MINUTES
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD
CITY OF EL PASO
September 9, 2026

The regular meeting of the Public Service Board was held in person, Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

PSB MEMBERS PRESENT
Bryan Morris – Member
Stefanie Block – Treasurer
Dr. Anna Gitter – Chair
Dr. Hector Ocaranza – Member
Charlie Intebi – Vice Chair
Mayor Renard U. Johnson

PSB NOT MEMBERS PRESENT
Lane Gaddy, Member

PSB EMPLOYEES PRESENT
John E. Balliew, P.E., President and Chief Executive Officer
Daniel Ortiz, General Counsel

EPWATER EMPLOYEES PRESENT
Gilbert Trejo, Vice President of Operations and Technical Services
Adam Wickersham, Vice President of IT
Edith Lara, Executive Assistant to the President/CEO
Jeff Tepsick, Chief Financial Officer
Claudia Duran, Chief of Staff
Lisa Rosendorf, Chief Communications and Government Affairs Officer
Elmer Beeler, Chief Support & Logistics Officer
Richard Wilcox, Chief Water Quality Compliance Officer
Sol Cortez, Deputy General Counsel
Alberto Gomez, Utility Video Production Manager
Alessa Contreras, Multimedia Design Specialist
Monica Puga Ontiveros, Utility Chief Human Resources Officer
Felipe Lopez, Utility Chief Engineering Officer
Irazema Rojas, Utility Chief Engineering Officer
Adriana Castillo, Utility Engineering Division Manager
Ivan Hernandez, Utility Engineering Division Manager
Theresa Rivas, Utility Assistant Chief Financial Officer
Martin Noriega, Utility Chief Operations Officer
Gisela Dagnino, Utility Chief Operations Officer
Rose Guevara, Utility Purchasing & Contracts Manager
Geoffrey Espineli, Wastewater Systems Division Manager
Veronica Garcia, Senior Purchasing Agent
Ozzie Muniz, Utility Chief of Safety, Security, Emergency Responser
Aubrey Semien II, Capital Projects Manager
Bianca Arriaga, Utility Grants Program Manager
David Rodriguez, Support Services Specialist I
Aldo Gomez Fierro, Support Services Specialist III
Jennifer Barr, Water Conservation/TecH2O Manager
Gabriela Warren, Utility Senior Computer Media Specialist
Alvaro Maldonado, Business Contracts Manager
Aide Fuentes, Water Systems Division Manager
Amy Castner, Utility Engineering Division Manager

Jose Castro, Fleet Maintenance Manager
Amy Aragon, Utility Facilities Maintenance Manager
Sergio Castro, Utility Chief Plant Manager
Stephanie Chacon, Executive Assistant
Alejandro Vidales, Utility Land and Water Rights Manager
Jaime Arriola, Capital Projects Manager
Scott Reinert, Water Resources Manager
Christina Montoya Halter, Marketing and Communications Manager

GUEST

Lea Ream, Davidson, Troilo, Ream, & Garza

Eddy Hernandez Perez, Double H

Janae Reneaud Field, Frontera Land Alliance

Marc Edwards

Sanaan Villalobos, Carollo Engineers

Elizabeth Ruhmann

Lisa Turner

John Muniz

Hector Hinojos, Double H

Rocky Craley, Raftelis

MEDIA
None

The Public Service Board meeting was called to order by Dr. Gitter at 8:32 a.m. A quorum of its members was present. After a moment of silence, those in attendance joined Mrs. Lisa Rosendorf in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion made by Mayor Johnson and seconded by Dr. Ocaranza, items 4 and 5 were pulled from the Consent Agenda and placed into the Regular Agenda.

On a single motion made by Mr. Intebi and seconded by Mrs. Block and unanimously carried, the Board took action on the following consent agenda items:

CONSENT AGENDA

1. APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 12, 2026.

2. APPROVED A SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH TGO TECHNOLOGIES INC PURSUANT TO SECTION 252.022(A)(7)(A) AND (D) OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE FOR CHLORINE CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS, ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT, REPLACEMENT PARTS, MAINTENANCE SERVICES, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF $2,000,000 FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR WITH FOUR ONE-YEAR OPTIONS TO EXTEND CONTINGENT UPON TGO TECHNOLOGIES INC PROVIDING ANNUAL DOCUMENTATION ATTESTING TO THEIR SOLE SOURCE STATUS.

