

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

<b>DIRECTORS PRESENT</b>	<b>EMPLOYEES PRESENT</b>
<b>Art Ivey, President</b>	<b>Jay Ornelas, PE General Manager</b>
<b>Larry Ceballos, Vice-President</b>	<b>Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer</b>
<b>George Brooks, Secretary</b>	<b>Mary Cortez, Chief Financial Officer</b>
<b>Miguel Teran, Director</b>	<b>Sharon Atilano, Licensing Manager</b>
<b>Jarett Rogers, Director</b>	<b>Rose Rodriguez, Tax Assessor Collector</b>
	<b>Pete Rodriguez, Maintenance Manager</b>
	<b>Robert Rios, Water Master</b>
	<b>Enrique Perez, Operations Supervisor</b>
	<b>Cathy Oyston, Water Records/ Dispatch Supervisor</b>
<b>LEGAL COUNSEL</b>	<b>Claudia Ruiz, Administrative Assistant</b>
<b>Renea Hicks, Attorney At Law (via zoom)</b>	<b>Sonia Ontiveros, Tax Collector Assistant</b>
<b>DISTRICT ENGINEER</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
<b>Dr. Al Blair, PE District Engineer</b>	<b>Robert Kimpel, Guest</b>
	<b>Ernesto Madrid, Clint Border Patrol</b>
	<b>Larry Vasquez, USBR</b>

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. Board member nomination(s) of a qualified person to fill the Board vacancy in Division 3, and appointment, sworn statement, and oath of office of the new Director for the unexpired term of Division 3 per Sections 49.055(a), (b) and 49.105(a) of the Texas Water Code.

Mr. Ivey announced vacancy in Division 3, and Mr. Ceballos nominated Jarett Rogers for vacancy in Division 3.

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 District Board of Directors hereby selects and appoints Jarett Rogers, Director in Division 3, to serve the balance of the term of office of resigning director Johnny Stubbs.**

Lisa Aguilar, Chief Administrative Officer/Election Officer, administered the Oath of Office to Jarett Rogers.

4. Minutes of June 19, 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors.

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 draft minutes of the special meeting held on June 19, 2024 are approved.**

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

**a. Election of Board of Directors Officers.**

Mr. Ceballos nominated Art Ivey as President, Larry Ceballos as Vice-President and George Brooks as Secretary.

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by Jarett Rogers, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Directors, except for Art Ivey, who did not vote on the motion it was:

**RESOLVED: that the Board of Directors elect Art Ivey as President of the Board of Directors of El Paso County Water Improvement District.**

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by Jarett Rogers, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Directors, except for Larry Ceballos, who did not vote on the motion it was:

**RESOLVED: that the Board of Directors elect Larry Ceballos as Vice-President of the Board of Directors of El Paso County Water Improvement District.**

After a motion by Miguel Teran, seconded by Jarett Rogers, duly considered and carried by unanimous vote of the Directors, except for George Brooks, who did not vote on the motion it was:

**RESOLVED: that the Board of Directors elect George Brooks as Secretary of the Board of Directors of El Paso County Water Improvement District.**

6. Report and recommendations by Mary Cortez, Chief Financial Officer, concerning financial information, expenditures, budget, and investment policy:

- a. **Financial Report (May and June).** No action was taken on this item.
- b. **\$500.00 Expenditure Report (May and June).** No action was taken on this item.
- c. **Legal and Consulting Fees Budget Report (May and June).** No action was taken on this item.
- d. **Quarterly Investment Report**

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 Quarterly Investment Report for period ending June 30, 2024 is approved.**

7. 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.**

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 June 2024;**

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

1. **Wal-Mart Real estate Business Trust, (\$1.28), 2022**
2. **Wal-Mart Real estate Business Trust, (\$5.74), 2022**
3. **Prati Robert A, (\$19.32), 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.**

8. General Manager's report concerning the following:

- a. **Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad to pay for construction costs for relocating the Clint Lateral Extension heading. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Construction in District Canals and Drains.** No action was taken on this item.

