



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
APRIL 15, 2026**

On Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting at City Hall in the Legislative Chamber, located at 255 South Kansas Avenue with the following members' present:

PRESENT:	Mayor	Adrian Gonzalez
	Mayor Pro Tem	Pete Garcia Jr.
	Commissioner	Letty Lopez
	Commissioner	Adrian Farias
	Commissioner	Israel Gonzalez Jr.
	Commissioner	Josh Pedraza
	Commissioner	JP Rodriguez

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT:	Xavier Salinas	City Manager
	Norma A. Cantu	City Secretary
	Benjamin Castillo	City Attorney

Also present: Omar Rodriguez, Asst. City Manager, Antonio Lopez, Asst. City Manager/Fire Chief, Aida Vega, Deputy City Secretary, Rosie Cavazos, Finance Director, Joe Pedraza, Asst. Director of Planning and Code Enforcement, Peter Hermida, City Engineer, Eddie Serna, Parks and Recreation Director, Luz Galindo, HR Director, Robert Lopez, Police Chief, Nick Castillo, Public Works Director, Arnoldo Becho, Library Director, Celine Pardo, Court Clerk, Eddie Gil, IT, Magaly Vega, Media Director, Lucio Garza, Inframark and other staff members.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Certification of Public Notice.

Mayor Gonzalez called the meeting to order and certified the public notice of the meeting as properly posted Thursday, April 9, 2026.

B. Invocation.

Pastor Dr. Elias Garza, Calvary Christian Church led the invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Gonzalez led the "Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Flag."

D. Roll Call.

Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary called the roll and noted perfect attendance and a quorum present.

E. Mayoral recognition.

1) Recognition — Roger R. Heredia MD - Service to the Community and Advocacy of Literacy.

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission recognized Dr. Roger Heredia for his years of medical service to the community and for his advocacy for literacy in the community and recognized and thanked Dr. Heredia for his generous donation to the library.

2) Recognition — Officer Jonathan Juarez for rendering first aid.

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission recognized and commended Officer Jonathan Juarez for his actions when he performed life-saving CPR on probationary officer Jesus Hernandez.

3) Proclamation — Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week.

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission proclaimed the week of April 12–18, 2026, as “Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week” recognizing the staff for their service to the community with dedication, professionalism, and compassion, working to protect both animals and the public.

4) Proclamation — Telecommunicator's Week.

Mayor Gonzalez along with the City Commission proclaimed the week of April 12 through April 18, 2026, as “Telecommunicators Week” recognizing the staff for their unwavering dedication, professionalism, and compassion and who serve as the vital link between citizens in distress and emergency response personnel.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Arminda Garcia, 1914 E. 11th Street, stated she represented 45 residents of Jolene Subdivision regarding a request for a speed study on 10th and 11th Streets and stated this was their third request, noted that a previous 2023 study was completed but no data was provided when requested; cited daily speeding, property damage, and near-miss accidents on 10th Street, which serves approximately 950 motorists daily including students from Weslaco East. She questioned why Garden Terrace subdivision received speed bumps and a 20-mph speed limit despite having shorter thoroughfares, and requested speed bumps, completed sidewalks, and warning lights at the intersection of 10th and Karen Street.

Chief Robert Lopez presented a donation of a used command post from Weslaco PD's surplus to the City of Donna, exemplifying cooperation between sister cities. Police Chief Gilbert Guerrero

Mayor David Moreno, City Manager, and Fire Chief from the City of Donna were in attendance to accept the donation and each expressed gratitude for the equipment that will enhance their police operations.

Sylvia Sanchez Garza representing the family of Joe V. Sanchez, thanked the commission for their support of the fifth annual Joe V. Sanchez Memorial Book Festival, which had an amazing turnout with people from neighboring cities. She praised the library staff and expressed excitement about the new Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library.

