Minutes of Special Meeting Board of Directors El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 (EPCWID) March 5, 2020

DIRECTORS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Johnny Stubbs, President	Jesus Reyes, General Manager
Art Ivey, Vice-President	Dr. Al Blair, District Engineer
Larry Ceballos, Secretary	Jim Speer, Attorney At Law
Miguel Teran, Director	Phil Bowen, Attorney At Law
George Brooks, Director	Jay Ornelas, Assistant District Engineer
	Mary Cortez, Chief Financial Officer
	Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer
	Rose Rodriguez, Tax
	Assessor/Collector/Office Manager
	Pete Rodriguez, Maintenance Manager
	Robert Rios, Water Master
	Sharon Atilano, Engineering Assistant
	Cathy Oyston, Water Records/Dispatch
	Supervisor
	Renea Hicks, Attorney At Law
	Larry Vasquez, USBR
	Miguel Fraga, PDNHF

1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum.

There being a quorum of Directors present, the meeting was called to order by President Johnny Stubbs at 8:30 a.m., and the Directors then proceeded to consider the following.

- 2. Welcome of guests. No action was taken on this item.
- 3. Cancellation of Election of Board of Directors on May 2, 2020, pursuant to the Texas Election Code 2.053 due to no opposition candidates.

After a motion by Art Ivey, seconded by George Brooks, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that the cancellation of election of the board of directors on May 2, 2020, pursuant to the Texas Election Code 2.053 due to no opposition candidates.

4. Appointment of Assistant Secretary of the Board of Directors.

After a motion by Art Ivey, seconded by Larry Ceballos, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that the Board of Directors appoint George Brooks as the Assistant Secretary of the Board of Directors.

5. Minutes of February 12, 2020 meeting of the Board of Directors.

After a motion by Art Ivey, seconded by Larry Ceballos, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that the draft minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 12, 2020 are approved.

- 6. Report and recommendations by Mary Cortez, Chief Financial Officer, concerning financial information, expenditures, budget, and investment policy:
 - **a.** Financial Report. No action was taken on this item.
 - **b.** \$500.00 Expenditure Report. No action was taken on this item.
 - c. Legal & Consulting Fees Budget Report. No action was taken on this item.

- 7. Report and recommendations by Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor/Collector/Office Manager, concerning adjustments and corrections, if any, to assessments, taxes, and charges by EPCWID.
 - a. Review tax report and adjustments-The tax report was reviewed, and tax adjustments for the month of February.

After a motion by Larry Ceballos, seconded by George Brooks, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS: Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor/Collector/Office Manager for EPCWID recommends adjustments or corrections to the tax rolls reviewed during the month of February 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the following adjustments and corrections have been reviewed, approved and are attached to these minutes:

- 1. Revive Community Church for 2019.
- b. 2013-2019 El Paso Public Service Board Assignments, 2013-2019 Lower Valley Water District Assignments and Report on tax suits. No action was taken on this item.
- c. Comparison of EPCWID Tax assessments and collection during 2018 and 2019. No action was taken on this item.
- 8. General Manager's report concerning the following:
 - a. Consideration and action on agreement retaining Max Renea Hicks an attorney for the district to work legal issues.

After a motion by Larry Ceballos, seconded by Miguel Teran, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that the Engagement Letter for Max Renea Hicks is approved and the Board President is authorized to sign such letter.

- b. Compact meeting on April 9, 2020 in Santa Fe, N.M. No action was taken on this item.
- c. Law of Rio Grande conference on April 7, 2020 in Santa Fe, N.M. No action was taken on this item.
- **d.** Release date March 13, 2020 irrigation season. No action was taken on this item.
- e. Award of grant by USBR to continue concrete lining on Riverside Canal. No action was taken on this item.
- 9. District Engineer's report and recommendations concerning the following:
 - a. Rio Grande Project Operating Agreement Accounting. No action was taken on this item.
 - **b. Rio Grande Compact Accounting.** No action was taken on this item.
 - c. Rio Grande Project Water Supply and Water Allocations. No action was taken on this item.
 - d. Status of 3rd Party Construction in District Canals and Drains. No action was taken on this item.
- 10. Maintenance Manager's report and recommendations concerning the following:

Drain maintenance program and water delivery system. No action was taken on this item.

