

CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS
GENERAL ELECTION ORDER

ORDINANCE 2024-O-001

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL ELECTION ON MAY 4, 2024, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING THREE (3) COUNCIL MEMBERS; AND PROVIDING DETAILS RELATING TO THE HOLDING OF THE ELECTION.

WHEREAS, the laws of the State of Texas provide that on May 4, 2024, there shall be a general election for municipal officers; and

WHEREAS, the terms for three (3) City Council Members At-Large are scheduled to expire at the next uniform election date.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLANCO THAT:

SECTION 1. ELECTION

- A. A General Election is called and ordered for May 4, 2024, at which election the qualified voters of the City of Blanco may vote for the purpose of electing three (3) City Council Members At-Large.
- B. Candidates for the above offices may file their application beginning at 8:00 a.m. January 17, 2024 and shall file their applications no later than 5:00 p.m. February 16, 2024, on the 78th day before the date of the election, as provided in Sections 141.031 and 143.007 of the Texas Election Code. All candidates for the offices to be filled in the election to be held on May 4, 2024, shall file their sworn application with the City Secretary of the City of Blanco at City Hall, 300 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas, said applications shall be on a form as prescribed by the Election Code of the State of Texas.

The City Secretary shall note on the face of each application the date and time of its filing. All applications shall include a clear reference to the office the candidate is seeking.

- C. The present boundaries of the City of Blanco shall constitute one election precinct. The polls shall be open for voting 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the following countywide polling places:

ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACES

First Baptist Church-Fellowship Hall
1200 4th Street
Blanco, TX 78606

Good Shepherd Catholic Church
285 281 Loop
Johnson City, TX 78636

Blanco Courthouse Annex-Hoppe
101 E. Cypress Street
Johnson City, TX 78636

Blanco South Annex
402 Blanco Avenue
Blanco, TX 78636

SECTION 2. APPOINTMENTS

- A. The Election Officer is authorized to appoint the Presiding Election Judge, and the Alternate Presiding Election Judge. The Election Officer is authorized to appoint additional alternates, if necessary. The Presiding Judge at each polling place shall have the authority to appoint no more than two (2) clerks to assist in the holding of the election, but in no event serve as the early voting ballot board for the election and the Presiding Judge of the election precinct shall also serve as the presiding officer of the Early Voting Ballot Board. The Board shall process early voting results in accordance with the Texas Election Code. Compensation for each Election Judge(s) and Clerks shall be in accordance with Section 32.091 and 32.092 of the Texas Elections Code.
- B. The City Secretary is hereby appointed clerk for early voting. The City Secretary is authorized to appoint a deputy clerk or clerks for early voting in accordance with Chapter 83, Subchapter B of the Election Code.

SECTION 3. EARLY VOTING BY MAIL

Blanco County Elections Officer shall serve as Early Voting Clerk for the purpose of receiving ballot applications for ballots to be voted by mail. Ballot applications submitted by mail shall be addressed to the City's Early Voting Clerk at the following address:

Early Voting Clerk
P. O. Box 13
Johnson City, Texas 78636

SECTION 4. EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE

- A. The City Secretary shall serve as the Early Voting Clerk for early voting by personal appearance. The Early Voting Clerk shall have the authority to designate such deputy early voting clerks as may be necessary to staff the Early Voting Polling Places established under this Order.
- B. The places for early voting for the election shall be:

EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACES

Blanco County Courthouse-Hoppe Room
101 E. Cypress Street
Johnson City, TX 78636

Blanco County South Annex
402 Blanco Avenue
Blanco, TX 78606

- C. The election clerks shall keep the office open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., for early voting on each day that which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or an official state holiday, beginning April 22, 2024, and continuing through April 30, 2024 for early voting by personal appearance. The clerks shall not permit anyone to vote early by personal appearance on any day which is not a regular working day for the Blanco County Elections office, and under no circumstances shall they permit anyone to vote early by personal appearance at any time when such office is not open to the public. The Blanco County Elections mailing address is P.O. Box 13, Johnson City, Texas, 78636 where ballot applications and ballots voted by mail may be sent. The early voting clerk shall maintain a roster listing each person who votes early by personal appearance and each person to whom a ballot to be voted by mail is sent, in accordance with the provisions of the Election Code. The roster shall be maintained in a form approved by the Secretary of State.

