers</b>	<b>Commissioner Precinct #1</b>
<b>Honorable Ryan Brandt</b>	<b>Commissioner Precinct #2</b>
<b>Honorable Keith Neuendorff</b>	<b>Commissioner Precinct #3</b>
<b>Honorable Darrell Gertson</b>	<b>Commissioner Precinct #4</b>
<b>By: Michelle Kollmann</b>	<b>Deputy Clerk</b>

**The Honorable Kimberly Menke, County Clerk, was unable to attend.**

**The County Judge Ty Prause called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.**

**MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING**  
**December 15, 2025**

DELIBERATE AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

**Judge Praise led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.**

2. Agenda as posted.

**Motion by Commissioner Brandt to approve the agenda as posted; seconded by**

**Commissioner Neuendorff; 5 ayes 0 nays; motion carried; it was so ordered.**

**(See Attachment)**

MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING

December 15, 2025

FILED FOR RECORD  
COLORADO COUNTY, TX

COLORADO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT 2025 DEC -9 PM 1:47  
NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING

TY BERLY PRAUSE  
COUNTY CLERK MK

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DELIBERATE AND CONSIDER ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.
2. Agenda as posted.
3. Order prohibiting or restricting outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of Colorado County, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §352.081. (Prause)
4. Commissioners Court Members sign all documents and papers acted upon or approved.
5. Adjourn.

CERTIFICATION

NAME: Ty Prause  
TITLE: Colorado County Judge  
SIGNATURE OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL:   
DATE: December 9, 2025  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (979) 732-2604  
FAX NUMBER: (979) 732-9389

The Colorado County Courthouse is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available.

**MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING**

**December 15, 2025**

3. Order prohibiting or restricting outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of Colorado County, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §352.081. (Prause)

**Motion by Commissioner Gertson to approve an order prohibiting or restricting outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of Colorado County, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code §352.081 and including citations may be issued; seconded by Commissioner Neuendorff; 5 ayes 0 nays; motion carried; it was so ordered.**

**(See Attachment)**

MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING

December 15, 2025

COUNTY OF COLORADO  
STATE OF TEXAS



FILED FOR RECORD  
COLORADO COUNTY, TX

2025 DEC 16 AM 10:04

KIMBERLY ANNIE  
COUNTY CLERK

**ORDER OF COMMISSIONERS COURT**  
**RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING**  
(Public Safety Hazard)

WHEREAS, Texas Local Government Code Section 352.081 provides that the Commissioners Court of a county, by order, may prohibit outdoor burning in the unincorporated area of a county if the Commissioners Court makes a finding that circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated areas create a public safety hazard that would be made more severe by outdoor burning; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado County Commissioners Court finds that circumstances and conditions present in the unincorporated areas of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioners Court that outdoor burning is restricted in the unincorporated areas of the county for 90 days from the date of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by this Court or the County Judge. This Order is adopted pursuant to local Government Code §352.081(c)(2), and other applicable statutes. This Order restricts outdoor burning as follows:

1. **Outdoor burning banned.** Unless an exception appears below, the use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited. Combustible materials include, but are not limited to burning of trash, brush and open campfires and materials used outdoors in activities that could result in a fire. A person may not sell, detonate, ignite, or in any way use fireworks classified as "skyrockets with sticks" under 49 C.F.R. part. 173.100(r)(2) (10-01-86 edition) or missiles with fins in any portion of the unincorporated areas of Colorado County.
2. **Exceptions.** The following outdoor activities shall be allowed provided they are attended at all times and all following precautionary rules and measures are strictly followed:
  - **Household Trash.** Burning of household trash in a receptacle that is enclosed and covered with a mesh material with no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch openings and supervised in a safe area clear of debris.
  - **Barbecues** using above-ground grills, with enclosed fireboxes, in a safe area clear of debris or other combustible materials and attended at all times.
  - **Controlled burns** necessary for planting and harvesting agricultural crops with a defensible space around the burn area, presence of fire suppression tools, and personal presence during the entire controlled burn.
  - **Authorized by TCEQ.** This order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for: (1) firefighting training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; (3) planting or harvesting of agriculture crops; or (4) burns that are conducted

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by a prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resource Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resource Code.

- **Attwater Prairie Chicken Refuge** maintenance activities.
- **Non-Profit & Religious Organizations** shall be allowed to prepare barbecue provided they contact their local fire department in advance for a site visit by a member of the department and follow all precautionary measures directed by such department.
- **Outdoor Welding** shall only be allowed under the following circumstances:
  - (i) welding, cutting and grinding associated with welding activities shall not take place when the wind is over 15 miles per hour;
  - (ii) the welder must notify the Colorado County Sheriff's Department before any welding, cutting or grinding begins; all grass, leaves, brush and other easily combustible materials must be cleared with a twenty (20) foot radius surrounding the area where activity is to take place before any welding, cutting or grinding begins; and,
  - (iii) a spotter with water and a ready pressurized delivery system must be on hand before any welding, cutting or grinding begins and remain on hand until the activity is completed.

If the responding peace officer determines that a person responsible for the fire is in violation of this Order prohibiting outdoor burning, a citation will be issued.

In accordance with the Texas Local Government Code §352.081(h), a violation of this order is a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.00.

Approved and so ordered by Commissioners Court on this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025.



Colorado County Judge

**MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING**

**December 15, 2025**

4. Commissioners Court Members sign all documents and papers acted upon or approved.

**Judge Prause announced it is now time to sign all documents and papers.**

5. Adjourn.

**Motion by Judge Prause to adjourn at 9:12 A.M.; seconded by Commissioner Neuendorff;  
5 ayes 0 nays; motion carried; it was so ordered.**

**An audio recording of this meeting of December 15, 2025 is available in the County Clerk's Office.**

MINUTES OF THE COLORADO COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER'S COURT SPECIAL MEETING  
December 15, 2025

Minutes were taken and prepared by Kimberly Menke, County Clerk on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025 with Judge Ty Pause presiding.

I, KIMBERLY MENKE, COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT IN AND FOR COLORADO COUNTY, TEXAS do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Commissioner Court in session on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025.

Given under my hand and official seal of office this date December 15, 2025.

Kimberly Menke