3. APPROVED AN INCREASE IN THE CAPACITY OF THE EXISTING MASTER CONTRACT ISSUED TO SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC SYSTEMS USA, INC. THROUGH THE PURCHASING COOPERATIVE OMNIA PARTNERS CONTRACT NO. R220703 BY AN ADDITIONAL $3,500,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF FACILITY TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION & SECURITY SYSTEM SERVICES, FOR A

CUMULATIVE CONTRACT AMOUNT OF $4,000,000, AND AUTHORIZED THE ISSUANCE OF FUTURE ANNUAL MASTER CONTRACTS IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF $4,000,000 FOR AS LONG AS THE TERM OF THE COOPERATIVE CONTRACT REMAINS IN PLACE.

6. AWARDED BID 25-26, TOW TRUCK AND RECOVERY SERVICES TO AD WRECKER SERVICE, INC., THE SOLE RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, FOR VEHICLE TOWING AND RECOVERY SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS FOR AN ANNUAL ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF $51,569 FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR WITH FOUR ONE-YEAR OPTIONS TO EXTEND.

7. APPROVED CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 1 FOR RFP 56-15 WASTEWATER SLUDGE AND WATER TREATMENT RESIDUAL DISPOSAL WITH GCC SUN CITY MATERIALS, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,418,937.50.

8. APPROVED CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 1 FOR BID NUMBER 63-24 NORTHEAST AQUIFER STORAGE AND RECOVERY (ASR) ENHANCED ARROYO PHASE 1B WITH ZTEX CONSTRUCTION INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF $683,658.50 AND INCREASED THE CONTRACT TIME BY 160 CALENDAR DAYS.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. APPROVED AN INCREASE IN THE CAPACITY OF THE EXISTING MASTER CONTRACT ISSUED TO PC AUTOMATED CONTROLS, INC. THROUGH THE PURCHASING COOPERATIVE ESC REGION 19 CONTRACT NO. 22-7434 MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND OPERATION (MRO) EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, AND SERVICES BY AN ADDITIONAL $1,000,000 FOR A CUMULATIVE CONTRACT AMOUNT OF $1,500,000.

Amy Aragon, answer questions from the Board and the public regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) A master contract was issued to PC Automated Controls, Inc. through the ESC Region 19 Cooperative Contract No. 22-7434 Maintenance, Repair and Operation (MRO) Equipment, Supplies, Materials, and Services for building automation systems for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems pursuant to the delegated authority of the President/CEO or designee to issue master contracts with awarded vendors participating in approved cooperative purchasing programs for an estimated annual amount of $500,000 per individual master contract without further Public Service Board approval. Additional capacity in the amount of $1,000,000 is needed for PC Automated Controls, Inc. to provide MRO services.

On a motion made by Dr. Ocaranza, seconded by Mr. Morris, and unanimously carried, the Board approved an increase in the capacity of the existing master contract issued to PC Automated Controls, Inc. through the purchasing cooperative ESC Region 19 Contract No. 22-7434 Maintenance, Repair and Operation (MRO) Equipment, Supplies, Materials, and Services by an additional $1,000,000 for a cumulative contract amount of $1,500,000.

5. APPROVED AN INCREASE IN THE CAPACITY OF THE EXISTING MASTER CONTRACT ISSUED TO TRANE U.S. INC. THROUGH THE PURCHASING COOPERATIVE ESC REGION 19 CONTRACT NO. 22-7434 FOR MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND OPERATION (MRO) EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, AND SERVICES, BY AN ADDITIONAL $1,000,000 FOR A CUMULATIVE CONTRACT AMOUNT OF $2,000,000.

