

CITY OF HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 25, 2025

The Regular Board Meeting of the Utility Board of Trustees was conducted on the 25th day of June 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.

City Commission Present: Ford Kinsley, District 1
Rene Lopez, District 5

Board Members Present: Michael Murphy, Vice Chairman
Wayne Lowry, Trustee
Scott Alex, Trustee
Steven Ritter, Trustee
Jessica Gonzalez

Staff Present: Roy Rodriguez, Interim General Manager
David Sanchez, Assistant 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
Gabriel Trevino, Utility Engineer
Cassandra Mata, Human Resource Manager
Joseph Lunn, Assistant Utility Engineer

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: OPEN MEETING AND WELCOME

Vice Chairman Michael Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:04 P.M. and inquired if the agenda had been posted in compliance with the law, which Nilda Sanchez confirmed it had.

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

Michael Murphy commenced the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and honoring our country with the Pledge of Allegiance. Wayne Lowry followed with a prayer.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Michael Murphy 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.

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

With no corrections requested, a motion to approve the Board Minutes for the: Regular Board Meeting of May 28, 2025, and Special Board Meeting of June 11, 2025, was made.

Motion: Steven Ritter
Second: Scott Allex

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (5-0).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

a) Presentation of Delinquent Accounts in excess of \$500

Florita J. Rodriguez presented the delinquent accounts that were still pending. Discussion by the Board ensued.

b) Presentation on Proposed Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2025-2026

Gabriel Trevino presented a comprehensive presentation on the status of current year Capital Improvement Projects and proposed projects for FY 2025-26. Discussion by the Board ensued.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: FINANCIALS

a) Monthly Financial Report for month ending May 31, 2025.

Ron De La Garza gave an overview of the financial reports ending May 31, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: RESOLUTIONS

Regular Agenda

a) R2425-52: Appointing a Representative to the City of Harlingen Audit Committee.

Roy Rodriguez reported the need for an annual appointment of the Audit Committee and opened up the floor for a volunteer or nomination. Discussion by the Board ensued, and a decision to appoint Wayne Lowry to the City Audit Commission was reached.

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2425-52 - Appointing a Representative to the City of Harlingen Audit Committee.

Motion: Scott Allex
Second: Jessica Gonzalez

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (5-0).

b) R2425-53: Approving Membership to Government Cooperative.

Michael Chamberlain reported making purchases through a government purchasing cooperative with high quality vendors was needed. Although there were already eleven

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different purchasing cooperatives being utilized by Waterworks this option would enhance the choices. Discussion by the Board ensued.

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2425-53 - approving membership to Government Cooperative.

Motion: Steven Ritter
Second: Wayne Lowry

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (5-0).

c) R2425-54: Approving a Buy Board Contract with Fuquay for E. Woodland 8" Sewer Line.

Joseph Lunn updated the Board on the pipe bursting construction project at E. Woodland, noting several unforeseen challenges. During construction, obstacles like fences, gardens, and pools made pipe bursting unfeasible in certain areas due to the risk of damaging customer properties.

As a result, an alternative solution utilizing "Cast in Place Piping" (CIPP) was proposed. CIPP is a trenchless method that involves inserting a special lining into the existing sanitary sewer infrastructure, eliminating the need for excavation and minimizing disruption to the construction site. Discussion by the Board ensued.

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2425-54 – approving a Buy Board Contract with Fuquay for E. Woodland 8" Sewer Line.

Motion: Scott Alex
Second: Steven Ritter

Motion to approve the resolution was carried by a vote of the Board (5-0).

d) R2425-55: Approving Agreement for Construction Material Testing with EarthCo, LLC.

Joseph Lunn announced that the previously approved warehouse yard improvement project would move forward with EarthCo, LLC providing geotechnical engineering services. EarthCo, a third-party company, will be responsible for construction materials testing throughout the duration of the project. Discussion by the Board ensued.

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2425-55 – approving Agreement for Construction Material Testing with EarthCo, LLC.

Motion: Steven Ritter
Second: Jessica Gonzalez

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Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (5-0).

Consent Agenda

- f) **R2425-56: Approving Contract Extension for Sludge Transport and Disposal.**
- g) **R2425-57: Approving Contract Extension for Internet and Phone Services.**
- h) **R2425-58: Approving Contract Extension for Caliche.**
- i) **R2425-59: Approving Contract Extension for Repair Services.**
- k) **R2425-60: Approving Contract Extension for Bedding and Backfill Sand.**
- l) **R2425-61: Approving the purchase of Software and Equipment for AMI System.**

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2425-56 through R245-61, under Consent Agenda was made.

Motion: Wayne Lowry
Second: Scott Allex

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (5-0).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: MANAGER'S REPORTS

Roy Rodriguez called an Executive Session concerning a proposed Wastewater Contract: A motion to enter Executive Session was made.

Motion: Lowry Seconded: Ritter

Motion to Approve: 5 Yeas 0 Nays

Entered Executive Session at: 5:41 P.M.

Exited Executive Session at: 6:02 P.M.

Action Taken: recommendation to authorize staff to continue negotiations with the company as discussed in Executive Session.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Michael Murphy called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 P.M.

Attest: 
Nilda Sanchez, Board Secretary