

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
 Board of Directors
 El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1
 (EPCWID)
 March 13, 2024**

DIRECTORS PRESENT	EMPLOYEES PRESENT
Johnny Stubbs, President	Jay Ornelas, PE General Manager
Art Ivey, Vice-President	Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer
Larry Ceballos, Secretary	Mary Cortez, Chief Financial Officer
Miguel Teran, Director	Sharon Atilano, Licensing Manager
George Brooks, Director	Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor Collector
	Pete Rodriguez, Maintenance Manager
	Enrique Perez, Operations Supervisor
LEGAL COUNSEL	Cathy Oyston, Water Records/ Dispatch Supervisor
Renea Hicks, Attorney At Law (via zoom)	Claudia Ruiz, Administrative Assistant
Maria O'Brien, Attorney At Law (via zoom)	David Ortega, Licensing Field Representative
DISTRICT ENGINEER	GUESTS
Dr. Al Blair, PE District Engineer (via zoom)	Robert Kimpel, Guest
	Daniel Chavez, HCCRD
	Jaime Cisneros, USBP
	Woody Irving, Reclamation

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 9:00 a.m., and the Directors then proceeded to consider the following.

2. Welcome of guests. No action was taken on this item.
3. Minutes of February 14, 2024 and February 26, 2024 meetings of the Board of Directors.

After a motion by Larry Ceballos, seconded by Art Ivey, 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 14, 2024 are approved.

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 draft minutes of the special meeting held on February 26, 2024 are approved.

4. Report and recommendations by Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer/Election Officer, and Renea Hicks concerning office operations, and elections: **None.**
5. 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.
 - d. **EPCWID FY 2022-2023 Audit.**

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 EPCWID FY 2022-2023 Audit is approved.

6. Report and recommendations by Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor Collector, concerning adjustments and corrections, if any, to assessments, taxes, and charges by EPCWID.

a. Review tax report and adjustment- The tax report was reviewed, and the following are the tax adjustments for the month of February 2024:

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 for EPCWID1 recommends adjustments or corrections to the tax rolls reviewed during the month of February 2024;

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

- 1. Duarte, Jesus M., (\$1.49), 2023**
- 2. Duarte, Jesus M., (\$1.65), 2023**
- 3. Hudek, Leo E., (\$.51), 2023**
- 4. Chavez, Andres Sr., (\$.30), 2023**
- 5. Chavez, Andres Sr., (\$.16), 2023**

b. 2013-2023 The City of El Paso and it's Public Service Board Assignments, 2013-2023 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 2022 and 2023.** No action was taken on this item.

7. General Manager's report concerning the following:

- a. **Visit from Upper Colorado Regional Director, Wayne Pullan, May 7-8, 2024.** No action was taken on this item.

8. 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.

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

- Water use and availability.** 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 delivery allocations to EPCWID water users and water available by contract. **None.**

12. Subdivision Plats within District Boundary requirement in License Manual. **None.**

13. Applications for License for Use of District Real Property:

- a. **2 Applications for Lower Valley Water District**

Application 3316, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to place a 12-inch water line inside a 24-inch steel casing across the Mesa Drain (a drainage canal), on Logistics Center Court, at approximately station 783+50

Application 3317, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to place a 12-inch potable water line inside a 24-inch steel casing across the Juan De Herrera Lateral Branch “C” (an irrigation lateral), on Logistics Center Court, at approximately station 17+64

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

RESOLVED: that the 2 Applications for Lower Valley Water District, are approved upon the condition that the applicant meets all requirements, 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 EPCWID are authorized and directed to execute such license, a copy of which is attached hereto.

b. 4 Applications for FiberLight

Application 3445, by FiberLight, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing the Wadlington Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Alameda Avenue, approximately station 1+36

Application 3446, by FiberLight, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing the Ysla Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Alameda Avenue, approximately station 1+14

Application 3447, by FiberLight, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing the Daugherty Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Alameda Avenue, approximately station 1+14

Application 3448, by FiberLight, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing the Salitral

**Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Alameda Avenue,
approximately station 2+28**

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 the 4 Applications for FiberLight, are approved upon the condition that the applicant meets all requirements, 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 EPCWID are authorized and directed to execute such license, a copy of which is attached hereto.

c. Application 3469, by Bowling Brothers Development Co, LLC, for 25-year license for surface use of approximately 0.75 acres of the Y-147 lateral (an irrigation lateral), from approximately station 80+68 to 86+68. No action was taken on this item.

14. Letters of No Objection for Natural Gas Service installed with the Rights-of-Ways of Public Roads: **None.**

15. Approval of Construction Dewatering Licenses for Conveyance Groundwater:

a. Application 3473, by Bain Construction, for a license for use of District facilities for conveyance of groundwater from construction dewatering into the Mesa Drain

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 Application 3473, by Bain Construction, for a license for use of District facilities for conveyance of groundwater from construction dewatering into the Mesa Drain, 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 EPCWID are authorized and directed to execute such license, a copy of which is attached hereto.

16. Letters of Approval and/or Amendments of existing License Agreements: **None.**
17. Agreement to classify Non-irrigable land as irrigable land: **None.**
18. Sale of Surplus District Real Property under 49.226 of the Texas Water Code. **None.**
19. Grants Agreements involving District Real Property: **None.**
20. Any or all of the items shown on the attached Closed Meeting Agenda.

The Board then entered into a closed session at 10:14 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 11:06 a.m. with no action having been taken in the closed session.

21. Consideration of agenda items for next regular board meeting.
22. **Adjournment.** On motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board Meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.


Lorenzo C. Ceballos, Secretary