Minutes of Regular Meeting Board of Directors El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 (EPCWID)

September 10, 2025

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DIRECTORS PRESENT	EMPLOYEES PRESENT
Art Ivey, President	Jay Ornelas, PE General Manager
Larry Ceballos, Vice-President	Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer
George Brooks, Secretary	Mary Cortez, Chief Financial Officer
Jarett Rogers, Director	Pete Rodriguez, Maintenance Manager
Miguel Teran, Director	Enrique Perez, Water Master
	Sharon Atilano, License Manager
	Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor Collector
	Cathy Oyston, Water Records/ Dispatch Supervisor
LEGAL COUNSEL	Claudia Ruiz, Administrative Assistant
Renea Hicks, Attorney At Law (via zoom)	Sonia Ontiveros, Tax Collector Assistant
	Josh Quinn, Water Records Coordinator, Safety
	Rene Carmona, Safety Officer
DISTRICT ENGINEER	Luis Almeraz, Shop Supervisor
Dr. Al Blair, PE District Engineer (via zoom)	
	GUESTS
	Danny Chavez, HCCRD1
	Robert Kimpel, 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 August 13, 2025 and August 26, 2025 meetings 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 August 13, 2025 are approved.

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 draft minutes of the special meeting held on August 26, 2025 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. No action was taken on this item.
 - b. \$1,000.00 Expenditure Report. No action was taken on this item.
 - c. Legal and Consulting Fees Budget Report. No action was taken on this item.
 - d. Engagement Letter for FY2024-2025 audit by Pena Briones McDaniel & Co PC

After a motion by George Brooks, 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 FY2024-2025 audit by Pena Briones McDaniel & Co PC 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 adjustments. The tax report was reviewed, and the following are the tax adjustments for the month of August:

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:

WHEREAS: Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor/Collector for EPCWID1 recommends adjustments or corrections to the tax rolls reviewed during the month of August 2025;

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

- 1. McVay Fredick J & Stephanie to Burgos Arturo, (\$.26), 2022 to 2023.
- 2. Lopez Maria to Acosta Maria Esther, (\$2.28), 2005 to 2024.
- 3. Lopez Maria to Acosta Maria Esther, (\$365.37), 2010 to 2024.
- b. 2013-2025 The City of El Paso and it's Public Service Board Assignments, 2013-2025 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 2023 and 2024. No action was taken on this item.
- 7. General Manager's report concerning the following: None.
- 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):
 - a. Application 3659, by Eugenia Torres, for Francisco Torres Subdivision, being tract 7A, block 13, Upper Valley Surveys, El Paso County, Texas, containing 5.66 acres

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

RESOLVED: that the Application 3659, by Eugenia Torres, for Francisco Torres Subdivision, being tract 7A, block 13, Upper Valley Surveys, El Paso County, Texas, containing 5.66 acres for a submission of an irrigable land exhibit is approved.

- 13. Applications for Licenses and Memorandums of Understanding for Use of District Real Property:
 - a. Application 3526, by Bain Construction, Inc., for a Temporary Construction License for ingress and egress use of right bank of the Mesa Spur Drain (a drainage canal), at approximately station 167+50 to 106+00

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 3526, by Bain Construction, Inc., for a Temporary Construction License for ingress and egress use of right bank of the Mesa Spur Drain (a drainage canal), at approximately station 167+50 to 106+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.

b. Application 3586, by JNC Development, Inc., for a Temporary Construction License for private ingress and egress within the Salitral Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at approximately station 139+34

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 Application 3586, by JNC Development, Inc., for a Temporary Construction License for private ingress and egress within the Salitral Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at approximately station 139+34, 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:
 - a. Application 3569, by Texas Gas Service, a division of ONE Gas, for installation of a 2-inch PPE main natural gas pipeline encased in 4-inch steel casing, crossing the Socorro Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Apodaca Rd., at approximately station 56+16

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

RESOLVED: that the Application 3569, by Texas Gas Service, a division of ONE Gas, for installation of a 2-inch PPE main natural gas pipeline encased in 4-inch steel casing, crossing the Socorro Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Apodaca Rd., at approximately station 56+16, 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.

- 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 9:46 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 10:13 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 10:13 a.m.

George Brooks, Secretary