

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Laguna Madre Water District
Board of Directors
Wednesday, January 28, 2026
5:30 PM – 6:37 PM
Board Room
105 Port Rd. Port Isabel, TX 78578

1. The Chairman calls the meeting to order, determines the presence of a quorum, and notices that the meeting has been duly posted as required by law.

Chairman, S. Friedman initiated the meeting by confirming the presence of a quorum. With all members in attendance, the official status of the meeting was established.

PRESENT

Scott Friedman, Chairman
Adam Lalonde, Vice-Chairman
David "Dave" Boughter, Director
William "Bill" Donahue, Director

ABSENT

Jason Starkey, Secretary

LMWD STAFF

Noe Cantu, Interim General Manager
Brian Hansen, Attorney
Charles Ortiz, District Engineer
Eduardo Salazar, Director of Finance
Enrique Samaniego, Purchasing Agent
Mary Gamboa, Human Resources
Brandon Edge, Information Tech Specialist
Ana Lopez, Executive Secretary

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board Member Director D. Boughter led the invocation.

3. Invitation to the Audience for Public Comments

- Melissa Rodriguez with Texas Association of School Boards presented BuyBoard rebate check to Laguna Madre Water District in the amount of \$172,607.00; and requested a photo with board accepting it.

4. Consider and discuss for possible approval the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 14, 2026. (N. Cantu)

The minutes were submitted to the Board for Review. The Board formally approved the minutes as presented.

Moved By B. Donahue, **Seconded** By D. Boughter.

Motion: Move to Approve

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. General Managers Report

- N. Cantu provided an updated report on Laguna Blvd project status. Board requested traffic mitigation move to block road right before the stop light.

6. Consider and discuss for possible approval of Board and Staff Travel to attend the AMTA/AWWA Membrane Technology Conference & Exposition on February 2, 2026, through February 5, 2026, in Myrtle Beach, North Carolina. (N. Cantu)

N. Cantu requested formal approval for the conference since it is out of state and encouraged any Board Member to attend if interested. Chairman Scott Friedman will be the only one attending this conference. The Board approved.

Moved By A. Lalonde, **Seconded** By D. Boughter.

Motion: Move to Approve.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Consider and discuss for possible approval on Board and Staff Travel to attend Texas Desal Legislative Workshop 2026 on March 25, 2026, in Austin, Texas. (N. Cantu)

N. Cantu shared the details of the conference and asked if any Board Member is interested in attending to contact the office.

Moved By D. Boughter, **Seconded** By A. Lalonde.

Motion: Move to Approve.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Consider and discuss for possible approval Award of BuyBoard Proposal #730-24 from Southern Trenchless Solutions for Lift Station No. 19 Manhole Rehabilitation. (C. Ortiz)

C. Ortiz presented the quote of \$149,500.00 for Lift Station No. 19 Manhole Rehabilitation needed to continue repairs due to deterioration.

Moved By D. Boughter, **Seconded** By B. Donahue.

Motion: Move to Approve.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Consider and discuss for possible ratification of Emergency Repair for BuyBoard Proposal #730-24 from Southern Trenchless Solutions for Pipe Bursting Existing Gravity Sewer from Palo Blanco Dr. to Palm Blvd. in Laguna Vista. (C. Ortiz)

C. Ortiz recommended approval and noted pipe bursting existing gravity sewer line would be best option to address issue.

Moved By A. Lalonde, **Seconded** By D. Boughter.

Motion: Move to Approve.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Director of Finance Report 📌

- **Arbitrage Rebate Liability** – E. Salazar provided information on the obligation to pay excess investment earnings on bond proceeds back to the U. S. Treasury, mandated by the IRS to ensure tax-exempt status. The liability arises when invested proceeds yield more than the bond's cost, requiring issuers to rebate these "overearnings." He will be creating two segregated bank accounts to avoid the usage of funds.

11. Consider and discuss for possible approval of Financial Reports for October 2025. (E. Salazar) 📌

Director of Finance E. Salazar presented the October 2025 financials, highlighting revenue and expenditures.

Moved By A. Lalonde, **Seconded** By D. Boughter.

Motion: Move to Approve.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Consider and review Expenditures from January 1, 2026, to January 15, 2026. (N. Cantu) 📌

The Expenditures were provided for review and acknowledged by the full board.

Moved By D. Boughter, **Seconded** By A. Lalonde.

Motion: Move to Approve.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION permitted by the Open Meetings Act, VTCA, Government Code Section 551.001 et seq., Under Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney; under Section 551.072, Deliberation about Real Property, Under Section 551.074, Personnel Matters:

- A. Discussion and possible action concerning the negotiations with the Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District for the Seawater Intake Facilities.
- B. Discussion concerning General Manager responsibilities.

S. Friedman, Chairman of the Laguna Madre Water District's Board of Directors, took the following action: that an Executive Session be included on the agenda for the said meeting, which was duly posted at the office of the District, authorizing the holding of such a closed or Executive Session.

The Chairman entertained the motion to enter into Executive Session. A. Lalonde moved, with Mr. Boughter seconding, to initiate the **Executive Session** at **5:48 PM**. A. Lalonde put forth a motion, seconded by D. Boughter, to adjourn the **Executive Session** at **6:14 PM**. The only matters discussed during the Executive Session were addressed by the Board of Directors, who then proceeded to the next agenda item.

14. Consider and action on EXECUTIVE SESSION item(s), if necessary.

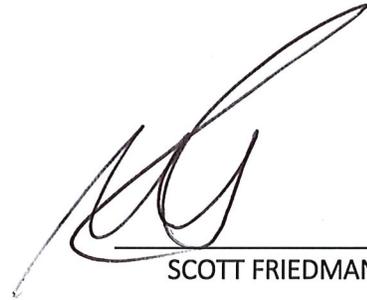
Moved By A. Lalonde, **Seconded** D. Boughter.

Motion: Move to Proceed as Directed

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

15. Adjournment

No additional business remained; the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.


SCOTT FRIEDMAN, CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM DONAHUE, DIRECTOR

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 11TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.