

MINUTES  
BALMORHEA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 13, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR JOHN L. DAVIS, IKE WARD, ROSA DOMINGUEZ,  
JULIE LEWIS, JOY LEWIS, DANNY VASQUEZ III

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

STAFF PRESENT: SANDRA NAVARRETE, RUSSELL MORRIS, LUPE MENDOZA(7:19PM)

VISTORS: ROBERT SNYDER, IRUM ZAIDI, HEATHER PUMPHREY, GERAD SANDATE,  
MEGAN KOLUCH, JOSUE MENDOZA, SAMANTHA HOLLOWAY

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor John L. Davis at 7:01 pm.
2. Mayor John L. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to approve and pay invoice #3093-Corny Reimer. Motion Carried 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Rosa Dominguez stated that she had not abstained a motion on page 2 on item E. City Clerk stated that she recalled that when the motion was passed, she did not hear Mrs. Dominguez in favor or against the motion. Clerk added that it was not reflecting any difference on the audio recording, but it was up to the council to rescind the minutes to research the audio once again and clarify Mrs. Dominguez question. Joy Lewis stated that if anyone on the council has a vote in question, the council needs to table the item until it is resolved. Julie Lewis stated that there was a typo on page 4 in the word oblivious. The word should be obvious. Joy Lewis made a motion, seconded by Julie Lewis to table March 9, 2026 Minutes to May meeting. Motion Carried 5-0.

2. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez to approve bills and adjustments as presented. Motion Carried 5-0.

3. Reports

A. Robert Snyder presented an ESD 1&2 report. Mr. Snyder was excited to report that ESD Station 3 is finally completed after several years, and the staff has officially moved in last week. There will be a grand opening on a future date that will be announced. No questions were addressed.

B. Fire Chief Josue Mendoza presented a report. Mayor Davis asked Josue Mendoza if he had received the paperwork back for the purchase of the fire trucks. Mayor Davis added that the trucks need to be purchased for at least \$1.00 each. Julie Lewis asked if the ownership had been changed on fire trucks. Mayor Davis responded that it will be done when the proper paperwork is completed.

1. Mayor Davis explained that last month the Balmorhea Fire Department had requested to donate \$4,000 to Isaiah Mendoza with IDM Construction to help with the Memorial Day Festival. After contacting our city attorney Rod Ponton, Mr. Ponton stated it was okay to carry out this process, being that it was going towards a public event. Ike Ward made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez III to approve the Balmorhea Fire Department donation to Isaiah Mendoza Construction Company for Memorial Day Festival in the amount of \$4,000. Motion Carried 5-0.


2. Julie Lewis made a motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to table item 2 until complete paperwork is submitted. Motion Carried 5-0.

C. City Clerk had no report. No questions were addressed. Clerk stated that Irum Zaidi would like to give an update on the Healthy Balmorhea Program Update. Ms. Zaidi passed out a handout. The handout reflected screening and enrollment through April 10, 2026. We have screened over 160 people from Balmorhea and Saragosa. We have provided tools to over 130 people so they can use their data to make changes to their health. Some of the people we checked today have brought down their HbA1C down within one month. What is similar to the City of Crane is the hypertension readings. Each month the readings help each individual take charge and figure this out on their own. Ms. Zaidi stated they will continue to come to Balmorhea once a month and continue to update with numbers. And three months out we will be able to show what type of changes are happening in the community. People are still coming in to enroll into the program as we speak. Mayor Davis added that he appreciated them for bringing the program to this community.

- D. Russell Morris, water operator, had no report. Mr. Morris added that he would take water samples tomorrow and had reached Corny Reimer to order an item that was needed. Mr. Morris stated that Mayor Davis needed to watch the video and get back with the engineers. Mayor Davis responded no, I don't. I went through that last year we have done the leg work for them and nothing comes back to us.
- E. Rosa Dominguez stated that she wanted to set something straight. Last month when I made a motion to appoint a new economic development board member, it was to my knowledge that I did not abstain. Josue Mendoza sitting at the back of the room yelled out I could not make the motion because it was a conflict of interest but it wasn't. Mayor Davis responded that not everyone was educated at that time. Mrs. Dominguez requested that the city clerk read the highlighted area on the email that was received. City Clerk read email from the legal Texas Municipal League that stated that a councilmember who serves on the economic development board does not have a general legal requirement to abstain from voting on EDC matters solely because of their dual service, unless a specific personal conflict interest exists in the matter before the council. Mayor Davis added that in 2012 when he was President of the BEDC we did not vote on certain things for the same reason. Nobody ever steps out to educate themselves. Mrs. Dominguez added but we have been voting all this time because we can. Mayor Davis responded on money issues I will not take sides and don't care which one. This has been a question for Rod Ponton and he has never answered. Mrs. Dominguez added that I have known this since I became an economic development member. I just hope Mr. Mendoza understands and continues videoing it because he is the one questioning. Julie Lewis asked that Mr. Mendoza is videoing the council meeting and asked if it was legal. Mayor Davis responded yes. Mr. Mendoza replied to Julie Lewis and stated he was not recording. Julie Lewis asked that the Mayor Davis stop Mr. Mendoza from arguing and stating he was out of order. Mr. Mendoza added he never questioned she couldn't vote, it was Mrs. Dominguez making the motion. Mayor Davis responded that the matter was not about money. Mrs. Dominguez stated that as Fire Chief Mr. Mendoza made the motion on the Balmorhea Fire Department to donate money to the Memorial Day Festival and what would be the difference there. Mr. Mendoza added I did make the motion, but I'm not on the council, and my members voted for it. Mayor Davis told Mr. Mendoza how many times, did we go through this when you were on the council. This is a done deal. Mayor Davis stated that item 1&2 would be added again next month due to individual not available to sworn in. No action was taken.

1. No action was taken.
2. Mayor Davis stated that item 1&2 would be added again next month due to individual was not available to be sworn in.
4. No discussion or action taken. James Tarin was not present.
5. Julie Lewis stated that the council had an itemized statement in front of the them of what it is going to cost to cap all around the C.T. Gray ballpark. The total amount of the capping would be \$3,124.50 and comes in several colors. This is for protection of the fence when players come to contact. Once the order is placed, it will take 2 weeks to arrive. This is super simple to install. We would have to go pick it up. Mayor Davis added that there will probably be some additional costs overall. Russell Morris water operator asked if he and Lupe were going to be the ones to install the capping. Julie Lewis responded, it is simple. Mr. Morris added that he understood the concept but that the fence needs a lot of repairs. Mayor Davis responded that it doesn't matter if it takes 6 months to repair and raise the top of the fence. City employee Lupe Medoza stated that the fence was dangerous for the kids. Julie Lewis responded that is why we are putting the capping on. Mr. Mendoza added that the council probably didn't realize the danger because they have no kids. Mayor Davis responded that he has grandchildren. Mr. Mendoza responds but they don't come over here and use the park. Mayor Davis stated the kids just need to stay out of the fence. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Julie Lewis to consider purchasing fence capping for the C.T. Gray park in the color of navy blue. Motion Carried 5-0.
6. Danny Vasquez made a motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 pm. Motion Carried 5-0.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11 DAY OF MAY 2026.

  
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JOHN L. DAVIS, MAYOR

  
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SANDRA NAVARRETE, CITY CLERK