

SEP 21 2026

1:32 pm

HUTCHINSON COUNTY, TEXAS

BY K. Ratliff DEPUTY

**JOINT ELECTION AND ELECTION SERVICES
AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF SANFORD AND
HUTCHINSON COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Hutchinson County ("the County") and City of Sanford ("City") noted in the signature block ("Participating Entities"), have each called an election;

WHEREAS, the Participating Entities desire to conduct these elections jointly, pursuant to Chapter 271, Texas Election Code, on November 3, 2026;

WHEREAS, the City is located in Hutchinson County, and it is in the best interest of the voters of Hutchinson County who reside within the boundaries of the City for the Participating Entities to conduct an efficient election by entering into a Joint Election and Election Services Agreement (the "Agreement").

NOW, THEREFORE, the Participating Entities adopt this Agreement to hold a joint election, to be conducted and administered by the County Clerk, Kelly Ratliff, as follows:

1. SCOPE

The Participating Entities will hold elections on November 3, 2026 ("Election Day") jointly for those City voters residing in Hutchinson County.

2. BALLOT LANGUAGE

Each of the Participating Entities will provide the appropriate ballot language in both English and Spanish to be voted on by the qualified voters of that Participating Entity. The County will provide the City a final proof of ballot language, as it is to appear on the ballot, for final approval. The County will provide a sample ballot to the City. The ballots shall be printed in a timely fashion to be available for posting on the City's and County's website, Early Voting by mail, and for programming voting devices for Early Voting by personal appearance.

3. ELECTION CLERKS AND JUDGES

The County Clerk shall serve as a joint Early Voting Clerk. Appointment of the Presiding Election Judges, Alternate Judges, assistant early voting clerks, the Presiding Judge of the early ballot board and other election officials for the Election shall be made by the County. The County Clerk may employ other personnel necessary for the proper administration of the Election, including such part-time help as is necessary to prepare for the Election, to ensure the timely delivery of supplies during Early Voting and on Election Day, and for the efficient tabulation of ballots.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNTY

The County shall be responsible for performing the duties and performing the services associated with an election for those resident voters of the County and the City, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Recommend and confirm all early *voting* polling place locations. Days and hours for early *voting* on weekdays and weekends *will* be those days and hours provided by the County, and in accordance with State law.
- (b) Agree to receive and process requests for Early Voting by Mail.
- (c) Contact the owners or custodians of county-designated polling places and arrange for their use in the Election.
- (d) Procure and distribute all necessary election kits and supplies.
- (e) Procure all necessary voting machines and equipment, transport machines and equipment to and from the polling places, and prepare the voting machines and equipment for use at the polling places.
- (f) Notify the election judges of the date, time, and place of the election and arrange for a facility for holding the election.
- (g) Appoint the presiding officers of the early ballot board for processing ballots cast during early voting.
- (h) Arrange for the use of a central counting station and for the tabulating personnel and equipment needed at the counting station and assist in the preparation of programs and the test materials for the tabulation of the ballots to be used with electronic voting equipment.
- (i) Publish the legal notice of the date, time, and place of the test of the electronic tabulating equipment and conduct such test.
- (j) Serve as the Joint Custodian of Records ("Joint Custodian") for the sole purpose of preserving all voted ballots securely in a locked room in the locked ballot boxes and securing of electronic votes for the period for preservation required by the Election Code.
- (k) Provide its Elections Division staff and offices to administer the Joint Election under the direction of the County Clerk.
- (l) Provide and post a sample ballot, whether separate or joint, as may be required by law.
- (m) Post the Notice regarding the City's Bond Election in a prominent location at all polling places during early voting and on Election Day.

5. CANVASS OF RESULTS

Each entity will be responsible for the canvass of the returns regarding its ballot items.

6. LOCATION OF COMMON POLLING PLACES

The common polling places for Election Day are:

<i>County Precinct Number</i>	<i>Polling Place Address</i>
11	Grace Fellowship Church 401 Gardner St., Borger, TX
14/23	Fairlanes Baptist Church 3000 Fairlanes Blvd. Borger, TX
21	Fritch Library Community Room 205 N. Cornell Fritch, TX
31/41	Hutchinson County Courthouse 500 Main St. Stinnett, TX
33/42	Hutchinson County Annex 1400 Veta, Room 116 Borger, TX

As stated in the Participating Entities' Orders of Election, early voting shall be conducted as follows:

Main	Hutchinson County Courthouse 500 Main St. Stinnett, TX	October 19, 2026 through October 23, 2026 (Mon.-Fri.) October 24, 2026 (Saturday) October 25, 2026 (Sunday) October 26, 2026 through October 30, 2026 (Mon.-Fri.)	8:00 am to 6:00 pm 7:00 am to 7:00 pm 9:00 am to 3:00 pm 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Branch	Hutchinson County Annex 1400 Veta, Room 116 Borger, TX	October 19-October 30, 2026 (Monday-Friday)	8:00 am to 6:00 pm
Branch	Fritch Library Community Room 205 N. Cornell Fritch, TX	October 19-October 30, 2026 (Monday-Friday)	8:00 am to 6:00 pm