Amy Aragon, answer questions from the Board and the public regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) Trane provides maintenance, repair, and operation (MRO) equipment, supplies, materials, and services for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in EPWater buildings and facilities. A master contract was issued through the ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative Contract No. 22-7434, Maintenance, Repair and Operation (MRO) Equipment, Supplies, Materials and Services to Trane. An additional $1,000,000 in master contract capacity is needed to support anticipated operational requirements.

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Intebi, and unanimously carried, the Board approved an increase in the capacity of the existing master contract issued to Trane U.S. Inc. through the purchasing cooperative ESC Region 19 Contract No. 22-7434 for Maintenance, Repair and Operation (MRO) Equipment, Supplies, Materials, and Services, by an additional $1,000,000 for a cumulative contract amount of $2,000,000.

9. CEO MONTHLY UPDATE REGARDING UTILITY MANAGEMENT AND/OR OPERATIONS:

- **CHIHUAHUAS NIGHT – LANDSCAPE AWARDS PRESENTATION**
- **FRONTERA LAND ALLIANCE – OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION EVENTS FOR KNAPP LAND AND LOST DOG**
- **MULTIFAMILY SECTOR ENGAGEMENT MEETING**
-

10. MANAGEMENT REPORT:

- **AGUACARES UPDATE**
- **MULTIFAMILY RATE ANALYSIS REPORT**
- **UPDATE ON WATER SERVICE IN THE VISTA DEL NORTE/FUTURELAND AREA (NORTHEAST EL PASO)**
- **VIDEO FROM COMMUNICATIONS - PIPES AND PROGRESS: WATERLINE REPLACEMENT 12B PROJECT**
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11. PUBLIC COMMENT: THE PSB PERMITTED PUBLIC COMMENT ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA BUT DID NOT DELIBERATE ON THESE ITEMS IF NOT POSTED FOR DISCUSSION. THE CHAIR COULD IMPOSE REASONABLE TIME LIMITS FOR EACH SPEAKER.

Lisa Turner addressed the Board regarding Agenda Items 4 and 5, which had been pulled from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda. The Board received her comments prior to consideration of the items.

12. RECEIVED A PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSED THE EMERGENCY AGREEMENT WITH VALENZ SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF $194,761.94 FOR THE PURCHASE OF TECHNICAL GRADE METHANOL FOR THE FRED HERVEY WATER RECLAMATION PLANT APPROVED UNDER THE PRESIDENT/CEO'S DELEGATED AUTHORITY; AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD FOUND THAT THE EMERGENCY AGREEMENT WAS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY OF THE CUSTOMERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 252.022(A)(2) OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE.

Geoffrey Espineli, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) Methanol is essential to wastewater treatment operations at the Fred Hervey Water Reclamation Plant, where it is used as a carbon source for microorganisms in the nitrogen removal process. A continuous supply of methanol is necessary to maintain effective wastewater treatment, regulatory compliance, reliable plant operations, and to protect the public health or safety of EPWater customers.

Upon the expiration of Contract No. 86-22 Technical Grade Methanol, EPWater entered into an emergency agreement under the President/CEO delegated emergency authority for the purchase of technical grade methanol from Valenz Supply and Distribution, LLC (Valenz) from October 2025 through July 2026 to prevent an interruption in the supply of methanol necessary for wastewater treatment.

On a motion made by Mrs. Block, seconded by Mr. Intebi, and unanimously carried, the Board received a presentation and discussed the emergency agreement with Valenz Supply and Distribution, LLC in the amount of $194,761.94 for the purchase of technical grade methanol for the Fred Hervey Water Reclamation Plant approved under the President/CEO's delegated authority; and the Public Service Board found that the emergency agreement was necessary to protect the public health or safety of the customers pursuant to Section 252.022(a)(2) of the Texas Local Government Code. Mr. Espineli answered questions from the board on this item.

