



RESOLUTION NO. 26-0209-B2

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ENNIS, TEXAS, ORDERING AND PROVIDING NOTICE OF A SPECIAL RUNOFF ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE 14TH DAY OF MARCH, 2026, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A MAYOR PRO TEM FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 2026, AND A MAYOR FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 2027; PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE; PROVIDING FOR POLLING LOCATIONS; AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH ELLIS COUNTY ELECTIONS FOR ELECTION SERVICES.

WHEREAS, The City of Ennis, Texas ("City") acting under the authority provided by its charter, adopted by the electorate, pursuant to Article XI, Section 5 of the Texas Constitution and Chapter 9 of the Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ennis Home Rule Charter provides that the city elections shall be held in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2025, Mayor Pro Tem Lynda Isbell submitted her resignation to the City Secretary's office, resulting a vacancy for the remainder of her term expiring May of 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Constitution Article XI, Section 11 provides that vacancies in cities with terms of office greater than 2 years must be filled by a majority vote of qualified voters in a special election within 120 days after the vacancy occurs; and

WHEREAS, on October 21, 2025, the City Commission passed Resolution No. 25-1021-F1 ordering a special election for the purpose of electing a mayor pro tem; and

WHEREAS, the special election was held on January 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2026, the City Commission of the City of Ennis, Texas, canvassed the returns of the January 31, 2026, Special Election and determined that no candidate for the office of Mayor Pro Tem, and no candidate for the office of Mayor received the votes necessary to be elected by a majority vote; and

WHEREAS, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for the office of Mayor Pro Tem are David Espedal and Chad Wester; and

WHEREAS, a runoff election must be held to fill the position of mayor pro tem; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Secretary of State has approved March 14, 2026, as the date for holding a runoff election; and

WHEREAS, Ellis County will be holding Joint Republican and Democrat primary election on March 3, 2026, and Ellis County's early voting dates for the primary elections are from February 17 to February 27, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Ellis County elections administrator has notified the City that her office is unable to mobilize election equipment and staff necessary to hold any early voting dates for the runoff election between February 25 and March 4, 2026, due to the office administering primary elections on March 3, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Ellis County elections administrator has notified the City that the earliest possible date that her office could mobilize for early voting is March 5, 2026; and

WHEREAS, due to impossibility and impracticability of Ellis County being able to concurrently conduct early voting dates for both the primary elections and the run off elections, the City will begin early voting dates on March 5, 2026, pursuant to Texas Election Code 85.001(d).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ENNIS, TX:

SECTION 1: The City Commission finds that the recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution as if written herein.

SECTION 2: RUNOFF ELECTION ORDERED - That the City Commission does hereby order a runoff election to be held on March 14, 2026, under the authority of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Ennis, Texas, and the laws of the State of Texas, for the purpose of electing a Mayor Pro Tem to serve the remainder of a three-year term expiring May 2026.

SECTION 3: JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT - The Mayor and the City Secretary are authorized to enter into an election agreement and contract for election services with Ellis County under the authority of Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code. The election shall be conducted pursuant to the election laws of the State of Texas.

SECTION 4: EARLY VOTING CLERK - Jana Onyon, Ellis County Elections Administrator, 204 E. Jefferson Street, Waxahachie, Texas 75165, is hereby appointed as Early Voting Clerk and General Custodian of the Election Materials and Records until the time period required by law has lapsed. Applications for early voting ballot by mail should be mailed to the Early Voting Clerk at the above address; or faxed to 972-923-5194 and mailed within 4 days; or email a signed copy of the application to Elections@elliscountytexas.gov. The deadline for submitting applications for voting by mail is March 3, 2026.

SECTION 5: EARLY VOTING - Early voting by personal appearance shall be conducted as listed below and as provided in the attached Notice of Election (EXHIBIT A):

Ellis County Sub-Courthouse (Conf Room), 207 S. Sonoma Trail, Ennis, TX 75119

Thursday, March 5, 2026 - Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 8:00 A.M. thru 5:00 P.M.

Sunday, March 8, 2026 from 10:00 A.M. thru 4:00 P.M.

Monday, March 9, 2026 and Tuesday March 10, 2026 from 8:00 A.M. thru 5:00 P.M.

SECTION 6: ELECTION DAY VOTING - Voting on Election Day, March 14, 2026, shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. at the following locations and as provided in the attached Notice of Election (EXHIBIT A):

Ellis County Sub-Courthouse (Conf Room), 207 S. Sonoma Trail, Ennis, TX 75119

City of Ennis Public Library (Learning Center), 501 W. Ennis Avenue, Ennis, TX 75119

SECTION 7: ELECTION RESULTS - The results of the election shall be certified, canvassed, and returned in the form and manner prescribed by the laws of the State of Texas and the Charter and ordinances of the City of Ennis.