III. REPORTS

A. Inframark/Public Utilities.

Lucio Garza, Inframark, reported on capital improvement projects with no issues to voice; stated the aeration blower core compressor arrived for the North Wastewater Treatment Plant (NWWTP) after delays since December and installation to be scheduled; the North and South Wastewater Treatment Plants achieved 98% removal of contaminants with no violations; reported flows for March 2026 for NWWTP operated at 48% capacity treating 2.35 million gallons per day, while the SWWTP plant operated at 60% capacity treating 1.5 million gallons per day; the Water Treatment Plant operated at 60% capacity producing 7.66 million gallons per day, with Plant 5 running daily and Plant 2 operating 17 days in March; reported the combined Falcon and Amistad reservoirs were at 26% capacity and highlighted the March compliance report had no issues to report for the plants. Reported on the ongoing engineering projects and the pending lift station CIP for 2026.

Updates included protective measures for exposed wells at lift stations per Commissioner Pedraza's previous concerns, and Lift Station 12 coming online with the old station out of service. Water tower status showed Bridge and Kansas towers full, while Milano and Westgate towers required troubleshooting to reach capacity.

Mayor Gonzalez inquired about Lift Station 20, expressing concern about the "warning, keep off" signs being ignored by the public and emphasizing the need for proper procurement and bidding for repairs.

Commissioner Pedraza thanked Inframark for their recent assistance during a water tower leak.

B. Animal Care Services.

Marco Perez, Animal Control, reported live release rates of 78% in January (100% for cats) and 80% in February (97% for cats) an improvement from last month; presented success stories of animals finding forever homes through rescue partnerships, including a collaboration with PAC out of Corpus Christi for sterilization services; upcoming events included a drive-through rabies clinic at Moreno's Feed Store, participation in the pickle festival with pet parade and adoption events, and partnerships with the Boys and Girls Club and various health fairs throughout April and May and introduced "Gru," an orange and white tabby available for adoption.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to open the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

A. To solicit input on behalf of Leo & Emma Salazar to rezone 505 Santa Anna, also being Lots 17 & 18, Blk 1, Colonia M.P. (BUD) Lackland Subdivision, Weslaco, Hidalgo County, and Texas from R-1 One Family Dwelling District to B-1 Neighborhood Business District.

No comments.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to open the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine, and the Governing Body has been furnished with background and support material and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, the item(s) will be removed from the consent agenda by the Mayor, a Commission member or the City Manager and will be considered separately.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular and Workshop Meeting on April 1, 2026. (Staffed by City Secretary Department.)

B. Approval to apply for the FY 2026 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program – Local Formula for the amount of \$13,358 with no match required to purchase police software and/or hardware. (Staffed by Police Department.)

C. Approval to apply to the Gary Sinise Foundation Grant for the amount not to exceed \$15,000, with no local match required to purchase equipment. (Staffed by Police Department.)

D. Approval to apply for the 2026 TAPEIT Grant to assist in purchasing equipment and supplies for the Weslaco Police Department's Evidence Division, not to exceed \$250. (Staffed by Police Department.)

E. Approval for staff to solicit proposals for the financing of One (1) Fire Apparatus Custom Pumper for the amount not to exceed \$900,000. (Staffed by Fire Department.)

Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to approve consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

VI. APPOINTMENTS

A. Discussion and consideration to approve Resolution No. 2026-37 to appoint members to the Planning & Zoning Commission Board. (Staffed by City Secretary Department.)

Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary, stated appointments and reappointments to the Planning & Zoning Commission Board were needed. Stated for reappointments Lonnie Berry was nominated by Mayor Gonzalez and David Hernandez was nominated by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. A new appointment for consideration was Leroy Gonzales nominated by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr.

