

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, August 24, 2021**

**1. Call Meeting to Order.**

President Juana Gutierrez called meeting to order at 6:15 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. Israel Martinez	Member	X		
Mr. Jorge Carrasco	Member	X		

**District Staff:**

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

**Consultants:**

Mr. Horacio Juarez	CDM Smith
--------------------	-----------

**Visitors:**

Rafael Ramirez  
 Javier Madrid  
 Luz Marquez  
 Martin Madrid  
 Omar Madrid  
 Raul Lopez  
 Alicia Madrid  
 Alicia Cordero

**3. Pledge of Allegiance.**

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

**Discussion:** No discussion.

**Motion made by** Mr. Martinez to approve meeting agenda with a correction on the header date changing it from Thursday to Tuesday and also changing the Tax Rate Year from 2022 to 2021 on Agenda item #9.

**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. I. Martinez	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			

**Motion:** Passed



# 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  
August 24, 2021

**5. Take up, consider and take action on Meeting Minutes for July 27, 2021.**

**Discussion:** No discussion.

**Motion made by** Mr. Martinez to approve the Meeting Minutes for July 27, 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. I. Martinez	X	_____	_____	_____
Mr. J. Carrasco	X	_____	_____	_____

**Motion:** Passed

**6. Take up, consider and take action on Special Meeting Minutes for August 5, 2021.**

**Discussion:** No discussion.

**Motion made by** Ms. Flores to approve the Special Meeting Minutes for August 5, 2021.

**Seconded by** Mr. Carrasco.

<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. I. Martinez	X	_____	_____	_____
Mr. J. Carrasco	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 addressed the board about being unjustly terminated on August 16, 2021 by the GM.

Mr. Martin O. Madrid addressed the board in support of his father, Mr. Martin Madrid. He feels that the GM made decisions based on personal interests and raised false accusations against his father.

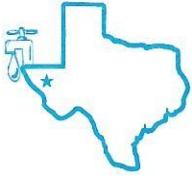
Ms. Alicia Cordero addressed the board in support of Mr. Martin Madrid and wants him reinstated with a raise.

Mr. Raul Lopez addressed the board in support of Mr. Martin Madrid. He raised the issue of the district paying for employees to become licensed and then terminating them.

Mr. Rafael Ramirez addressed the board saying he was going to congratulate Mr. Martin Madrid on his 20 plus years with the district and applying for a job with Lower Valley Water District but changed his mind.

**9. Take up, consider and take action on adoption of Resolution No. 2021-0802 to adopt the tax rate of 0.177129 for tax year 2021.**

**Discussion:** No discussion.



# 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  
August 24, 2021

**Motion made by Ms. Flores** to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 2021-0802 to adopt the tax rate of 0.177129 for tax year 2021.

**Seconded by Mr. Martinez.**

<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. I. Martinez	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			

**Motion:** Passed

**10. Take up, consider and take action on possible change to the Certificate of Deposit maturity period.**

**Discussion:** Mr. Ramirez informed the Board that the maturity date on the Certificate of Deposit is coming up in September. The Bank is offering two options to choose from on the renewal. The Interest rate is .05% for a six-month renewal period or .15% for a year-long renewal period.

**Motion made by Mr. Martinez** to renew Certificate of Deposit maturity period for twelve months at .15%.

**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. I. Martinez	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			

**Motion:** Passed

**11. Take up, consider and take action on compensation for Interim Field Manager.**

**Discussion:** Discussed in Executive Session.

**Motion made by Mr. Martinez** to approve the compensation for Interim Field Manager as presented in Executive Session.

**Seconded by Mr. Carrasco.**

<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. I. Martinez	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			

**Motion:** Passed

**12. Take up, consider and take action on Purchase of a Replacement Transfer Switch and Installation for 10<sup>th</sup> Street, up to the amount of \$56,995.00.**

**Discussion:** Mr. Ramirez asked the board to table this item until further information was obtained.

**Motion made by Ms. Flores**

**Seconded by Mr. Martinez.**



# EL PASO COUNTY WATER CONTROL & IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 4

P.O. BOX 3880  
(915) 764-2212

117 E. MAIN ST.  
FAX (915) 764-4840

FABENS, TX 79838-3880

Regular Meeting  
August 24, 2021

<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. I. Martinez	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			

**Motion:** Passed

**13. Kemp Smith Update.**

N/A

**14. CDM Smith Update.**

Mr. Juarez explained to the Board Members that the Texas Water Development Board had reviewed and scored all applications submitted by all water districts. The application for the Sewer project at the Hunt Subdivision had scored the highest out of all the District's applications and was moving forward in the first round. The other water and wastewater applications had also scored but not high enough to move forward in the first round. The same projects were submitted to NADBank and USDA-RD to see if they will be able help with funding, he went over all the water and wastewater projects and their cost.

**15. General Manager Report.**

1. Collection rate for June- 97 %, 68 cutoffs, 10 remain unpaid

2. On August 17, we had several representatives from Eaton manufacturer, Entero Automation, CDM Smith, El Paso Electric and some of our staff members at 10<sup>th</sup> St. We performed a power outage simulation so that we can identify several issues that we are experiencing during power outages. We actually found more issues than we anticipated, first was several VFD's going into alarms, breakers tripping inside Ro and Tonka building. The other issue was that the transfer switch did not function properly, after further investigation we found that moisture had entered panel and came into contact with circuit boards. We are currently working with Cummins to fix issue.

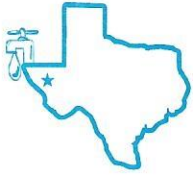
3. On August 18, the veterans committee met to discuss a funding opportunity for the Veterans Park. We can apply as a District for a federal grant (American Rescue Plan Act Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation) which can be up to 10 million and can fund up to 100% of project. We have also obtained the services of an Architect from Parkhill Smith and Cooper, free of charge to design the park and memorial for the grant. The El Paso County has also volunteered the services of a grant writer to write grant. This was brought to us by a Fabens Native (Mr. Rodrigo Estrada) that works for the Department of Commerce who are the funding agency for the grant. We will keep you all posted on any updates.

**16. Executive Session.**

**Meeting to be closed under the following Texas Government Code of the Open Meeting Act for discussion as follows:**

**C. Personnel Matters Code 551.074**

**Any final action as a result of this closed discussion will be held at the opening of the meeting or At any subsequent meeting.**



# EL PASO COUNTY WATER CONTROL & IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 4

P.O. BOX 3880  
(915) 764-2212



117 E. MAIN ST.

FAX (915) 764-4840



FABENS, TX 79838-3880

Regular Meeting  
August 24, 2021

17. Return to open session at 8:02 p.m. for possible discussion and action on Executive Session item(s).

18. Board member availability for the September 28, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Martinez not sure if he can make it but all other Board Members will be available.

19. Motion to adjourn.

**Discussion:** No discussion.

**Motion made by** Flores to adjourn.

**Seconded by** Mr. Martinez.

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. I. Martinez	X			
Mr. J. Carrasco	X			

**Motion:** Passed

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

*Rogelio Flores* 9/28/2021  
Signature Date Approved