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

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

11. Maintenance Manager's report and recommendations concerning the following:

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

12. Water delivery allocations to EPCWID water users and water available by contract. **None.**

13. Subdivision Plats within District Boundary requirement in License Manual (irrigable land exhibit):

- a. **Application 3373, by HZ Ventures LLC Series D Tuscany Ventures, for The Levee Subdivision, being tract 3A, 3J, 3L and a portion of tract 3N, block 16, Upper Valley Surveys, El Paso County, Texas, containing 22.50 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 application 3373, by HZ Ventures LLC Series D Tuscany Ventures, for The Levee Subdivision, being tract 3A, 3J, 3L and a portion of tract 3N, block 16, Upper Valley Surveys,**

**El Paso County, Texas, containing 22.50 acres for a submission of an irrigable land exhibit is approved.**

**b. Application 3506, by Douglas Schwartz, for Love Estates Subdivision, being a replat of tracts 14 and 15, Monte Vista No. 4; portion of tract 21A, and all of tracts 21A1, and 21C, block 4, Upper Valley Surveys; City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, containing 7.621 acres**

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 application 3506, by Douglas Schwartz, for Love Estates Subdivision, being a replat of tracts 14 and 15, Monte Vista No. 4; portion of tract 21A, and all of tracts 21A1, and 21C, block 4, Upper Valley Surveys; City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, containing 7.621 acres for a submission of an irrigable land exhibit is approved.**

14. Applications for Licenses and Memorandums of Understanding for Use of District Real Property:

**a. Application 3500, by El Paso Electric Company, for a 50-year license to construct a three phase 14 kVA overhead power line crossing Mesa Drain (a drainage canal) at approximately station 797+92**

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 3500, by El Paso Electric Company, for a 50-year license to construct a three phase 14 kVA overhead power line crossing Mesa Drain (a drainage canal) at approximately station 797+92, 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. 3 application by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber**

**Application 3501, by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing Mesa Drain (a drainage canal), at Americas Avenue (Highway Loop 375), at approximately station 832+37**

**Application 3502, by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing Juan De Herrera Main Lateral (an irrigation lateral), at Americas Avenue (Highway Loop 375), at approximately station 298+03**

**Application 3503, by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing Middle Drain (a drainage canal), at Americas Avenue (Highway Loop 375), at approximately station 709+76**

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 3 applications by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber, 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.**

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

16. Approval of Construction Dewatering Licenses for Conveyance  
Groundwater: **None**
17. Letters of Approval and/or Amendments of existing License  
Agreements:
18. Agreement to classify Non-irrigable land as irrigable land:
  - a. **Application 3504, by Ricardo Alba, for classification of 0.16 acres of land located at 440 Saint Marys Drive in El Paso, Texas, known as block 9, South 53' of Lot 9 & North 12' of Lot 10, in Marian Manor Subdivision, as irrigable land**

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 3504, by Ricardo Alba, for classification of 0.16 acres of land located at 440 Saint Marys Drive in El Paso, Texas, known as block 9, South 53' of Lot 9 & North 12' of Lot 10, in Marian Manor Subdivision, as irrigable land, is approved upon the condition that the applicant meets all requirements of the agreement, including paying all fees and cost required by the agreement 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 agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto.

- b. **Application 3505, by Ricardo Gonzalez & Sylvia Patricia Vargas-Gonzalez, for classification of 0.36 acres of land located at 12918 Robert Alvarez in Clint, Texas, known as 0.13 acres of Block 22, Tract 22 & 0.12 acres of Block 22, Tract 23 in San Elizario Grant & 0.11 acres of Block 7, all, in Garcia to Town of Clint, as irrigable land**



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 3505, by Ricardo Gonzalez & Sylvia Patricia Vargas-Gonzalez, for classification of 0.36 acres of land located at 12918 Robert Alvarez in Clint, Texas, known as 0.13 acres of Block 22, Tract 22 & 0.12 acres of Block 22, Tract 23 in San Elizario Grant & 0.11 acres of Block 7, all, in Garcia to Town of Clint, as irrigable land, is approved upon the condition that the applicant meets all requirements of the agreement, including paying all fees and cost required by the agreement 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 agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto.**

19. Sale of Surplus District Real Property under 49.226 of the Texas Water Code: **None.**
20. Grants Agreements involving District Real Property: **None.**
21. Any or all of the items shown on the attached Closed Meeting Agenda.

**The Board then entered into a closed session at 10:06 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 10:53 a.m. with no action having been taken in the closed session.**

22. Consideration of agenda items for next regular board meeting.
23. **Adjournment.** On motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board Meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

  
George Brooks, Secretary