Commissioner Pedraza, seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to approve Resolution 2026-37 appointing Lonnie Berry, David Hernandez and Leroy Gonzales to the Planning & Zoning Commission Board. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration after public hearing on behalf of Leo & Emma Salazar on Ordinance 2026-11 to rezone 505 Santa Anna, also being Lots 17 & 18, Blk 1, Colonia M.P. (BUD) Lackland Subdivision, Weslaco, Hidalgo County, and Texas from R-1 One Family Dwelling District to B-1 Neighborhood Business District. First reading of Ordinance 2026-11. (Staffed by Planning & Code Enforcement Department.)

Joe Pedraza, Asst. Planning & Code Enforcement Director, stated 28 property owners were notified with no opposition. Staff initially recommended denial due to land use ordinance conflicts, though the area has existing commercial properties nearby. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval and the applicant indicated they would use the property for employee parking overflow for their restaurant.

Commissioner Pedraza expressed concern about potential future uses if the property changed ownership, since B-1 zoning would remain. Staff confirmed the rezone if approved any permitted use in a B-1 district would be allowed and the city could not restrict it to parking lot.

Benjamin Castillo, City Attorney, recommended legal consultation to get legal advice on potential spot zoning issues and ordinance amendments.

Commissioner Pedraza, seconded by Commissioner Farias moved for the item to enter executive session. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

B. Discussion and consideration to accept and file the City of Weslaco's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, as presented by Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC. (Staffed by Finance Department.)

Rosie Cavazos, Finance Director, introduced Matthew Montemayor from Carr, Riggs & Ingram LLC to present audit findings.

Matthew Montemayor reported an unmodified "clean" opinion on the financial statements, the best possible audit result. The city received the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for consecutive years; went over key financial highlights included total assets of \$293 million (increase of \$35 million largely due to \$30 million in certificates of obligation bonds), liabilities of \$160 million, and net position of \$132 million. General fund revenues exceeded expenditures by \$3 million, maintaining the pattern from the previous year. The unassigned fund balance represented 53.8% of expenditures, equivalent to 196 days of operations—well above the recommended 90 days; sales tax revenue increased 4.9% while property tax rates remained unchanged. The general fund balance grew from \$8 million in 2016 to \$20.2 million in 2025, more than doubling over ten years.

Staff recommended approval to accept and file the City of Weslaco's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to accept and file the annual comprehensive financial report ending September 30, 2025 as presented. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

C. Discussion and consideration to approve an amended lease agreement with Chris De Leon at Mid Valley Airport. (Staffed by City Manager.)

Xavier Salinas, City Manager, recommended legal consultation and requested executive session discussion before commission action.

D. Discussion and consideration to approve an Interlocal Agreement with Hidalgo County for Bridge Avenue re-alignment. (Staffed by Asst. City Manager.)

Omar Rodriguez, Assistant City Manager explained this initiative supports the airport runway extension project. The multi-year process requires early engagement with the MPO, involving TxDOT Aviation, local TxDOT office, and regional planning bodies. Hidalgo County Precinct 1 is ready to begin the alignment procedures. Staff recommended approval.

Commissioner Lopez, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Hidalgo County for Bridge Avenue re-alignment as presented. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

E. Discussion and consideration to approve an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Weslaco and the Rio Grande Valley Public Utility Agency (RGVPUA) for initial funding similar to agreements with member cities. (Staffed by Asst. City Manager.)

Omar Rodriguez stated Mayor Gonzalez was elected president of the RGVPUA Board and the meetings to be held in Weslaco. Staff recommended approval.

Benjamin Castillo explained the agreement was contingent on other member cities approving similar agreements and funding the same amounts, plus commission approval of a future budget

amendment. Each participating entity would fund approximately \$45,000 with language protecting Weslaco from covering other cities' shortfalls.

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Pedraza to approve an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Weslaco and the Rio Grande Valley Public Utility Agency (RGVPUA) as presented. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

F. Discussion and consideration to solicit quotes/bids for the purchase of two sanitation trucks. (Staffed by Public Works Department.)