13. AWARDED RFP NO. 12-26, LIQUID FERRIC CHLORIDE, TO THE TWO HIGHEST RANKED PROPOSERS KEMIRA WATER SOLUTIONS, INC., AND PENCCO, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF LIQUID FERRIC CHLORIDE ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS FOR AN ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF $1,046,214 FOR KEMIRA WATER SOLUTIONS, INC., AND FOR AN ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF $1,219,920 FOR PENCCO, INC. THE CONTRACT TERM FOR EACH VENDOR WAS FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR WITH FOUR ONE-YEAR OPTIONS TO EXTEND; AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD MADE THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS:

1. **THAT THE TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY BIDDING EXEMPTION APPLIED TO RFP NO. 12-26;**
2. **THAT MULTIPLE VENDORS WERE REQUIRED TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF UTILITY SERVICES; AND**
3. **THAT THE PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS UNDER RULES AND REGULATIONS NO. 18 HAD BEEN SATISFIED.**

Aide Fuentes, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) Liquid ferric chloride is used for the coagulation of suspended matter in water production throughout the water treatment plants.

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Dr. Ocaranza, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded RFP No. 12-26, Liquid Ferric Chloride, to the two highest ranked proposers Kemira Water Solutions, Inc., and Pencco, Inc. for the purchase of liquid ferric chloride on an as-needed basis for an estimated annual amount of $1,046,214 for Kemira Water Solutions, Inc., and for an estimated annual amount of $1,219,920 for Pencco, Inc. The contract term for each vendor is for a term of one year with four one-year options to extend; and the Public Service Board made the following findings:

1. That the Texas public health or safety bidding exemption applied to RFP No. 12-26;
2. That multiple vendors were required to ensure continuity of utility services; and
3. That the public notice requirements under Rules and Regulations No. 18 had been satisfied.

Mrs. Fuentes answered questions from the board on this item.

14. RECEIVED A PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSED THE EMERGENCY AGREEMENT WITH KEMIRA WATER SOLUTIONS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF $499,534 FOR THE PURCHASE OF LIQUID FERRIC CHLORIDE APPROVED UNDER THE PRESIDENT/CEO'S DELEGATED AUTHORITY; AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD FOUND THAT THE EMERGENCY AGREEMENT WAS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY OF CUSTOMERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 252.022(A)(2) OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE.

Aide Fuentes, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) Liquid ferric chloride is used as a coagulant in the water treatment process at multiple EPWater water treatment plants. The Upper Valley Water Treatment Plant utilizes liquid ferric chloride year-round, while the Jonathan Rogers Water Treatment Plant utilizes liquid ferric chloride seasonally.

Following the expiration of Bid No. 80-22, EPWater continued to require liquid ferric chloride to maintain water treatment operations during the summer season. Due to the operational necessity of maintaining an adequate supply of liquid ferric chloride for continued water treatment, purchases from Kemira Water Solutions, Inc. continued under an emergency agreement under the President/CEO's delegated authority and pursuant to the state public health or safety bid exemption.

On a motion made by Mrs. Block, seconded by Mr. Intebi, and unanimously carried, the Board received a presentation and discussed the emergency agreement with Kemira Water Solutions, Inc. in the amount of $499,534 for the purchase of liquid ferric chloride approved under the President/CEO's delegated authority; and the Public Service Board found that the emergency agreement was necessary to protect the public health or safety of customers pursuant to Section 252.022(a)(2) of the Texas Local Government Code. Mrs. Fuentes answered questions from the board on this item.

15. AWARDED CSP NO. 17-26, ON-CALL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE REPAIR OF STREET RIGHTS-OF-WAY, TO DOUBLE H CONTRACTING, INC., ZTEX CONSTRUCTION, INC., AND

BLACK STALLION CONTRACTORS INC. FOR EACH CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS FOR THE ESTIMATED COMBINED ANNUAL COST OF $14,000,000 AMONG ALL CONTRACTS, WITH EACH CONTRACTOR TO BE COMPENSATED BASED ON ITS AWARDED UNIT PRICES FOR WORK PERFORMED, FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR WITH TWO ONE-YEAR OPTIONS TO EXTEND; AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD MADE THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS:

1. **THAT THE TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY BIDDING EXEMPTION APPLIED TO CSP NO. 17-26;**
2. **THAT MULTIPLE VENDORS WERE REQUIRED TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF UTILITY SERVICES; AND**
3. **THAT THE PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS UNDER RULES AND REGULATIONS NO. 18 HAD BEEN SATISFIED.**

Jaime Arriola, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) EPWater has utilized a multi-year on-call construction contract to perform street right-of-way repairs associated with EPWater infrastructure work. These on-call construction contracts provide the flexibility and contractor capacity necessary to address both planned and unplanned restoration needs throughout the service area. With the prior contract having expired, a new contract was needed.

