AN ORDER CALLING A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD BY THE GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, MAKING PROVISION FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION, AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THAT ELECTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the *Board*) of the GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (the *District*), located in Erath and Palo Pinto Counties, Texas (the *County*), finds and determines that a special election (the *Election*) should be held to determine whether the District will be authorized to issue bonds in the amount and for the purposes identified in this order (the *Order*); and

WHEREAS, the District will contract with the elections administrator of Erath County and the elections administrator of Palo Pinto County (individually, the *Administrator*; together, the *Administrators*) to conduct all aspects of the Election, as necessary or desirable and further depending on whether one or more counties have registered voters as of the deadline for registering to vote, that is, 30 days before the Election; and

WHEREAS, the Election may be conducted by each County and held jointly with other political subdivisions for which each County is also conducting their elections (collectively, the *Participants*) pursuant to a joint election agreement according to the Texas Election Code, as amended (the *Code*); and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the anticipated capital improvements identified in Measure A and corresponding Proposition A may be submitted to the eligible voters of the District as a single measure and corresponding proposition pursuant to Section 45.003(g) of the Texas Education Code because these capital improvements will be predominantly used for educational and administrative purposes, none of which are the type of facilities described in Section 45.003(g)(1-6) of the Texas Education Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the actions described above are in the best interests of the residents of the District; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT:

SECTION 1. Election Ordered; Purpose; Amount. The Election will be held in the GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT on November 4, 2025 (Election Day), which is a uniform election date under the Code and is 78 or more days from the date of the adoption of this Order, for the purpose of submitting the following legal question to the eligible voters of the District:

Measure A

Should the Board of Trustees of the Gordon Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$6,400,000 for the purposes of

designing, constructing, renovating, improving, upgrading, updating, modernizing, acquiring, and equipping school facilities (and any necessary or related removal of existing facilities), with the bonds to mature, bear interest, and be issued and sold as permitted by law, and will the Board of Trustees of the District be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds?

SECTION 2. Method of Voting; Ballots. The Board authorizes voting electronically, by paper, or any combination thereof. Voters will vote on the official ballots by marking "FOR" or "AGAINST" the measure above with the following ballot language:

Gordon Independent School District Proposition A

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE; the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$6,400,000 for school facilities and the levy of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds.

SECTION 3. Polling Details.

- A. One or more District election precincts are established for Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with one or more corresponding polling places as identified on Exhibit A to this Order. As permitted by the Code, polling places may be changed without further Board action; any changes will not affect this Order or subsequent notice of election.
- B. Exhibit A also includes the places, dates, and hours for early voting in person. As permitted by the Code, these details may be changed without further Board action; any changes will not affect this Order or subsequent notice of election. Applications for voting by mail should be received no later than the close of business on October 24, 2025. Applications should be sent to the Elections Administrators named below. If an application for ballot by mail is faxed or emailed (or if a federal postcard application is faxed), the applicant must also mail the original.

SECTION 4. Election Officials.

- A. The Elections Administrators will appoint poll workers in compliance with legal requirements, including access to Spanish translators and any other applicable languages.
- B. The Early Voting Clerk for Erath County is Lana Stevens; mailing and physical address: 222 East College St., Stephenville, TX 76401; phone: (254) 965-8990; fax: (254) 965-5732; and email: ecvote@co.erath.tx.us. The Early Voting Clerk for Palo Pinto County is Laura Watkins; mailing and physical address: 100 S.E. 6th Ave., STE. 205, Mineral Wells, TX 76067; phone: (940) 659-1217; fax: (888) 965-1548; and email: laura.watkins@co.palo-pinto.tx.us. The Early Voting Clerks will appoint the Deputy Early Voting Clerks.