SECTION 8: NOTICE OF ELECTION - The notice of election hereby ordered and called shall be promulgated, published and posted in keeping with the laws of the State of Texas and the Charter and ordinances of the City of Ennis.

SECTION 9: VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE - The voter registration deadline for the March 14, 2026 Runoff Election is February 12, 2026.

SECTION 10: A copy of this order and all other required postings shall appear on the City of Ennis website at:

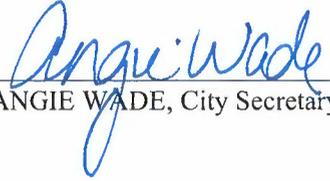
<https://www.ennistx.gov/January312026SpecialElection>
and on the Ellis County Elections Administration website at:
<https://www.elliscountytexas.gov/629/upcoming-elections>

SECTION 11: The Mayor and the City Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to comply with the provisions of Federal Law, State law, and the City of Ennis Home Rule Charter in carrying out and conducting the election, whether or not expressly authorized herein.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Commission of the City of Ennis, Texas on this 9th day of February, 2026.


KAMERON RABURN, Mayor

ATTEST:


ANGIE WADE, City Secretary





**Notice of Runoff Election to Elect a Mayor Pro Tem
March 14, 2026**

*Aviso de Segunda Vuelta Electoral Para elegir a un Alcalde Pro Tem
14 de marzo 2026*

To the registered voters of the City of Ennis, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados de la Ciudad de Ennis, Texas:)

Notice is hereby given of state law for acceptable credentials for voting in person. A voter will be required to show one of the seven approved forms of photo identification or voters who do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID will be able to execute a Reasonable Impediment Declaration and provide a supporting form of identification.

(Se notifica la ley estatal sobre credenciales aceptables para votar en persona. El votante deberá mostrar una de las siete formas aprobadas de identificación con fotografía. Quienes no posean o no puedan obtener razonablemente una de las siete formas aprobadas de identificación con fotografía ID podrán presentar una Declaración de Impedimento Razonable y una identificación complementaria.)

All eligible voters in the City of Ennis, Texas, may vote in a Runoff Election to elect a Mayor Pro Tem at the below listed Early Voting Vote Center. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted at:

(Todos los votantes elegibles de la ciudad de Ennis, Texas, pueden votar en las Aviso de segunda vuelta electoral para elegir a un alcalde Pro Tem en el Centro de Votación Anticipada que se indica a continuación. La votación anticipada en persona se realizará en:)

ELLIS COUNTY SUB-COURTHOUSE (CONF. ROOM), 207 S. SONOMA TRAIL, ENNIS TX 75119

March 5, 2026 – March 7, 2026 (Thursday - Saturday)	8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
March 8, 2026 (Sunday)	10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
March 9, 2026 and March 10, 2026 (Monday and Tuesday)	8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
<i>5 de marzo de 2026 – 7 de marzo de 2026 (jueves - sabado)</i>	<i>8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.</i>
<i>8 de marzo de 2026 (domingo)</i>	<i>10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.</i>
<i>26 de marzo de 2026 y 27 de marzo de 2026 (lunes y martes)</i>	<i>8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.</i>

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed, faxed, or emailed to:

(Las solicitudes de votación por correo deberán enviarse por correo postal, fax o correo electrónico a:)

**Jana Onyon, Early Voting Clerk
Ellis County Elections**

204 E. Jefferson Street, Waxahachie, Texas 75165-3752

Phone: 972-825-5195

Fax: 972-923-5194

Email: Elections@co.ellis.tx.us

Website : <https://co.ellis.tx.us/312/Elections>

Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on Tuesday, March 3, 2026.

(Las solicitudes de votación por correo deben recibirse a más tardar al cierre de operaciones del martes 3 de marzo 2026.)

Last Day to Register to vote in the March 14, 2026, Runoff Election is February 12, 2026

(El último día para registrarse para votar en la segunda vuelta electoral del 14 de marzo de 2026 es el 12 de febrero de 2026.)

Notice is hereby given that the vote centers shown below will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM on Election Day, March 14, 2026, for voting in a Special Election to elect a Mayor.

(Por la presente se notifica que los centros de votación, como se muestra a continuación, estarán abiertos de 7:00 a. m. a 7:00 p. m. el día de la elección, 14 de marzo de 2026, para votar en una elección especial para elegir un alcalde.)

ELLIS COUNTY SUB-COURTHOUSE (CONF. ROOM) 207 S SONOMA TRAIL, ENNIS, TX 75119

ENNIS PUBLIC LIBRARY, 501 W. ENNIS AVENUE, ENNIS, TX 75119

More information is available at www.ennistx.gov/currentelections or call 972-875-1234 ext. 2236