MINUTES
BALMORHEA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: DANNY VASQUEZ III

STAFF PRESENT: SANDRA NAVARRETE, CAMERON BAEZA, ROD PONTON

VISTORS: LUPE MENDOZA, LANDON BROOKS, GIDGET TREADAWAY, LYNDELL BROOKS, TABITHA PEGODA, SAMANTHA HOLLOWAY, GREG PERRIN, BERNADETTE PORTILLO, MEGAN LEWIS

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Rosa Dominguez at 7:02 pm.

2. Mayor John L. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. A. Julie Lewis made the motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to adopt the proposed tax rate for new fiscal year 2026-2027. Motion Carried 4-0.
   B. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Julie Lewis to adopt budget for fiscal year 2026-2027. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to approve August 10, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion Carried 4-0.

5. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded Ike Ward to approve bills and adjustments as presented. Motion Carried 4-0.

6. Reports
   A. No report submitted. No representation.
   B. City Clerk stated she wanted to remind the council that the quarterly TML meeting would be hosted by the City of Odessa on September 25, 2026 and if anyone is interested, they would have until September 18, 2026 to registrar. Clerk added that the next month's regular council meeting would be Tuesday, October 13, 2026 due to Columbus Day Holiday.
   C. Greg Perin stated that he and Craig Huelster have been testing the water on the

weekends. Mr. Perrin added that the City of Balmorhea had to borrow a chlorinator from Madera Valley because ours was not working. There should be a new one on the way. Mr. Perrin stated that he had recently sent 10-lead/copper samples and just today we received an email stating everything checked out good. Mr. Perrin stated he wanted to share this information from the Texas Code of Title 2 Water Administration Sec. 7.149. **False Statement.** A person commits an offense if the person intentionally or knowingly makes or causes to be made a false material statement, representation, or certification in, or omits or cause to be omitted material information from, an application, notice, record, plan, or other document, including monitoring device data, filed or required to be maintained by Chapter 26 or by a rule adopted or a permit or an order issued by the appropriate regulatory agency under Chapter 26. Mr. Perrin stated that if someone comes to city hall and makes a false statement about the drinking water having something wrong with it and the City of Balmorhea tests it and shows to have nothing wrong the council needs to file charges on that person. Mr. Perrin continued by stating Sec. 7.187. **Penalties.** (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), a person convicted of an offense under this subchapter is punishable by: (1) a fine, as imposed under the section creating the offense, of: (c) not less than $1,000 or more than $100,000; (2) confinement for a period, as imposed by the section creating the offense, not to exceed: (D) one year; (3) both fine and confinement, as imposed by the section creating the offense. Mr. Perin stated that the city council can put a stop to stupidity going around town and on the internet if you file charges on somebody. If an individual has a license with the state, it will put that in jeopardy by possibly losing their license or keeping them from ever getting one in the future. If an individual is falsely reporting to the state and are causing the city to have to do reports would also be considered the same thing and the city can file against them. The last bogus complaint we received we took samples on both sides and everything came back fine. Joy Lewis asked who the city would file the charges with? City attorney Rod Ponton responded, it would be the Sheriff's department. Mr. Perrin added that if anyone has questions about the water system ask Craig Huelster, he checks it nearly every day. Mr. Perrin stated that he thought the city council was doing a good job and wished that Mayor Davis gets well and stays well.

D. Landon Brooks stated that item 1 on the agenda would not be addressed tonight. Mr. Brooks stated that the BEDC has had 3 meetings since the last city council meeting. The meetings were mostly about the setting up of the building, purchases being completed and delivered that were previously approved to make it happen and get things to operate. The 2-signature system has been set up for inventory. A new member was brought in that will be presented to the city council to be appointed next month. During our special meeting we discussed not going forward with that into its entirely on the open house and that's why item 1 needed to be removed. On item 2 we started some discussion on the main street improvement program and what we can do to increase

business and hand out copies of a business participation agreement. Mr. Brooks presented the council with a copy of the agreement and stated that the council tables it so that they may have time to read over it and if they have any questions, we can address them and get it approved to move forward. This main street improvement program will provide an opportunity for businesses to paint, retrim or whatever project they would like to see done. It would be approved through this agreement. Joy Lewis stated that she was glad that the corporation was moving forward and making progress with plans. Joy Lewis asked if they have considered any of the government resources for beautifying the city. Mr. Brooks responded that there was a certain criteria that they needed to get in line with. Mayor Davis stated that this would be a great start and asked if the council needed extra time to look at the agreement or go ahead and approve of it tonight. Julie Lewis made a motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to approve the Balmorhea Economic Development Corporation main street improvement program business participation agreement as presented. Motion Carried 4-0.

7. Luis Contreras was not present to address item.

8. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to approve an engagement letter from Doak Painter for fiscal year audit 2025-2026. Motion Carried 4-0.

9. After some discussion Bernadette Portillo stated that when she was organizing Memorial Day and Labor Day events for the City of Balmorhea, she was always required to submit reports and receipts and that kept everything transparent. Everyone deserves to know how taxpayer dollars are being spent and where the money is going. So, having this interlocal agreement between Reeves County and the City of Balmorhea, keeping both entities accountable and transparent. Mayor Davis stated that has always been a stipulation for the City of Balmorhea on the event funding application that is submitted to the council for approval.
Rosa Dominguez asked if we had more information regarding this interlocal agreement. City Clerk stated she had received this document from councilman Danny Vasquez III but didn't really know who had suggested this or had any calls from Commissioner Paul Hinojos to help answer any questions. Mayor Davis stated that Reeves County wanted to run it through on the city agenda but they were told they had to present something to commissioner's court. Joy Lewis stated that she would like for the commissioner to come out and speak to the council about this project. We never really see him, but this would be a good reason.
Rosa Dominguez asked does the $5,000 that is owed from Reeves County to the City of Balmorhea for the Labor Day Festival that was given to Farah Reyes depends on the approval of this document. City Clerk responded, I don't have that answer. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to table item and request that the Commisssioner Paul Hinojos will attend the next meeting and give more information. Motion Carried 4-0.

10. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Julie Lewis to approve purchase of commercial mower in fiscal year 2026-2027 from fund balance. Motion Carried 4-0.

    START EXECUTIVE SESSION:(7:42)

    END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:(8:17)

11. No comment or action taken.

12. Julie Lewis made a motion, seconded by Joy Lewis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 pm. Motion Carried 4-0.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13 DAY OF OCTOBER 2026.

JOHN L. DAVIS, MAYOR

SANDRA NAVARRETE, CITY CLERK