- C. Each Elections Administrator is authorized to establish an Early Voting Ballot Board for their respective counties and to designate their respective Presiding Judges and, if needed, their respective members of the Signature Verification Committee.
- D. The Board authorizes each Administrator to utilize a Central Counting Station (the *Stations*) if needed. Each Elections Administrator or their designee is appointed as the Manager of their respective Station with the authority to appoint the Tabulation Supervisor, the Programmer, and any Clerks for their respective Stations.
- <u>SECTION 5.</u> <u>Legal Compliance.</u> The Election and notice of Election will be held and conducted according to the Code and other applicable law. To the extent required by law, materials relating to the Election will be printed in English, Spanish, and any other required language.
- <u>SECTION 6.</u> <u>Debt Obligations.</u> The following information is calculated based on bond market conditions as of the date of the adoption of this Order; is further explained in one or more voter information documents attached to this Order as exhibits; and is not intended to serve as a cap or other restriction should the bonds be authorized at the Election.
- A. The aggregate amount of the outstanding principal of the District's debt totaled \$10,845,000 (including maintenance tax debt, if any).
- B. The aggregate amount of the interest owed on the District's debt obligations, through respective maturity, totaled \$4,454,633.
- C. The District levied an advalorem debt service tax rate for its outstanding debt obligations of \$0.325 per \$100 of taxable assessed valuation.
- D. The maturity date of the proposed bonds will not exceed the maximum number of years authorized by law.
- E. The maximum interest rate for any series of bonds authorized at the Election is 5.25% (expressed as a net effective interest rate).
- F. This Order is intended to satisfy the official requirements set forth in section 1.150-2 of the United States Treasury Regulations.
- SECTION 7. Contracting Authority. The Board authorizes the District's President of the Board, the Superintendent of Schools, or their designees to negotiate and enter into one or more joint election agreements, election services contracts, or similar contracts with the County, acting by and through the Administrator, and any Participants if desired or if required to comply with applicable law.
- <u>SECTION 8.</u> <u>Modifications.</u> The Board acknowledges that information required to complete the Exhibits to this Order may not be available when the Election is ordered, and the Board therefore authorizes the District's Superintendent of Schools, the President of the Board,

or their designees to correct, modify, or change the Exhibits to the extent permitted by applicable law. Additionally, the Board authorizes these individuals to make technical modifications to this Order that are necessary for compliance with applicable law or to carry out the intent of the Board as evidenced in this Order.

SECTION 9. Findings. The recitals in this Order are found to be true.

<u>SECTION 10.</u> <u>Conflicts.</u> All orders and resolutions, or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Order will be and remain controlling as to the matters ordered herein.

SECTION 11. Controlling Law. This Order will be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America.

SECTION 12. Open Meetings. It is found that the meeting at which this Order is adopted was open to the public, and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at the meeting, including this Order, was given.

<u>SECTION 13.</u> <u>Severability.</u> If any provision of this Order or the application of this Order to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then the remainder of this Order remains effective.

<u>SECTION 14.</u> <u>Effective Date</u>. This Order is effective immediately upon its approval.

* * *

PASSED AND APPROVED on August 11, 2025.

GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kathy Culbertson

President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Jim Kostiha

Secretary, Board of Trustees

(DISTRICT SEAL)

[Signature Page to Bond Election Order]

November 4, 2025 Constitutional Amendment Election

Early Voting Hours

October 20th – October 24th, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm October 27th – October 29th, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

EXTENDED HOURS: Thursday October 30th & Friday October 31st 7:00 am - 7:00 pm

Early Voting Location

NEW ERATH COUNTY ANNEX

(Main Voting Location)
222 East College St.
Stephenville, TX 76401

ELECTION DAY VOTING LOCATIONS

Tuesday November 4, 2025

7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**VOTE CENTERS (Erath County voters can vote at any one of the following locations on Election Day, regardless of where you reside in Erath County) **

NEW ERATH COUNTY ANNEX

222 East College St. Stephenville, TX 76401

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER

1229 N. U.S. Hwy 281 Stephenville, TX 76401

DUBLIN ANNEX

219 S. Grafton Dublin, TX 76446

TEXAS BANK

988 Wolfe Nursery Rd. Stephenville, TX 76401

4 de Noviembre de 2025 Elecciones de Enmienda Constitucional

Horario de Votación Anticipada

de Octubre 20 - de Octubre 24, 8:00 am -5:00 pm de Octubre 27 - de Octubre 29, 8:00 am -5:00 pm