Eddy Hernandez Perez addressed the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Intebi, and unanimously carried, the Board moved Item 15 to Executive Session for further discussion.

Following Executive Session, on a motion made by Mrs. Block, seconded by Mr. Morris, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded CSP No. 17-26, On-Call Construction Services for the Repair of Street Rights-of-Way, to Double H Contracting, Inc., ZTEX Construction, Inc., and Black Stallion Contractors Inc. for each contractor to perform services on an as-needed basis for the estimated combined annual cost of $14,000,000 among all contracts, with each contractor to be compensated based on its awarded unit prices for work performed, for a term of one year with two one-year options to extend; and the Public Service Board made the following findings:

1. That the Texas public health or safety bidding exemption applies to CSP No. 17-26;
2. That multiple vendors are required to ensure continuity of utility services; and
3. That the public notice requirements under Rules and Regulations No. 18 have been satisfied.

Mr. Arriola answered questions from the board on this item.

16. ADOPTED A RESOLUTION TO AWARD BID NUMBER 38-26, SALE OF REAL ESTATE, OF APPROXIMATELY 3.2627 ACRES, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 3, BLOCK 1, HILL TERRACE REPLAT NO. 1, CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS, TO THE HIGHEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, BRIAN J. KLAES, SOLE PROPRIETOR, IN THE AMOUNT OF $142,100, AND AUTHORIZED THE PRESIDENT AND CEO TO FORWARD THE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO SELL THE LAND AND TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE SALE.

Alejandro Vidales, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The property consists of approximately 3.2627 acres, legally described as Lot 3, Block 1, Hill Terrace Replat No. 1, City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas. Based on an appraisal, the Public Service Board established a minimum acceptable bid of $142,000.

On a motion made by Mrs. Block, seconded by Mr. Intebi, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted a resolution to award Bid Number 38-26, Sale of Real Estate, of approximately 3.2627 acres, legally described as Lot 3, Block 1, Hill Terrace Replat No. 1, City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, to the highest responsive, responsible bidder, Brian J. Klaes, Sole Proprietor, in the amount of $142,100, and authorized the President and CEO to forward the recommendation to City Council to sell the land and to sign any and all documents necessary to complete the sale.

17. APPROVED THE PROPOSED MEETINGS SCHEDULE FOR THE STORMWATER, WATER, WASTEWATER, AND RECLAIMED WATER ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027-2028 AND RULES AND REGULATION CHANGES.

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Intebi, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the proposed meetings schedule for the Stormwater, Water, Wastewater, and Reclaimed Water Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2027-2028 and Rules and Regulation changes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Dr. Ocaranza, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board retired into Executive Session 11:01 a.m. September 9, 2026, pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 through 551.089 to discuss the following:

The Public Service Board will retire into Executive Session pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 through 551.089. (The items listed below are matters of the sort to be discussed in Executive Session; however, the Public Service Board may move any item of this agenda to Executive Session, consistent with the terms of the Open Meetings Act.)

Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney
Section 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property
Section 551.073 Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift
Section 551.074 Personnel Matters
Section 551.076 Deliberations Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits
Section 551.0761 Deliberation Regarding Critical Infrastructure Facility
Section 551.087 Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations
Section 551.089 Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits

a. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE PRESIDENT/CEO, JOHN E. BALLIEW.

This item had no action.

b. THE BOARD WILL DELIBERATE REGARDING THE PURCHASE AND VALUE OF THE REAL PROPERTIES LOCATED IN CENTRAL EL PASO BETWEEN DALLAS STREET AND COTTON STREET IN THE CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS.

