

MINUTES
BALMORHEA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 12, 2025

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

STAFF PRESENT: SANDRA NAVARRETE, GREG PERRIN, RUSSELL MORRIS,
LUPE MENDOZA-ABSENT.

VISTORS: JULIE LEWIS, ROBERT SYNDER, ESEQUIEL DUTCHOVER

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Davis at 7:09 pm.
2. Mayor John L. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Ike Ward made a motion, seconded by Josue Mendoza to approve minutes for April 14, 2025, Motion Carried 5-0.
4. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez to approve bills and adjustments as presented. Motion Carried 5-0.
5. Reports
 - A. ESD 1&2 report was presented by Robert Snyder. Mr. Snyder stated that the new date for Station 3 construction completion was May 19th. They are moving very slowly but hopefully it will get done.
 - B. The City Clerk informed council that there was a flyer in their packet regarding the quarterly TML meeting that will be hosted in Midland. If anyone is interested, please inform her to submit registration.
 - C. Russell Morris had no report. Mr. Morris stated that he was working on getting ready for Memorial Day Event. Mayor Davis added he needed to start watering the downtown park as soon as possible. This needs to be done frequently to settle the dirt. Mayor Davis added that Reeves County Water District gave us permission to use the canal water to water all the way throughout the downtown area. Mayor Davis asked if the new planted trees were alive. Mr. Morris stated that the Balmorhea ISD was originally going to keep up with the watering but until the pump went out and they never replaced it, it suddenly became the City of Balmorhea responsibility. Rosa Dominguez asked if the watering of the trees would be the

responsibility of the city employees. Mayor Davis responded, it has always been our responsibility to water downtown area.

D. Rosa Dominguez reported that the BEDC had not had a meeting due to not having a quorum but are still looking to continue with McKnight floor project.

E. Rosa Dominguez stated that all was set for Memorial Day Weekend Event and has been working on Labor Day contracts. Mayor Davis asked if Labor Day contracts have been mailed out. Mrs. Dominguez responded, no. Mayor Davis added that she makes sure that the health information portion to Reeves County be taken out of the contract because it will be the City of Balmorhea to take care of this from starting this Labor Day Weekend.

6. Mayor Davis explained that the City of Balmorhea has been working to take full possession of the old Balmorhea ISD building for over a year and a half and we finally received a draft of the lease agreement. City Clerk stated she had submitted a copy of the draft agreement to City Attorney Rod Ponton to look for any changes to make or to get approval on what was presented. After reviewing the agreement, Mr. Ponton gave the ok for the council to approve the agreement. Joy Lewis asked how the City of Balmorhea will finance this new operation. Mayor Davis responded, it should pay for itself. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to approve lease agreement for the Balmorhea ISD property at District's old campus. Motion Carried 4-0. Joy Lewis-Against.

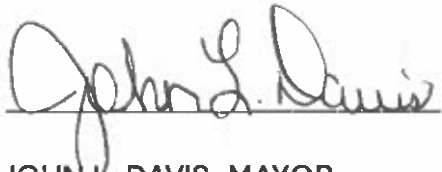
7. Mayor Davis stated that invoice 2918 pertained to the EMS mobile home. This project has been an ongoing process because Corny Reimer is always pulled away from some projects to help with other city issues. Joy Lewis stated she would like to see receipts for some of the material that is used for this project. Mrs. Lewis added that some of this material should be shopped around to get a cheaper price. Mayor Davis stated that invoice 2919 is for parts that are used for leaks on HWY17. Rosa Dominguez asked what is invoice 2917, this also states this was a leak on HWY17. Mayor Davis explained that the water line that comes from the well has never been redone. So, there are numerous breaks on that line that come into town, and we had numerous leaks on Railroad Avenue. Russell Morris added that after the first leak was repaired the ground had shifted and as a result there was an elbow to replace. Mrs. Lewis Stated that the EMS mobile home project was never brought up at any meeting or even proposed to the council. This mobile home is probably not even worth 6,000 dollars. Mayor Davis added that the best thing would have been for the City of Balmorhea to

not even be stuck with this mobile home, but it was donated to the EMS department and here we are, and it is being rented and is bringing in revenue to the city. Mrs. Dominguez stated that these jobs need to be done by our employees, and the city might need to consider buying the equipment needed to fix the leaks. Mayor Davis asked how the city is going to pay 100,000 for equipment and use it one time a month. We are not going to pay this kind of money and use it once. The other option is to rent it use it when needed and return it. Invoice 2922 was repairs to the rented backhoe that Was used to clean out alley ways and leaks. Josue Mendoza made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez to approve payment for invoices #2917,2918,2919,2922. Motion Carried 5-0.