11. Water Master's report and recommendations concerning the following:

Water use and availability. No action was taken on this item.

12. Water delivery allocations to EPCWID water users and water available by contract.

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by Larry Ceballos, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that the District's irrigable allocation is increased to 4.0 acre feet per acre of irrigable land for the 2020 irrigation season, including without limitation tax-exempt entities and the tracts under 2 acres in size will receive ten irrigations.

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by Larry Ceballos, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that the amount available for delivery to the City of El Paso in 2020 is set at 28,646 acre feet under paragraph 7B of the 2001 Rio Grande Project Implementing Third-Party Contract among the United States of America Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation, the El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1, and the City of El Paso joined by its Public Service Board.

- 13. Subdivision Plats within District Boundary requirement in License Manual:
 - a. Application 2185, by Socorro Partners I, LTD, for Jardin De Flores Unit Two, being a portion Tract 9, 9A and 16C, Block 12, Socorro Grant, El Paso County, Texas, containing 31.765 acres, Submission of Irrigable Land Exhibit

After a motion by Larry Ceballos, seconded by George Brooks, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that Application 2185, by Socorro Partners I, LTD, for Jardin De Flores Unit Two, being a portion Tract 9, 9A and 16C, Block 12, Socorro Grant, El Paso County, Texas, containing 31.765 acres, for a submission of an Irrigable Land Exhibit is approved.

- 14. Letters of Approval under existing License Agreements or Transfers of License
 - a. Application 1300, by the City of El Paso, request to vacate Linda Lane from existing license for ingress and egress across the Montoya Lateral Branch "A", approximately Station 65+65

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by Larry Ceballos, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that the Application 1300, by the City of El Paso, for a letter of approval under an existing license agreement to request to vacate Linda Lane from existing license for ingress and egress across the Montoya Lateral Branch "A", approximately Station 65+65 is approved upon the condition that the applicant meets all requirements of the license, including paying all fees and cost required by the license and providing the District with three signed originals of the license, both within 60 days hereafter, and the officers of EPCWID1 are authorized and directed to execute such license, a copy of which is attached hereto.

- 15. Applications for License for Use of District Real Property:
 - a. Application 2207, by William Kell, as Trustee of the Cervantes Revocable Trust to cross the Montoya Lateral Branch "A", approximately Station 65+65, via an existing bridge structure for private ingress and egress to Parcel 1: Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 1, Beltran Subdivision, an addition to the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, according to the plat thereof on file in Volume 79, Page 96, Real Property Records, El Paso County, Texas and Parcel 2: Tracts 14A, 14M, 14K, 14K1 and 14K2, Block4, Upper Valley Surveys, in the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, according to the resurvey of said Upper Valley Surveys made by El Paso County, Texas

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by George Brooks, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Board the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: that the Application 2207, by William Kell, as Trustee of the Cervantes Revocable Trust to cross the Montoya Lateral Branch "A", approximately Station 65+65, via an existing bridge structure for private ingress and egress to Parcel 1: Lot 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 1, Beltran Subdivision, an addition to the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, according to the plat thereof on file in Volume 79, Page 96, Real Property Records, El Paso County, Texas and Parcel 2: Tracts 14A, 14M, 14K1 and 14K2, Block 4, Upper Valley Surveys, in the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, according to the resurvey of said Upper Valley Surveys made by El Paso, Texas, has been reviewed and approved by Legal Counsel, and is approved the condition that the applicant requirements of the license, including paying all fees and cost required by the license and providing the District with three signed originals of the license, both within 60 days hereafter, and the officers of EPCWID1 are authorized and directed to execute such license, a copy of which is attached hereto.

- 16. Sale of Surplus District Real Property under 49.226 of the Texas Water Code:
 - **a.** Offer to purchase a portion of the Thompson Spur Drain. No action was taken on this item.
- 17. Any or all of the items shown on the attached Closed Meeting Agenda. The Board then entered into a closed session at 9:56 a.m. regarding the items to be considered in closed session as shown on the Notice of Public Meeting. The Board subsequently returned to the open session at 11:52 a.m. with no action having been taken in the closed session.
- 18. Consideration of agenda items for next regular board meeting.

No action was taken on this item.

19. **Adjournment**. On motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board Meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Larry Ceballos, Secretary