On a motion made by Stephanie Block, seconded by Charlie Intebi, and unanimously carried (4 ayes), the Board authorized the President/CEO to proceed with multiple purchases of real property in the manner approved by the Board, in accordance with the terms and conditions specified by the Board, and sign all documents necessary to complete such actions.

c. THE BOARD WILL DELIBERATE REGARDING WHETHER THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY CAN BE DECLARED INEXPEDIENT TO THE WATER, WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER SYSTEMS: PORTIONS OF SECTIO 20, BLOCK 81, TOWNSHIP 1, TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY SURVEYS, ABSTRACT NO. 5419, CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS, APPROXIMATELY 16.5289 ACRES.

On a motion made by Stephanie Block, seconded by Bryan Morris, and unanimously carried (4 ayes), the property as described in the posting language was declared inexpedient to the water, wastewater and stormwater systems.

d. **THE BOARD WILL DELIBERATE REGARDING THE PURCHASE AND VALUE OF THE REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOTS 1 THROUGH 4, BLOCK 7, REPLAT OF LOMAS DEL REY, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN VOLUME 21, PAGE 4, AND A PORTION OF LOT 5, BLOCK 7, REPLAT OF LOMAS DEL REY, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN VOLUME 31, PAGE 22, PLAT RECORDS OF EL PASO COUNTY TEXAS.**

On a motion made by Stephanie Block, seconded by Bryan Morris, and unanimously carried (4 ayes), the President/CEO was authorized to proceed with the acquisition of real property in the manner approved by the Board, in accordance with the terms and conditions specified, and to sign all documents necessary to complete the action.

e. **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE LEASE AND VALUE OF THE REAL PROPERTIES LOCATED IN NORTHEAST BETWEEN RAILROAD AND MLK IN THE CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS.**

This item had no action.

Any action as a result of these discussions will be taken at the re-opening of this meeting or at a subsequent meeting.

On a motion made by Mrs. Block, seconded by Mr. Morris, and unanimously carried, the Board reconvened in open session at 2:29 p.m., September 9, 2026.

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Intebi, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m., September 9, 2026.

ATTEST:

Dr. Anna Gitter, Chair

Stefanie Block, Secretary-Treasurer

MINUTES
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD
CITY OF EL PASO
September 30, 2026

The special meeting of the Public Service Board for the PSB Budget Review was held in person on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, in the Public Service Board Meeting Room, 1154 Hawkins Blvd., El Paso, Texas 79925.

PSB MEMBERS PRESENT
Bryan Morris – Member
Stefanie Block – Treasurer
Dr. Anna Gitter – Chair
Dr. Hector Ocaranza – Member
Charlie Intebi – Vice Chair
Lane Gaddy – Member

PSB MEMBERS ABSENT
Mayor Renard U. Johnson

PSB EMPLOYEES PRESENT
John E. Balliew, P.E., President and Chief Executive Officer
Daniel Ortiz, General Counsel

EPWATER EMPLOYEES PRESENT
Ana Sanchez, Vice President of Financial and Management Services
Gilbert Trejo, Vice President of Operations and Technical Services
Adam Wickersham, Vice President of IT
Edith Lara, Executive Assistant to the President/CEO
Jeff Tepsick, Chief Financial Officer
Claudia Duran, Chief of Staff
Lisa Rosendorf, Chief Communications and Government Affairs Officer
Elmer Beeler, Chief Support & Logistics Officer
Richard Wilcox, Chief Water Quality Compliance Officer
Alberto Gomez, Utility Video Production Manager
Alessa Contreras, Multimedia Design Specialist
Monica Puga Ontiveros, Utility Chief Human Resources Officer
Felipe Lopez, Utility Chief Engineering Officer
Irazema Rojas, Utility Chief Engineering Officer
Adriana Castillo, Utility Engineering Division Manager
Ivan Hernandez, Utility Engineering Division Manager
Cinthya Dominguez, Senior Budget Analyst
Luz Holguin, Utility Assistant Chief Financial Officer
Anthony Carrillo, Budget & Services Coordinator
Manuel Ramirez, Budget & Services Coordinator
Martin Noriega, Utility Chief Operations Officer
Gisela Dagnino, Utility Chief Operations Officer
Renata Renova, Capital Projects Manager
Ozzie Muniz, Utility Chief of Safety, Security, Emergency Response
David Rodriguez, Support Services Specialist I
Denis Arras Jr. PC/LAN Specialist I
Gabriela Warren, Utility Senior Computer Media Specialist
Cecilia Bertolli, Capital Improvements Program Manager
Nayeli Sierra, Lead Budget Analyst
Rene Leon, Legislative Liaison

