



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 28, 2021

1. Call Meeting to Order.

President Juana Gutierrez called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum.

		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Ms. Juana Gutierrez	President	X		
Ms. Thelma Quiñonez	Vice President	X		
Ms. Magda C. Flores	Secretary	X		
Mr. Jorge Carrasco	Member	X		
Mr. Samuel Madrid	Member	X		

District Staff:

Mr. Jose Ramirez.	General Manager
Ms. Patty Cruz	Office Manager
Ms. Romie Martinez	Inventory Control Manager
Ms. Laura Olivas	Office Clerk

Consultants:

N/A

Visitors:

Mr. Rafael Ramirez	Mr. Martin Madrid
Mr. Refugio Sierra	Mr. Ruben Corral
Mr. Gus Gallo	Ms. Estella Ontiveros
Ms. Alicia Carrillo	Mr. Javier Madrid
Ms. Pearl Quinones	Mr. Luz Marquez
Mr. Roberto Silva	Ms. Josie Silva
Mr. Orlando Olmos	Ms. Lucy Silva

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Take up, consider and take action on meeting agenda.

Discussion: No discussion

Motion made by Ms. Flores to approve the meeting agenda

Seconded by Mr. Madrid

<u>Vote:</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Other</u>
Ms. J Gutierrez	X			
Ms. T. Quiñonez	X			
Ms. M. Flores	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			
Mr. S. Madrid	X			

Motion: Passed

5. Take up, consider and take action on Regular Meeting Minutes for October 26, 2021.

Discussion: Correction made to item #9

Motion made by Ms. Flores to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for October 26, 2021, as corrected.

Seconded by Mr. Carrasco



EL PASO COUNTY WATER CONTROL & IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 4
 P.O. BOX 3880 117 E. MAIN ST. FABENS, TX 79838-3880
 (915) 764-2212 FAX (915) 764-4840

Regular Meeting
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<u>Vote:</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Other</u>
Ms. J Gutierrez	X			
Ms. T. Quiñonez		X		Requested to look at transcripts
Ms. M. Flores	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			
Mr. S. Madrid			X	

Motion: Passed

6. Take up, consider and take action on Special Meeting Minutes for November 18, 2021.

Discussion: No discussion

Motion made by Mr. Madrid to approve Special Meeting Minutes for November 18, 2021.

Seconded by Ms. Flores

<u>Vote:</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Other</u>
Ms. J Gutierrez	X			
Ms. T. Quiñonez		X		
Ms. M. Flores	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			
Mr. S. Madrid	X			

Motion: Passed

7. Audience comments on Agenda items: 3-minute speaking time limit per person.

N/A

8. Audience comments General Matters: 3-minute speaking time limit per person.

Mr. Martin Madrid wants his comments entered word for word in the meeting minutes. He spoke about the May 2019 committee, of which he was a part of, formed to review the general manager candidates. Mr. Madrid has requested open records documents for the last four meetings because, when he was terminated, he only received a termination letter. He stated that Mr. Ramirez and Ms. Martinez were waiting for him by his truck on the day he was terminated.

Mr. Ruben Corral yielded his minutes to Ms. Alicia Carrillo.

Ms. Alicia Carrillo spoke about Ms. Martinez asking her where she lives while they were waiting in the shop on November 18, 2022, during Executive session. Ms. Carrillo felt humiliated, discriminated, and harassed being asked that question. She stated that she is going to sue Ms. Martinez (Romie). After meeting adjourned, Ms. Carrillo wanted to address the board and have it recorded. Mr. Ramirez said it would not be recorded but that she could speak with him in his office. During that time Mr. Ramirez informed her that she could file a complaint letter the following day.

Mr. Rafael Ramirez thanked board for giving district employees a pay raise and bringing up the normal standard.

Ms. Josie Silva yielded her minutes to Ms. Carrillo.

Ms. Alicia Carrillo said they have the power to fire Jose Ramirez and Romie and the Board members. She feels that the water district has become a disappointment to the community.