8. City Clerk explained that this transfer was being needed to cover invoice#2918 or else the water/sewer account would be in the red. Clerk explained that the market account is an account that was required by a grant to have, and annual payments are withdrawn every year. It could be a cushion, but we need better control with expenditures so that it doesn't get touched unless it's an emergency. Joy Lewis added that the accountant had stated that the council needs to stay within the budget and to watch the spending. Mayor Davis responded, half of the expenditures are leaks and we have no choice. When it comes to water/sewer the citizens of Balmorhea will be taken care of. Mrs. Lewis asked if there were any other projects pending that require going over budget. Mayor Davis responded, no. The other project that was approved last year was the continuation of the pipe fencing on Main Street. Josue Mendoza asked what about the repairs to the C.T. Gray Park. It has been approved numerous times. Mayor Davis stated that the city has not had a decent bid for the repairs, we are not paying \$60,000 dollars. It is not used enough to pay for itself. Mr. Mendoza added that the pipe fencing throughout the town does not bring in money and it is being done. Mayor Davis stated that the fire department account has \$90,000 dollars why not use \$18,000 dollars to fix it. Mr. Davis added that Reeves County is willing to help us on that field. Mrs. Lewis added that the city employees need to start doing more in house jobs and not using Corny Reimer. Josue Mendoza made a motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to approve transfer of \$20,000 from money market account to waterwork/sewer system account. Motion carried 5-0.
9. Mayor Davis stated he would not spend \$30,000 on a new unit for that building. There are two estimates presented that totals \$7,923 dollars to repair 2 existing units and this is the way to go for now. Ike Ward made a motion, seconded by Josue Mendoza to approve air conditioning repairs to existing units as presented by Liberty Wofford Cooling. Motion Carried 5-0.

10. Oath of office was administered by Mayor Davis to Unopposed Alderman.
11. After some discussion Danny Vasquez III made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to appoint Rosa Dominguez as Mayor Pro Tem and second signature on bank accounts. Motion Carried 5-0.
12. Danny Vasquez III made a motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to allow Sylvia Iniguez to close a portion of Lyric Lane Street for private party on June 21st. Motion Carried 5-0.
13. Mayor Davis stated that EMS is having numerous calls to the downtown park dealing with drunk pedestrians, public nuisance or public indecency. The city needs to make some changes and deal with the alcohol issues in the park. Reeves County Sheriff Deputies are not taking care of these issues. The City of Balmorhea might have to become civil and go straight to the County Attorney. Reeves County does not ever want to step on anyone's toes. They take the individual home instead of arresting them. Julie Lewis suggested to talk to the Justice of the Peace Liberty Wofford and see if he can access something to deal with this problem. Mayor Davis stated that the City of Balmorhea needs to send a certified letter. Once the letter is sent and documented it will then bypass the Justice of The Peace to the County Attorney office. Mayor Davis added that there will be a constable in Precinct #3 that covers Balmorhea. The constable position is no longer under the Sheriff's Office. Ike Ward made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez III to send a letter to the individuals that are hanging around and drinking in the downtown park and table item 13 to do more research on what changes the council wants to make to City Park Ordinance 1018-2010. Motion Carried 5-0.
14. Mayor Davis once again explained to the council that the City of Balmorhea needs to step up to the plate and create our own Municipal Court. This has been approved several times in the past. Part of creating the Municipal Court is to get appointed individuals certified. The enforcing part will fall on our water operator. Once we start issuing fines, the Municipal Court will take care of the rest. Rosa Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Julie Lewis to approve Judge/Clerk seminar for Municipal Court Certification for appointed individuals to these positions. Motion Carried 4-0. Joy Lewis-Against.
15. Julie Lewis made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez III to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm. Motion Carried 5-0.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9 DAY OF JUNE, 2025.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John L. Davis", written over a horizontal line.

JOHN L. DAVIS, MAYOR

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sandra Navarrete", written over a horizontal line.

SANDRA NAVARRETE, CITY CLERK