

**EAST CEDAR CREEK FRESH WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT
MINUTES FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21, 2026, 12:30 PM**

1. A meeting of the Board of Directors for East Cedar Creek FWSD was held at the Administration building in Gun Barrel City, Tx on January 21, 2026. The meeting convened at 12:30pm, President Jim Willi presiding.
 2. Pledge of Allegiance.
 3. Members present in person were, President Jim Willi, Vice-President Larry Bratton, Treasurer Pat Mullaney, Director Ted Henley, and Director Debbie Emmerich. Director Michael Divine arrived later in the meeting. Absent was Secretary Terri Bradley. Other attendees in person were General Manager James Blodgett, Office Manager Angie Crowsey, Chief Water Operator Anthony McLaughlin, Shriram Manivannan/KSA. Other attendees by telephone/video conference were Russell Slator/The Monitor and one individual listed as Michael
 4. A quorum was established.
 5. Motion was made by Mr. Mullaney and seconded to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
 6. **Discuss and/or take action to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on December 17, 2025.** Motion was made by Mr. Mullaney and seconded to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on December 17, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.
 7. **Public Comments.** There were no public comments.
- Director Michael Divine arrived at the meeting.
8. **Consent Agenda:** The Board requested that all items under the Engineer's Report be removed and under General Manager's monthly report item # b(ii) Staff changes be removed for discussion.

a. KSA Engineer's Report

- i. Task Order #24 General Services
- ii. 2022 Bond Projects. 1. Task Order #101210 NWWTP Catwalk 2. Task Order #101212 SWWTP Improvement 3. Task Order #101213 Brookshire GST. 4. Task Order #101214 Lift Station Improv 57 & 59
- iii. Lake Crossing / CBP
- iv. Task Order #103767 South WWTP Permit Renewal.

b. General Manager's Monthly Report.

- i. Key Monthly Activities. ii. Staff Changes. iii. Work Orders. iv. Project Status. v. Operations Report.

Without objections the Board discussed the following consent agenda items.

8.a KSA Engineer's Report. Mr. Manivannan reviewed the Engineer report with the Board noting that Task Order #101213 Brookshire GST was now closed out, the NWWTP Permit just started, discussed the Task Order #101210 NWWTP Catwalk that was noted that it needs to be replaced not just updated. Mr. Blodgett advised that the contractor for the Pier 334 Hotel emailed last month and noted this is under engineering review, which normally takes four to five weeks. The Board discussed the Lake crossing project with Mr. Manivanna and Mr. Blodgett giving the Board a brief overview of the project. Mr. Manivanna and Mr. Blodgett advised the Board that KSA has developed a top ten projects from the master plan that are priorities and discussed considered a new bond to fund these projects. It was noted that the Sandbar Food Truck Park is still pending and the Dr. Jon Rich project is under engineering review.

8.b General Manager's Monthly Report b(ii) Staff Changes. Mr. Blodgett advised that as of today's meeting the District was fully staffed.