Mr. Orlando Olmos commented that they got someone that was caught stealing in Tornillo to run the water company. He also stated that the lights are on late at night at the district's office.



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Ms. Lucy Silva yielded minutes to Mr. Luz Marquez, although Mr. Marquez had not signed up to speak on general matters.

Mr. Luz Marquez spoke about police department being called after last meeting. Mr. Marquez wants Mr. Ramirez and Ms. Martinez held accountable for calling police, which he sees as weaponizing the police. He thinks too much has been spent on RO and well.

Ms. Estella Ontiveros is bothered by limit on attendance; wants the board to accommodate the audience.

9. Take up, consider and take action to sell District scrap metal and auction inoperable items.

Discussion: Mr. Ramirez asked board to allow district to sell accumulated scrap metal and send inoperable items to auction. Picture presentation made of scrap metal and auction items shown. Monies would go to general fund.

Motion made by Ms. Flores to allow district to sell accumulated scrap metal and auction inoperable items.

Seconded by Mr. Carrasco

Vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Other</u>
Ms. J Gutierrez	X			
Ms. T. Quiñonez		X		
Ms. M. Flores	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			
Mr. S. Madrid	X			

Motion: Passed

10. Take up, consider and take action on 2022 Budget.

Discussion: Mr. Ramirez asked board to approve 2022 Budget as presented in the earlier budget training.

Motion made by Ms. Flores to approve the 2022 Budget with the proposed total revenue of \$2,734,500.00 and expenditures of \$2,708,642.00 with a net profit of \$25,858.00.

Seconded by Mr. Madrid

Vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Other</u>
Ms. J Gutierrez	X			
Ms. T. Quiñonez		X		
Ms. M. Flores	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			
Mr. S. Madrid	X			

Motion: Passed

11. Kemp Smith Update

N/A

12. CDM Smith Update

N/A

13. General Manager Update

- Collection rate for October is 99%, 14 cut offs, 4 remain unpaid
- Collection rate for November will be presented in January
- During the power outage on December 7, the transfer switch at 10th Street worked flawlessly. This was the switch that was giving us issues during the summer power outages and was placed on the August regular Board meeting agenda to be replaced. After Cummins Southwest serviced the switch, the switch appeared to work fine. I had asked the Board of Directors to table the item that requested the replacement of the switch. As a result of the power outage, and the switch working



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flawlessly, we did not have to replace it. The cost to replace the transfer switch would have been \$56,995.00.

- Due to some concerns from customer regarding rate increases, we have added a notice on the water bills stating that there will no be a rate increase for 2022. We are required to notify

customers of rate increases 3 months prior to implementing increase, via the back of bills and the office bulletin board. Some customers have incorrectly stated that the bill will increase by \$30.00 monthly. There was a \$30.00 sewer line camera fee that was added to the list of services we offer and is only charged if the customer requests the service.

- Due to some concerns from customers regarding salary increases, any increase in salaries are presented to, and can only be approved by the Board of Directors. The only exception is when a staff member receives a TCEQ license.
- Texas Water Development Board has sent us an email stating that none of our projects made it for funding this year. We will need to re-submit request for next year's funding. We will be bringing this item to the Board next month.

14. Executive Session.

No items requiring executive session.

15. Return to open session at : _____ p.m. for possible discussion and action on Executive Session item(s).

N/A

16. Board member availability for the January 25, 2022 Regular Meeting

All board members available for the January 25, 2022 Regular Meeting

17. Motion to adjourn.

Discussion: No discussion

Motion made by Ms. Flores to adjourn.

Seconded by Mr. Madrid

Vote:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Other</u>
Ms. J. Gutierrez	X	_____	_____	_____
Ms. T. Quiñonez	X	_____	_____	_____
Ms. M. Flores	X	_____	_____	_____
Mr. J. Carrasco	X	_____	_____	_____
Mr. S. Madrid	X	_____	_____	_____

Motion: Passed

Meeting Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Magda C. Flores
 Signature

2/1/22
 Date Approved