SECTION 5. CONDUCT OF ELECTION

- A. Electronic voting shall be used for the election, both in early voting and for voting on election day, in accordance with the Election Code. The use of at least one (1) voting station that complies with Section 61.012 of the Texas Election Code, which provides a practical and effective means for voters with physical disabilities to cast a secret ballot is hereby authorized.
- B. A central counting station is established at the place designated in Blanco County Annex-Conference Room at 101 E. Cypress, Johnson City, TX 78636 . The Election Officer will be appointed at the Central counting station manager and the Election Clerk will be appointed at the Tabulation Supervisor.
- C. All expenditures necessary for the conduct of the election, the purchase of materials, and the employment of all election officials are hereby authorized in accordance with the Election Code. The Election Officer is hereby authorized and directed to furnish all necessary election supplies to conduct the election.
- D. The order in which the names of the candidates are to be printed on the ballot shall be determined by a drawing by the City Secretary, as provided by Section 52.094 of the Election Code. The City Secretary shall post a notice in her office, at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the date on which the drawing is to be held, of the time and place of the drawing, and shall also give personal notice to any candidate who makes written request for such notice and furnishes to the City Secretary a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Each candidate involved in the drawing, or a representative designated by such candidate, shall have a right to be present and observe the drawing.
- E. The three (3) City Council Member candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to such positions.
- F. Notice of this election shall be given in accordance with the provisions of the Election Code. The Mayor shall issue all necessary orders and writs for such an election and returns of the election shall be made to the City Secretary immediately after the closing of the polls.
- G. All election materials shall be printed in English and Spanish as required by Section 272.001 of the Texas Election Code.
- H. The election shall be held in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Texas Election Code. If any provisions of this ordinance conflicts with a mandatory provision of the Election Code, it is the intention of the City Council that the provision of the Election Code shall control.

SECTION 6. CANVASSING OF RETURNS

The Election Officer shall make a written return of the Election Results to the City Council in accordance with the Election Code. The City Council shall canvass the returns and declare the results of the Election in accordance with the Texas Election Code.

SECTION 7. AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE

The Mayor of the City of Blanco is authorized to execute, and the City Secretary is authorized to attest this Ordinance on behalf of the City Council. The Mayor is further authorized to do all other things legal and necessary in connection with the ordering, holding and consummation of the Election.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance is effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY

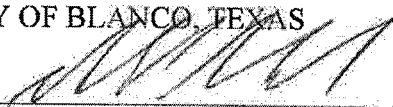
Should any of the clauses, sentences, paragraphs, sections or parts of this Ordinance be deemed invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable by a court of law or administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter, such action shall not be construed to affect any other valid portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. PROPER NOTICE & MEETING

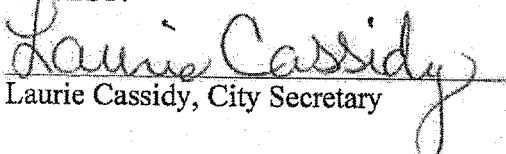
A quorum of the City Council was present at the meeting at which this Ordinance was adopted. The meeting was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

PASSED & APPROVED this, the 13 day of February, 2024, by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstentions of the City Council of the City of Blanco, Texas.

CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS


Mike Arnold, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laurie Cassidy, City Secretary

City of Blanco
General Election Order 2024



ELECTION SERVICES CONTRACT
BETWEEN
BLANCO COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICER
AND
CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS

UNIFORM ELECTION

MAY 4, 2024

**ELECTION SERVICES CONTRACT
BETWEEN THE
BLANCO COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICER AND
CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS**

THIS CONTRACT ("Election Services Contract" or "Contract") is made and entered into on this 16th day, February 2024, by and between the City of Blanco, Texas ("Entity"), and Rosemary Adame, Elections Administrator for Blanco County, Texas, ("Elections Officer"), under the authority of the Texas Election Code Chapters 31 and 271, and upon approval of the Blanco County Commissioners Court and the City Council of the City, (collectively "Participating Parties") for the services to be performed by the Participating Parties in the **MAY 4, 2024 UNIFORM ELECTION** ("Election") as outlined herein.

NOW THEREFORE THIS CONTRACT is entered into for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises hereinafter set out, and for the purpose of ensuring that the Participating Parties understand the tasks each is to perform in connection with the Election as follows:

SECTION 1. DUTIES AND SERVICES OF ELECTIONS OFFICER

The Elections Officer shall be responsible for performing the following duties and shall furnish the following services and equipment in connection with the Election:

- (a) Contact the owners or custodians of county-designated polling places and arrange for their use in the Election.
- (b) Contact the owner or custodian of some other public place (or if unavailable, private building) in the election precinct and arrange for its use as a polling place if the county designated polling place in the precinct is unavailable for use in the Election.
- (c) Procure, prepare, and distribute all necessary election supplies, including:
 - (1) ballots and ballot cards;
 - (2) qualification field systems - "Knowlnk Poll-Pads";
 - (3) election kits;
 - (4) voting booths, privacy dividers, ballot boxes; and
 - (5) all necessary ADA compliant voting equipment.
- (d) Notify election judges of the date, time, and place of any Election.
- (e) Arrange for the use of a central counting station and for the personnel and equipment needed at the counting station and assist in the preparation of programs and test materials for the tabulation of the ballots to be used with electronic voting equipment.
- (f) Publish the legal notices of the date, time, and place of the test of the electronic tabulating equipment and conduct such test;
- (g) Assist in the general overall supervision of the election and provide advisory services in connection with the decisions to be made and the actions to be taken by the officers who are responsible for holding the Election;

- (h) Prepare submission(s) of voting changes to the U.S. Department of Justice, if necessary, under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; and
- (i) Perform all election duties in accordance with the Texas Election Code.