Motion was made by Mr. Bratton and seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Discuss and/or take action to approve to upgrade radio communication for both WTP's not to exceed the amount of \$26,000 for an unexpected 2025-2026 capital improvement expenditure to be paid out of the Operating Reserves account.** Motion was made Mr. Mullaney and seconded to approve to upgrade radio communication for both WTP's not to exceed the amount of \$26,000 for an unexpected 2025-2026 capital improvement expenditure to be paid out of the Operating Reserves account. Mr. Blodgett and Mr. McLaughlin gave a brief overview of this project noting that the old system is obsolete and that this system will be using radio telemetry. Motion carried unanimously.
10. **Discuss and/or take action to approve to transfer \$150,000 from the Improvement fund to the Operating Reserve to add an additional building to the Administrative office to add capacity for administrative operations due to growth.** Motion was made by Mr. Divine and seconded to approve to transfer \$150,000 from the Improvement fund to the Operating Reserve to add an additional building to the Administrative office to add capacity for administrative operations due to growth. Mr. Blodgett presented the Board a handout which included two different quotes from Athens Steel Building and TOTL Services along with detailed drawings for the proposed building. TOTL Services came in with the lowest quote and offered more interior build out including concrete with their quote. Mr. Blodgett explained that the District Administrative office needs more room due to growth. The District currently has \$2.6 million in capital improvement funds, and we are scheduled to use \$74,233.56 by the end of 2026 and \$61,861.78 by the end of 2027 totaling \$136,095.34. It was noted that Capital Improvement funds are restricted and are required to be utilized ten years from the collection date and funds are to be used for upgrades or to build new facilities, infrastructure, or purchase property due to growth. This building will be utilized for Board meetings, project and other public meetings, as well as a training facility for the staff. Mr. Blodgett advised that a fence will be included to provide safety and security for the building. The next phase that will be budgeted for in the future is to upgrade the existing building by providing a bigger reception area at the entrance of the building as well as creating more storage areas and relocating some offices to different areas. The Board asked that Mr. Blodgett follow up with the proposed contractor for wind ratings for this building. Motion carried unanimously.
11. **Discuss and/or take action to approve the Brookshire WTP Chemical Building Rehab not to exceed the amount of \$20,000 for a budgeted 2025-2026 capital improvement expenditure to be paid out of the Operating Reserves account.** Motion was made by Mr. Mullaney and seconded to approve the Brookshire WTP Chemical Building Rehab not to exceed the amount of \$20,000 for a budgeted 2025-2026 capital improvement expenditure to be paid out of the Operating Reserves account. Mr. Blodgett explained that the building has some corrosion and in need of repair. Motion carried unanimously.
12. **Discuss and/or take action to approve Repairs to the Exterior of the Admin Building not to exceed the amount of \$5,000 for a budgeted 2025-2026 capital improvement expenditure to be paid out of the Operating Reserves account.** Motion was made by Mr. Divine and seconded to approve Repairs to the Exterior of the Admin Building not to exceed the amount of \$5,000 for a budgeted 2025-2026 capital improvement expenditure to be paid out of the Operating Reserves account. Mr. Blodgett explained that the exterior of the Administrative building has several locations that have some rust and corrosion and there are some older light fixtures as well as repairing the door for the side entrance. Motion carried unanimously.
13. **Discuss and/or take action to approve for Board Members to attend the TRWA annual meeting in Arlington on March 26th-27th and appoint voting delegates.** Mr. Blodgett advised that this conference provides training that could be beneficial to the Board. It was noted that Mr. McLaughlin has been participating in Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) and is set to graduate at this conference. Mr. Crowsey advised that when making motion they will

have to also appoint a voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate. Motion was made by Mr. Bratton and seconded to approve for Board Members to attend the TRWA annual meeting in Arlington on March 26th-27th and appoint Mr. Blodgett as the voting delegate and Mr. Mullaney as the alternate voting delegate. Motion carried unanimously.

14. **Discuss and/or take action to approve to engage Mike Ward Accounting & Financial Consulting, PLLC to perform the annual audit for FY 2025/2026.** The Board asked about how Mr. Ward's services have been in the past. Mr. Blodgett and Ms. Crowsey both confirmed that they are happy with his services and noted he did increase his costs this year, but it was still within the District's annual budget for auditing services. Motion was made by Mr. Divine and seconded to approve to engage Mike Ward Accounting & Financial Consulting, PLLC to perform the annual audit for FY 2025/2026. Motion carried unanimously.
15. **Discuss and/or take action to approve the investment officers to review maturing accounts in 2026 and authorize the officers to close and/or reinvest these accounts following the Investment Policy and internal procedures.** Motion was made by Mr. Divine and seconded to approve the investment officers to review maturing accounts in 2026 and authorize the officers to close and/or reinvest these accounts following the Investment Policy and internal procedures. It was noted that the investment officers are the Board President and the General Manager positions. Ms. Crowsey explained that this gives authorization for the investment officers to make decisions on maturing banking accounts for this year as well as reinvesting other accounts to get the best investment interests for the District by following the District's investment policy. Motion carried unanimously.
16. Committee Reports.
 - a. **Operations Committee.** There was no report.
 - b. **Personnel Committee.** There was no report.
 - c. **Finance Committee.** Mr. Mullaney advised that the Finance Committee is set to meet next week to review the proposed budget for the new Fiscal year 2026/2027.
17. **Review and discuss the December 2025 financial reports.** The Board reviewed and discussed the December 2025 financial reports. It was noted that the Revenues are up and expenses are down. The debt ratio is good at 2.83.
18. **Discuss and/or take action to approve the payment of bills.** Motion was made by Mr. Henley and seconded to approve the payment of bills. Motion carried unanimously.
19. **Convene into Executive Session to deliberate personnel matters as per section 551.074 of the Open Meetings Act.**
 - a. **Deliberate the annual evaluation for the General Manager.**The Board went into executive session at 1:24pm The Board reconvened out of executive session at 1:35pm
20. **Discuss and/or take action on items discussed in executive session.** Mr. Willi advised that he will schedule a meeting with Mr. Blodgett to perform his annual evaluation review.
21. Motion was made by Mr. Bratton and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The Board convened out of the regular meeting at 1:36pm.



Jim Willi
Board President

02/18/2026
Date