

**Minutes of Special Meeting
Board of Directors
El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1
(EPCWID)
January 17, 2024**

DIRECTORS PRESENT	EMPLOYEES PRESENT
Johnny Stubbs, President	Jay Ornelas, PE General Manager
Larry Ceballos, Secretary	Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer
Miguel Teran, Director	Mary Cortez, Chief Financial Officer
	Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor Collector
NOT PRESENT	Sharon Atilano, Licensing Manager
Art Ivey, Vice-President	Pete Rodriguez, Maintenance Manager
George Brooks, Assistant Secretary	Robert Rios, Waster Master
	Cathy Oyston, Water Records/ Dispatch Supervisor
LEGAL COUNSEL	Claudia Ruiz, Administrative Assistant
Renea Hicks, Attorney At Law (via zoom)	
	GUESTS
DISTRICT ENGINEER	Robert Kimpel, Guest
Dr. Al Blair, PE District Engineer (via zoom)	Danny Chavez, HCCRD
	Sylvia Carreon, MVEA
	Larry Vasquez, USBR

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 9:03 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 December 13, 2023 meetings of the Board of Directors.

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 draft minutes of the regular meeting held on December 13, 2023 are approved.

4. Report and recommendations by Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer/Election Officer, and Renea Hicks concerning office operations, and elections:

a. May 4, 2024 Election Information. No action was taken on this item.

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. Quarterly Investment Report.

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 Quarterly Investment Report for period ending December 31, 2023 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 December 2023:

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:

WHEREAS: Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor/Collector for EPCWID1 recommends adjustments or corrections to the tax rolls reviewed during the month of December 2023;

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

1. Perales Mario M & Montes Maria de Jesus, (\$18.40), 2023

c. 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.

d. 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. Status of Sediment Removal Projects- Franklin Canal and Riverside Canal. 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.

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

RESOLVED: that the District's allocation for irrigable land effective on March 22, 2024, is 4.0-acre feet (48 inches) per acre for the 2024 irrigation season, including without limitation irrigable land owned by a tax-exempt entity and the small tracts will receive 10 irrigations.

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

RESOLVED: that the final amount available for delivery to the City of El Paso starting on March 22, 2024, is 28,116 acre-feet for 2024, which is equal to the amount of water specified for a 4 acre-foot per acre annual delivery allocation in Table 1 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.

12. Subdivision Plats within District Boundary requirement in License Manual. **None**
13. Applications for License for Use of District Real Property: **None**
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 3459, by Smith Co. 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 3459, by Smith Co. 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:
 - a. **2 Letters of No Objection for the Town of Clint**
License 333-Application 3350, by Town of Clint, to reconstruct Fenter road, crossing Mesa Drain (an irrigation canal), at approximately station 392+10

License 332-Application 3351, by Town of Clint, to reconstruct Fenter road, crossing Salitral Lateral (an irrigation canal), at approximately station 182+66

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 two Letters of Approval under existing License Agreements 333 and 332 by the Town of Clint, to reconstruct Fenter road, crossing Mesa Drain and Salitral Lateral are 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 letters, both within 60 days hereafter, and the officers of EPCWID are authorized and directed to execute such letter, a copy of which is attached hereto.

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:
 - a. **Grant Assistance Draft Agreement No. R23AP00216 between EPCWID and USBR Montoya Laterals System Concrete Lining Project: Phase III.**

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 Grant Assistance Draft Agreement No. R23AP00216 between EPCWID and USBR Montoya Laterals System Concrete Lining Project: Phase III is approved.

20. Any or all of the items shown on the attached Closed Meeting Agenda.

The Board then entered into a closed session at 9:57 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 10:20 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 10:20 a.m.


Larry Ceballos, Secretary