

CITY OF HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 03, 2024

The Regular Board Meeting of the Utility Board of Trustees was conducted on the 3rd day of December 2024 at 5:00 P.M. in the Harlingen Waterworks System's Board Room located on the second floor at 121 East Harrison Avenue, in the City of Harlingen, Texas.

Board Members Present: Chris Bartnesky, Chairman
Michael Garza, Vice Chairman
Michael Murphy, Trustee
Maru De La Paz, Trustee
Norma Sepulveda, Mayor, Ex-Officio

Staff Present: David Sanchez, Interim General Manager
Gene McCullough, System Attorney
Ron De La Garza, Director of Finances
Florita Rodriguez, Customer Service Director
Michael Chamberlain, Purchasing Manager
Jon Hedegard, Director of Wastewater Services
Jose L. Rodriguez, Director of Information Technology
Cassandra Mata, HR Manager

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: OPEN MEETING AND WELCOME

Chairman Chris Bartnesky, called the meeting to order at 5:08 P.M. and asked whether the agenda had been posted in accordance with the law; Nilda Sanchez confirmed it had.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGINANCE FOLLOWED BY INVOCATION

Chris Bartnesky commenced the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and honoring our country with the Pledge of Allegiance. David Sanchez followed with a prayer.

***** OUT OF SEQUENCE**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) To discuss legal matters; pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code §551.071.

A motion to enter Executive Session was made.

Motion: Murphy Seconded: Garza

Motion to Approve: 3 Yeas 0 Nays

Entered Executive Session at: 5:04 P.M.

Exited Executive Session at: 5:48 P.M.

No Action was taken.

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***** OUT OF SEQUENCE**

***** Trustee De La Paz joined the meeting during Executive Session.**

***** OUT OF SEQUENCE**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mr. Bartnesky read the conflict-of-interest disclosure and asked the Board if anyone had any known conflicts of interest for this Board Meeting. None of the trustees reported a conflict of interest.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: COMMUNICATION / INPUT FROM CUSTOMERS AND RESIDENTS OF HARLINGEN

None.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) From the Regular Board Meeting of October 30, 2024.
- b) From the Special Board Meeting of November 06, 2024

With no corrections requested, a motion to approve the Board Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of October 30, 2024 and the Special Board Meeting of November 6, 2024, was made.

Motion: Maru De La Paz
Second: Michael Garza

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).

AGENDA ITEM NO.6: REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

a) Presentation regarding UTRGV - Regional Security Operations Center (RSOC)

Jose L. Rodriguez provided an overview of the UTRGV Regional Operations Center (RSOC) Program, which was created in 2019 in response to a series of cyber-attacks affecting local government agencies.

He emphasized several key services offered by the program, including training, real-time monitoring, continuous activity tracking, security alerts, and immediate response capabilities. The program serves as a crucial resource to assist agencies in the event of a cyber-attack. Discussion by the Board ensued.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: RESOLUTIONS

- a) **R2425-13: Adopting the Harlingen Waterworks System Investment Policy FY 24-25.**

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Ron De La Garza outlined a few minor language revisions to the current policy, as recommended by Waterworks' investment advisor, Valley View Consulting, LLC. Discussion by the Board ensued.

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2425-13 - adopting the Harlingen Waterworks System Investment Policy FY 24-25.

Motion: Michael Murphy
Second: Michael Garza

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).

b) R2425-14: Approving a Purchase for Security Cameras at Water Plants and Towers

Jose L. Rodriguez reported that the current camera system, purchased in 2017, was outdated and needed replacement.

Three cooperative quotes were solicited from BuyBoard vendors, and the bid was awarded to Barcom. The new equipment featured the latest Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology, designed to detect even the slightest movement within its range. It also included user-friendly mobile features, allowing for quicker response times when necessary. Discussion by the Board ensued.

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2425-14 - approving a Purchase for Security Cameras at Water Plants and Towers

Motion: Michael Garza
Second: Michael Murphy

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).

Consent Agenda:

- c) R2425-15: Approving a Purchase for Two Backhoe Loaders.**
- d) R2425-16: Approving a Purchase for Sludge Pump.**
- e) R2425-17: Approving a Purchase for Submersible Pumps.**
- f) R2425-18: Approving a Purchase for HVAC Units**

A motion was made to approve Resolution No.'s R2425-15 (c) through R2425-18 (f) by consent agenda.

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Motion: Michael Garza
Second: Michael Murphy

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).


AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Bartnesky, called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 P.M.

Motion: Michael Garza
Second: Michael Murphy

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).

Attest: _____


Nilda Sanchez, Board Secretary