EPWATER EMPLOYEES PRESENT
Jaime Arriola, Capital Projects Manager
Elsa Ochoa, Engineering Division Manager
Adam Holguin, Utility Public Information Coordinator
Adriana De Santiago, Utility Public Information Coordinator

GUEST
Sergio J. Adame, Brock & Bustillos
Ulises Estrada, CEA Group
Rodolfo Reyes
Diego Mendoza Moyers, El Paso Matters
Christian Escalante, LJA
Brian Klaes, MCI
Alberto Hernandez Bardan, Nuraami
Gerry Valenzuela, Jacobs
Troy Svede, Moreno Cardenas
John Cordova, LOI Engineering

The Public Service Board meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. A quorum of its members was present.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. RECEIVED A PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSED THE BUDGET WORKSHOP – FY2027-2028 BUDGET OVERVIEW; FY2027-2028 WATER, WASTEWATER & RECLAIMED WATER OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET; FY2027-2028 STORMWATER OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET.

John E. Balliew and Gilbert Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The presentation reviewed customer water-use trends, bill comparisons, utility operations, strategic priorities, and affordability. Budget challenges included aging infrastructure, higher construction and operating costs, new water supply needs, regulatory requirements, and reliability expectations. Cost-control measures included overtime management, in-house maintenance, grants, recycling, coordination with partner agencies, and the Asset Reliability program.

Capital priorities included the Bustamante wastewater treatment plant expansion and rehabilitation, the Pure Water Center, the KBH 6th Treatment Unit, well drilling, pipeline replacement, pumping and lift station improvements, stormwater storage and conveyance, and neighborhood drainage. The presentation also addressed projects serving growing areas, digital transformation, partner-agency obligations, and airport area development.

Four budget scenarios were presented: High Risk, with a $478 million capital improvement program; Lean, $722 million; Accelerated, $1.127 billion; and Strategic, $888 million, compared with $831 million for FY2026-2027. The presentation compared operating and maintenance budgets, debt service and coverage, customer bill impacts, staffing, project deferrals and cancellations, and associated operational, financial, regulatory, legal, and water supply risks.

Affordability topics included low-water-use rates, stormwater fees, rebates, customer assistance, the AguaRepairs Leak Repair Program, a senior discount option for low-water-use customers age 70 and older funded with non-rate revenue, and a new mobile application. The Board was asked to consider changes to the scenarios, options for community meetings, and information needed for the second budget workshop.

2. DISCUSSED AND NOTED THE FY2027–2028 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE, INCLUDING PSB BUDGET WORKSHOP #2 ON NOVEMBER 04, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M., AND THE REGULAR PSB MEETING ON JANUARY 13, 2027 TO TAKE FINAL ACTION ON THE PROPOSED FY2027-2028 BUDGET.

Gilbert Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The presentation reviewed the FY2027-2028 budget meeting schedule and community meetings scheduled from October 13, 2026, through October 22, 2026. Upcoming PSB meetings included October 14, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.; Budget Workshop #2 on

REGULAR AGENDA

November 04, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.; November 10, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.; and January 13, 2027, at 8:30 a.m. The January 13, 2027, meeting was identified for final action on the proposed budgets, rate adjustments, and Rules and Regulations.

During discussion of the agenda items, Board members asked questions. Jeff Tepsick, John E. Balliew, Gilbert Trejo, and Lisa Rosendorf responded to the Board's questions.

John Cordova of LOI Engineering spoke to the Board regarding the agenda items.

On a motion made by Lane Gaddy and seconded by Bryan Morris, the meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m., September 30, 2026.

ATTEST:

Dr. Anita Gitter, Chair

Stefanie Block, Secretary-Treasurer