

**MINUTES
BALMORHEA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 18, 2026**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

STAFF PRESENT: SANDRA NAVARRETE, JOHNNIE SAWYER

VISTORS: LUPE MENDOZA

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor John L. Davis at 5:03 pm.
2. Mayor John L. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Johnnie Sawyer reported that the new unit upgrade was put in at the well site. They will continue to work on the system here in town and will program laptops and cell phones. The contact order on the call system will be water operator, Mayor, and then the city clerk. The Scada will monitor our system 24 hours a day and will be able to read the well. Joy Lewis asked if there is a problem with the system, will it tell us where the problem is? Mr. Sawyer responded yes. If there is an issue, it will go to Prestige, and they can address the problem at their end, they will but if it must be looked at locally. They will reach out to the contact numbers. Mr. Sawyer added that no services were interrupted today due to the upgrade. Danny Vasquez III asked if there were other companies that were contacted to compare pricing. Mayor Davis responded that Prestige has been our first choice in our area and have been used before. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez III to approve estimate #2762-Prestige. Motion carried 5-0.

START EXECUTIVE SESSION:(5:14)

END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:(6:01)

4. 1. Mayor Davis stated that on June 8, 2026, Regular Meeting the council had interviews for the 2 job positions that are open. Johnnie Sawyer came in on May 30th to work for the city under contract labor, we asked Mr. Sawyer if he would consider applying to be considered for the open position and he did. The only thing that was different on his new application was his last employment with the construction company. Mayor Davis added

the there was a 4 to 1 vote as far as hiring a Water Superintendent and they chose Brandie Barker. She will come on in 2 weeks. City Clerk stated that the council needed to make that decision official. Johnnie Sawyer asked the council what about me, "You all called me to come work for you." Mayor Davis stated he had nothing to do with it, I came into the middle of this, I was not here at the last month's council meeting when the interviews started. I really don't know who called you. Mayor Davis stated, as per council discussion she is 4 to 1 vote to hire her for Water Superintendent. We cannot afford to pay 2 high-pay employees. City Clerk stated once again that the council needed to motion who is being hired, paying hourly or salary. Mayor Davis responded that it will be an hourly rate with no more salary. Mayor Davis stated that the motions were made, so we must make the motions again? City Clerk responded yes, the motion must be made in the open session. Danny Vasquez III made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to hire Brandie Barker as Water Superintendent with an hourly rate of \$35.00 and 90-day probation period and to keep Johnnie Sawyer on July 31st to train new employees. Motion Carried 4-1. Joy Lewis Against.

2. Danny Vasquez III made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to hire Cameron Baeza for the maintenance position with an hourly rate of \$18.00 and 90-probation period. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Julie Lewis, to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 pm. Motion Carried 5-0.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13 DAY OF JULY 2026.


JOHN L. DAVIS, MAYOR


SANDRA NAVARRETE, CITY CLERK