

**Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Board of Directors  
El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1  
(EPCWID)  
August 14, 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>LEGAL COUNSEL</b>	<b>Cathy Oyston, Water Records/ Dispatch Supervisor</b>
<b>Maria O'Brien, Attorney At Law (via zoom)</b>	<b>Claudia Ruiz, Administrative Assistant</b>
<b>Renea Hicks, Attorney At Law (via zoom)</b>	<b>Sonia Ontiveros, Tax Collector Assistant</b>
	<b>GUESTS</b>
<b>DISTRICT ENGINEER</b>	<b>Robert Kimpel, Guest</b>
<b>Dr. Al Blair, PE District Engineer (via zoom)</b>	<b>Sarah McCartney, IBWC</b>
	<b>Samantha Stiffer, USIBWC</b>
	<b>Ernesto Madrid, US Border Patrol</b>
	<b>Jerry Melendez, Reclamation</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. Minutes of July 17, 2024 meeting of the Board of Directors.

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 July 17, 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.** No action was taken on this item.
  - b. **\$500.00 Expenditure Report.** No action was taken on this item.
  - c. **Legal and Consulting Fees Budget Report.** No action was taken on this item.
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.** No action was taken on this item.
  - 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. **Approval of consulting contract with J. P. Stubbs regarding Rio Grande Compact litigation issues in an amount not to exceed \$500 per month.**

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 consulting contract with J. P. Stubbs regarding Rio Grande Compact litigation issues in an amount not to exceed \$500 per month is approved.**

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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3374, by Coronado Building Company, LLC c/o Del Rio Engineering Inc, for Masoud Acres Unit I Subdivision, being a portion of tract 15-C-2, block 13, upper valley surveys, El Paso County, Texas containing 4.9847 acres**

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 3374, by Coronado Building Company, LLC c/o Del Rio Engineering Inc, for Masoud Acres Unit I Subdivision, being a portion of tract 15-C-2, block 13, upper valley surveys, El Paso County, Texas containing 4.9847 acres for a submission of an irrigable land exhibit is approved.**

- b. Application 3510, by Victoriano N. Castillo & Cecilia A. Castillo, for Silverio Subdivision, being tracts 9C, 9D and 9E, block 11, upper valley surveys, City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, containing 3.00 acres**

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 3510, by Victoriano N. Castillo & Cecilia A. Castillo, for Silverio Subdivision, being tracts 9C, 9D and 9E, block 11, upper valley surveys, City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, containing 3.00 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. **2 application by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber**

**Application 3511, by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing Southside Feeder Lateral (a drainage lateral), at Americas Avenue (Highway Loop 375), at approximately station 64+70**

**Application 3512, by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber, for a 25-year license for a subsurface fiber optic cable system crossing Franklin Canal (an irrigation canal), at Americas Avenue (Highway Loop 375), at approximately station 834+82**

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 2 Applications by Inner City FiberNet, LLC d/b/a Gigabit Fiber, 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 with 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. Approval of proposed revisions to District Licensing Manual.


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 proposed revisions to District Licensing Manual is approved.**

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

**The Board then entered into a closed session at 10:17 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 10:51 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 10:52 a.m.

  
George Brooks, Secretary