HORAS EXTENDIDAS: de Octubre 30 & 31 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

Ubicación de Votación Anticipada NUEVO ERATH COUNTY ANNEX

(Lugar principal de votación) 222 E. College St. Stephenville, TX 76401

LUGARES DE VOTACION EL DIA DE LAS ELECCIONES Martes el 4 de Noviembre 2025

7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

CENTROS DE VOTACIÓN (Los votantes del Condado de Erath pueden votar en cualquiera de los siguientes lugares el día de las elecciones, independientemente de dónde resida en el condado de Erath)

NUEVO ERATH COUNTY ANNEX

222 E. College St. Stephenville, TX 76401

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER

1229 N. U.S. Hwy 281 Stephenville, Tx 76401

DUBLIN ANNEX

219 S. Grafton Dublin, TX 76446

TEXAS BANK

988 Wolfe Nursery Rd. Stephenville, TX 76401

Exhibit B (Anexo B)

VOTER INFORMATION DOCUMENT [not part of the contract with voters] (DOCUMENTO DE INFORMATIVO PARA LOS VOTANTES) [no forma parte del contrato con las votantes]

Gordon Independent School District Proposition A: (Propuesta A del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Gordon:)

□ For (a favor)	THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE; the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$6,400,000 for school facilities and the levy of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds.	ESTE ES UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO A LA PROPIEDAD; la emisión de bonos por un monto de \$6,400,000 para instalaciones escolares y la imposición de impuestos suficientes para pagar el capital y los intereses de los bonos.	
□ Against (en contra)			
principal of debt obligations to be authorized (capital de obligaciones de deuda que se autorizará)			\$6,400,000
estimated interest for the debt obligations to be authorized presuming an interest rate of 5.00% (interés estimado para las obligaciones de deuda que se autorizarán asumiendo una tasa de interés del 5.00%)			\$5,901,000
estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full the debt obligations to be authorized amortized over 25 years (capital e intereses consolidados estimados necesarios para pagar a tiempo y en su totalidad las obligaciones de deuda que se autorizarán amortizar durante 25 años)			\$12,301,000
as of the date the election was ordered, principal of all outstanding debt obligations (a partir de la fecha en que se ordenó la elección, el capital de todas las obligaciones de deuda pendientes)			\$10,845,000
as of the date the election was ordered, the estimated interest on all outstanding debt obligations (a partir de la fecha en que se ordenó la elección, el interés estimado de todas las obligaciones de deuda pendientes)			\$4,454,633
estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full all outstanding debt obligations amortized over 23.5 years (capital e intereses consolidados estimados necesarios para pagar a tiempo y en su totalidad las obligaciones de deuda pendientes amortizadas durante 23.5 años)			\$15,299,633
as of the date the election was ordered, the ad valorem debt service tax rate per \$100 of taxable assessed valuation (a partir de la fecha en que se ordenó la elección, la tasa impositiva ad valorem de servicio de la deuda por cada \$100 de valuación tasada gravable)			\$0.3250
estimated maximum annual increase in the amount of taxes on a residence homestead with an appraised value of \$100,000 to repay the debt obligations to be authorized, if approved (aumento anual máximo estimado de la cantidad de impuestos sobre una residencia principal con un valor estimado de \$100,000 para saldar las obligaciones de deuda que se autorizarán, si se aprueba.)			\$0
This figure assumes application of a homestead exemption of \$100,000. (Esta cifra supone la aplicación de una exención de vivienda de \$100,000.)			
As noted above, this figure makes conservative assumptions about the amortization period of the debt obligations and the estimated interest rate. (Como se señaló anteriormente, esta cifra hace suposiciones conservadoras sobre el período de amortización de las obligaciones de deuda y la tasa de interés estimada.)			
Estimated future appraised values in the District are assumed to increase by \$2 million each year for the next 4 years and then remain unchanged thereafter. (Se asume que los valores tasados futuros estimados en el Distrito aumentarán un \$2,000,000 cada año durante los próximos 4 años y permanecerán sin cambios a partir de entonces.)			