7. ALLOCATION OF ELECTION EXPENSES

- (a) It is understood that each Participating Entity will be entering into a separate agreement with the County for conducting the joint election on November 3, 2026, that the terms of such agreements are essentially identical to the terms herein, and that each such Participating Entity will be responsible for their pro rata share of the actual costs and expenses in conducting such joint election. Accordingly, the City hereby agrees to pay to the County as their pro rata share which will be divided equally by the 2 Participating Entities of the actual costs and expenses incurred by the County in conducting the joint election on November 3, 2026. Such actual costs and expenses shall include all expenses attributable to the administration, coordination, and supervision of such joint election, including, without limitation, the actual costs and expenses reasonably and directly incurred by the County for supplies, compensation paid to election workers and personnel, the rental and programming of electronic voting devices and audio ballots, the rental of such other reasonably necessary equipment, the rental or costs of securing polling/voting sites and/or facilities, the training costs for establishing and operating all early voting and Election Day activities at the polling sites as well as activities related to the tabulation of votes. As soon as is reasonably practical, the County shall submit an invoice to the City setting forth the actual costs and expenses incurred by the County in conducting such joint election and the amount owed by such Participating Entity. Such full amount shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days from the date upon which the City receives such invoice.
- (b) The expense of any early voting polling places that are established at the request of an Entity(ies) other than those which are mutually agreed upon by all the Entities shall be borne by the requesting Entity.
- (c) An Entity may cancel an election but will be financially responsible for any expenses that were accrued by the County, up to the time of cancellation.
- (d) In the event of a recount, the expense of the recount shall be borne by the Entity(ies) involved in such recount.
- (e) Election workers will be paid at the rate designated by the County, or as required by law, whichever is greater.

8. LEGAL NOTICES

- (f) Each Entity shall be individually responsible for the preparation of election orders, resolutions, notices, and other pertinent documents for adoption or execution by its own respective governing board, and for the posting or publication of election notices and all expenses related thereto. The Notice will be Bilingual and will be published or posted in both English and Spanish. The preceding sentences do not prevent the Entities or any combination of them from issuing a joint notice of election and sharing the cost of same. The City shall provide the County with the Notice of Election for posting by the County at all polling places.
- (g) Each Entity shall individually submit a request for preclearance from the United States Department of Justice, if required.

9. AUTHORITY TO CONFORM TO ELECTION LAW

The Entities authorize the County Clerk and the City Mayor to vary the terms of this Agreement or election procedures or polling places as may be necessary to comply with applicable law or to comport with proper election procedures without the need for further action by the governing body of any Participating Entity.

10. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Agreement takes effect upon the complete execution of this Agreement by the Participating Entities.

Attest:

HUTCHINSON COUNTY, TEXAS

By: Will H

Date: 9-8-26

Attest:

CITY OF SANFORD (City)

By: Shelley Simpson

Date: 9-8-26

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SANFORD
AUTHORIZING A JOINT ELECTION AND
ELECTION SERVICES AGREEMENT
WITH HUTCHINSON COUNTY, TEXAS**

The City of Sanford does hereby make the following Resolution regarding the joint election to be conducted with Hutchinson County, Texas, as more fully described in the Joint Election and Election Services Agreement (the "Agreement") attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and fully incorporated as if set forth herein:

WHEREAS, Texas Election Code§ 271.002(a) authorizes the governing bodies of political subdivisions to enter into an agreement to hold joint elections and share common polling places; and,

WHEREAS, City of Sanford, organized and operated by legislative authority as the City of Sanford ("the City") and Hutchinson County, Texas ("the County") are each political subdivisions of the State of Texas; and,

WHEREAS, the City has territory within the County, and the entities have common voters; and

WHEREAS, the County will conduct an election on November 3, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the City intends to conduct an election on November 3, 2026; and

WHEREAS, because the County is conducting an election on the November 3, 2026 uniform Election Day, the Texas Election Code requires the City to use for its election the County precincts and common polling places for those City voters residing in the County; and,

WHEREAS, the governing bodies of the City and the County desire to hold a joint election as set forth in the Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the City and the County have agreed to use polling places as permitted by Texas Election Code§ 271.003; and,

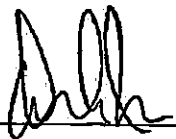
WHEREAS, the County and the City have common voters, and it would be to the benefit of the County, the City, and the resident voters thereof to share joint polling places, and for the County to provide election services and conduct the election on behalf of the City, as set forth in the Agreement and the Parties' Election Orders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Sanford ("mayor") hereby adopts the above recitals as findings of fact and operative provisions hereof the same as if set out in full; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the City's election shall be held jointly with the County, as permitted under Texas Election Code Chapter 271, and as set forth in the Agreement attached hereto; and,

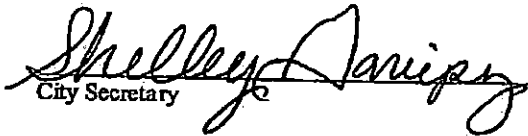
RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Council authorizes the Mayor to enter into the attached Agreement, and that the Council President or Mayor are authorized to take such further actions and execute such other documents as are necessary to implement the actions that are contemplated by this Resolution, whether or not expressly authorized herein.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this 8th day of September, 2026
by City of Sanford.



City of Sanford, Mayor

ATTEST:



City Secretary