

**Minutes of Special Meeting
Board of Directors
El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1
(EPCWID)
January 15, 2025**

DIRECTORS PRESENT	EMPLOYEES PRESENT
Art Ivey, President	Jay Ornelas, PE General Manager
Larry Ceballos, Vice-President	Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer
Miguel Teran, Director	Mary Cortez, Chief Financial Officer
Jarett Rogers, Director	Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor Collector
	Pete Rodriguez, Maintenance Manager
NOT PRESENT	Enrique Perez, Water Master
George Brooks, Secretary	Sharon Atilano, License Manager
	Cathy Oyston, Water Records/ Dispatch Supervisor
	Claudia Ruiz, Administrative Assistant
LEGAL COUNSEL	
Renea Hicks, Attorney At Law (via zoom)	Sonia Ontiveros, Tax Collector Assistant
Maria O'Brien, Attorney At Law	
	GUESTS
DISTRICT ENGINEER	Robert Kimpel, Guest
Dr. Al Blair, PE District Engineer	Ernest Madrid, US Border Patrol
	Larry Vasquez, USBR
	Bobby Skov, Guest

1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum.

There being a quorum of Directors present, the meeting was called to order by President Art Ivey 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 November 13, 2024 and December 6, 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors.

After a motion by Jarett Rogers, seconded by Miguel Teran, 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 November 13, 2024 are approved.

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by Jarett Rogers, 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 December 6, 2024 are approved.

4. Report and recommendations by Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer/Election Officer, 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. (November and December)** No action was taken on this item.
 - b. **\$1,000.00 Expenditure Report. (November and December)** No action was taken on this item.
 - c. **Legal and Consulting Fees Budget Report. (November and December)** No action was taken on this item.
 - d. **Quarterly Investment Report.**

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

RESOLVED: that the Quarterly Investment Report for period ending December 31, 2024 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 limitation on the collection of taxes for real-property that are delinquent for more than 20 years pursuant to Texas Property Tax Code Sec. 33.05 (2)

After a motion by Larry Ceballos, seconded by Jarett Rogers, 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 for properties with delinquent taxes for 20 or more years as allowed under Texas Property Tax Code Section 33.05(c);

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

b. Adjustment of assessments

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:

WHEREAS: Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor/Collector for EPCWID1 recommends adjustments or corrections to the tax rolls reviewed during the month of October and November 2024;

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

- 1. Simmons Richard & Montoya Rhonda, (\$54.05), 2024**
- 2. Socorro Village Limited Partnership, (\$16.63), 2024**
- 3. Sieber John C & Victoria, (\$49.72), 2024**
- 4. The North Loop 66 Partnership Joint Venture to the El Paso County as Trustee, (\$9.36), 2024**

After a motion by Larry Ceballos, seconded by Jarett Rogers, 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 December 2024;

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

- 1. Morales David, (\$93.50), 2024**
- 2. Morales David, (\$11.25), 2024**
- c. 2013-2024 The City of El Paso and it's Public Service Board Assignments, 2013-2024 Lower Valley Water District Assignments and Report on tax suits. No action was taken on this item.**
- d. Comparison of EPCWID tax assessments and collection during 2023 and 2024. No action was taken on this item.**

7. General Manager's report concerning the following:

- a. Date and location for 1st Farmers Meeting Regarding 2025 Water Supply.** 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 (irrigable land exhibit): **None.**
13. Applications for Licenses and Memorandums of Understanding for Use of District Real Property:
 - a. Application 1638, by El Paso Electric Company, for a renewal on a 1-year license to access EPCWID right of way, district wide, for operation and maintenance of existing El Paso Electric Company electrical system**

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 1638, by El Paso Electric Company, for a renewal on a 1-year license to access EPCWID right of way, district wide, for operation and maintenance of existing El Paso Electric Company electrical system, is 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. 8 Applications by Lower Valley Water District

Application 3515, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to install a 6-inch water line inside a 12-inch steel casing, crossing the Old Cuadrilla Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at FM 258 (Socorro Rd.), and Cuadrilla Rd.

Application 3516, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to install a 6-inch water line inside a 12-inch steel casing, crossing the River Drain (a drainage canal), at future county road, at approximately station 116+32

Application 3537, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to install a 12-inch sanitary sewer line inside a 24-inch steel casing, crossing the Ysla Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at North Loop, at approximately station 378+83

Application 3538, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to install a 6-inch water line inside a 12-inch steel casing, crossing the Franklin Drain (a drainage canal), at Thompson Rd., at approximately station 60+40

Application 3539, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to install a 12-inch sewer line inside 24-inch

casing, crossing the Mesa Drain (a drainage canal), at North Loop Rd., at approximately station 437+40

Application 3540, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to install a 8-inch sewer line inside a 16-inch steel casing, crossing Ysla Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Pickard Rd., at approximately station 7+53

Application 3541, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to install a 12-inch sewer line inside a 24-inch steel casing, crossing Ysla Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Young John, at approximately station 366+71

Application 3543, by Lower Valley Water District, for a 25-year license to install an 8-inch water line inside a 16-inch steel casing, crossing Guadalupe Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Newman Rd., at approximately station 190+61

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by Larry Ceballos, duly considered and carried by a majority vote of the Directors present, with Miguel Teran abstaining it was:

RESOLVED: that the 8 Applications by 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.

c. Application 3524, by City of El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board, for a 25-year license to construct an 8-inch sanitary sewer force main PVC pipe inside a 24-inch steel casing crossing the Nemexas Drain (a drainage canal), at Artercraft Rd., approximately station 318+00

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 Application 3524, by City of El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board, for a 25-year license to construct an 8-inch sanitary sewer force main PVC pipe inside a 24-inch steel casing crossing the Nemexas Drain (a drainage canal), at Arcraft Rd., approximately station 318+00, is 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.

- d. **Application 3529, by Spectrum Gulf Coast, L.L.C., for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing the Juan de Herrera Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Barbara Ave., at approximately station 357+41**

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 3529, by Spectrum Gulf Coast, L.L.C., for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing the Juan de Herrera Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Barbara Ave., at approximately station 357+41, is 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.

- e. **Application 3547, by David A. Morales, for a renewal for a private road crossing the Daugherty Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at approximately station 166+50**

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 3547, by David A. Morales, for a renewal for a private road crossing the Daugherty Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at approximately station 166+50, is 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.

f. **Application 3550, by City of El Paso through its El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board for a Temporary Ingress and Egress license along left bank of Franklin Canal (an irrigation canal), at approximately station 297+84**

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 3550, by City of El Paso through its El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board for a Temporary Ingress and Egress license along left bank of Franklin Canal (an irrigation canal), at approximately station 297+84, is 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.

g. **Application 3554, by David Morales, for a 3/4-inch PVC potable water line inside a 2-inch HDPE casing crossing Daugherty Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at approximately station 166+50**

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 3554, by David Morales, for a 3/4-inch PVC potable water line inside a 2-inch HDPE casing crossing Daugherty Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at approximately station 166+50, is 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.

h. Application 3557, by Spencer Construction LLC, for a Contract for Purchase of Non-Potable Raw Water for Use in Controlling Dust

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 3557, by Spencer Construction LLC, for a Contract for Purchase of Non-Potable Raw Water for Use in Controlling Dust, is 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.

14. Letters of No Objection for Natural Gas Service installed within the Rights-of-Ways of Public Roads: **None.**
15. Approval of Construction Dewatering Licenses for Conveyance Groundwater: **None.**
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 10:42 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 11:57 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 11:57 a.m.



George Brooks, Secretary