SECTION 2. DUTIES AND SERVICES OF THE ENTITY

The Entity shall be responsible for performing the following duties in connection with the Election:

- (a) The Participating Parties are responsible for the appointment of the presiding election judges and alternate election judges listed in "Exhibit B" for each Vote Center/polling place listed in "Exhibit B" subject to the eligibility requirement found in the Texas Election Code Chapters 32 and 83. The Participating Parties acknowledge that approval of this Election Services Contract by the Entity shall constitute approval and appointment of the Judges and Alternate Judges listed in "Exhibit B" by the Entity. The Elections Officer will be responsible for the administration of the election judges.
- (b) As soon as possible after the candidate filing deadline, the Entity shall certify in writing to the Elections Officer the candidates' names (as each is to appear on the ballot) and offices sufficiently in advance to allow time to prepare the ballot and to conduct any necessary logic and accuracy testing.

SECTION 3. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- (a) Nothing contained in this Contract shall authorize or permit a change in the officer, the place at which any document or record relating to the election is to be filed, the place at which any function is to be carried out, the officers who conduct the official canvass of the election returns, the officer to serve as custodian of the voted ballots or other election records, or any other nontransferable functions specified by Texas Election Code Section 31.096.
- (b) The Elections Officer is the agent of the Entity for the purposes of contacting the third parties with respect to the election expenses within the scope of the Elections Officer's duties, and the Elections Officer is not liable for the Entities' failure to pay a claim.
- (c) The Elections Officer shall file copies of this Contract with the County Treasurer and the County Auditor of Blanco County, Texas.
- (d) This Contract is subject to the written approval of the political subdivision involved in the election and shall not be binding on the Entity until such written approval is obtained.
- (e) It is agreed that it is in the public interest of the Participating Parties, that Rosemary Adame, Elections Administrator, serve as the Early Voting Clerk for both entities participating in this election.

SECTION 4. COST OF SERVICES

Costs. Entity agrees to pay the total cost of election expenses incurred by the City of Blanco.

Administrative Fee. The Elections Officer shall also charge an administrative fee equal to 10% of the Entity's share of the cost of the Election or a minimum of \$75.00.

SECTION 5. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SHARED ELECTION

The Entity acknowledges that the Election is a Joint Election under Texas Election Code Chapter 271, and that the Elections Officer, in accordance with Texas Election Code Sections 31.092 and 31.093, may enter into a similar Joint Election Services Contract with other political subdivision(s) in the county (collectively, the "Participating Parties") listed in Exhibit C of this Election Services Contract. In such event, the Entity understands and agrees that the costs of common polling places, ballots and programming, voting equipment, and the common set of election workers will be shared with the other Participating Parties.

SECTION 6. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

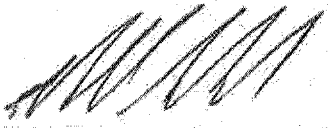
- (a) This Contract shall be construed under and in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws, and all obligations of the parties created hereunder are performable in Blanco County, Texas.
- (b) In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Contract shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof, and this Contract shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.
- (c) In the case of an election contest solely challenging this Entity's election results, the cost of such contest, challenge, or litigation will be borne by the Entity.
- (d) In the case of a runoff election due to undecided races on the election, the cost of such runoff election will be borne by the entity and will be contracted for at such time.
- (e) In a joint election all participating parties share in the cost of such election. Therefore, if one or more parties withdraws, has unopposed candidates, or has circumstances which change the precincts or districts involved in the election, the cost to the other parties will inevitably be affected and will be adjusted and itemized in the final Actual Cost Report.
- (f) This Contract constitutes the sole and only agreement of the parties hereto and supersedes any prior understanding of written or oral agreement between the parties respecting the written subject matter. By affixing his/her signature to this Contract, the party acknowledges, accepts and approves all resolutions, documents and attachments/exhibits included as part of this Contract.
- (g) No amendment, modification, or alteration of the terms hereof shall be binding unless the same is in writing, and duly executed by the parties.

SECTION 7. CANCELLATION OF ELECTION

The Entity may cancel this Contract at any time. In the event that Entity cancels this Contract, Entity shall only be responsible for its share of expenses actually incurred prior to cancellation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Parties have executed this Contract on the dates indicated below, and the Contract is effective on the date the last Party signs:

CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS

By: 
Mike Arnold
Mayor City of Blanco

Date: 02/13/2024


Attest:

By: Laurie Cassidy

Date: 02/13/2024

WITNESS: Laurie Cassidy
City Secretary

BLANCO COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIAL

By: 
Rosemary Adame
Blanco County Elections Administrator
Blanco County, TX

Date: 02-16-2024