Nick Castillo, Public Works Director, stated staff evaluated and identified the need to replace aging sanitation trucks. The five-year-old fleet showed increased maintenance needs, frequent breakdowns, higher repair costs, and reduced reliability affecting service consistency. The request was for one residential and one commercial truck. Staff recommended approval.

Commissioner Pedraza favored leasing rather than purchasing, citing better long-term value with equipment upgrades when the lease end rather than owning depreciating assets.

Rosie Cavazos would recommend the solicitation be for leasing of equipment. Staff indicated the timeline depends on dealer availability, with staff researching specifications based on mechanic feedback and other cities' experiences. The new trucks would replace existing units while keeping old ones as backup vehicles.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. moved to solicit bids for leasing two sanitation trucks. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

G. Discussion and consideration to approve the purchase of a CAT 250 skid loader from Holt CAT for the South Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$61,052.78 under Sourcewell contract #011723-CAT. (Staffed by Public Utilities Department.)

Omar Rodriguez recommended approval for the purchase of a CAT 250 skid loader from Holt CAT in the amount \$61,052.78. staff stated three quotes were solicited and is a budgeted item. The equipment would be specifically for the South Wastewater Treatment Plant for Inframark operations.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia Jr. seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve the purchase of a CAT 250 skid loader from Holt CAT in the amount of \$61,052.78. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

H. Discussion and consideration to award RFB No. 2025-26-23 for the Twenty-Five (25) Manhole Rehabilitation Project to Southern Trenchless Solutions in the amount of \$99,951. (Staffed by Public Utilities Department.)

Omar Rodriguez stated five bids had been received and evaluated for responsiveness and compliance with bid requirements. Staff stated Southern Trenchless Solutions was the lowest

responsible bidder at \$99,951, significantly below the second bid of \$198,000 and highest bid of \$416,000. Staff noted the higher bids included substantial mobilization costs from respondents that were out of the area (Navasota, Texas and Florida). Staff recommended approval.

Commissioner Pedraza expressed concern about the large price variance and potential for change orders. Peter Hermida, City Engineer, confirmed detailed specifications were provided with the bid package, and Southern Trenchless had performed similar work for the city previously. The City Attorney clarified the motion could direct that no contractor-initiated change orders would be accepted, only city-initiated changes.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to approve Southern Trenchless Solutions in the amount of \$99,951 with no contractor-initiated change orders, only city-initiated changes allowed. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

I. Discussion and consideration for final payment for L&G Consulting Engineers in the amount of \$52,746 representing completion of contracted services for Vo-Tech & Pike Project. (Staffed by Engineering Department.)

Peter Hermida, City Engineer, stated this was final payment in the amount of \$52,746 for completion of contracted services for the Vo-Tech & Pike project. Staff noted L&G Engineering performed all required services including field work and laboratory analysis supporting the Vo-Tech and Pike roundabout project. The geotechnical report assisted the consultant engineer in determining appropriate base materials, road types, and concrete thicknesses. Staff recommended approval of final payment.

Commissioner Farias, seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to approve the final payment for L&G Consulting Engineers in the amount of \$52,746 as presented. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

J. Discussion and consideration to approve membership with the Educational Services Center Region 19-Allied States Cooperative. (Staffed by Parks and Recreation Department.)

Eddie Serna, Parks and Recreation Director, stated this cooperative membership would provide procurement advantages for parks department purchases and recommended approval and there was no cost for the membership.

Commissioner Pedraza, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to approve membership with the Educational Services Center Region 19-Allied States Cooperative as presented. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:38 p.m. Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to convene the regular meeting into executive session. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

At 7:18 p.m. Mayor Gonzalez stated the City Commission had completed its Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting as open to the public.

IX. POSSIBLE ACTION ON WHAT IS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration after public hearing on behalf of Leo & Emma Salazar on Ordinance 2026-11 to rezone 505 Santa Anna, also being Lots 17 & 18, Blk 1, Colonia M.P. (BUD) Lackland Subdivision, Weslaco, Hidalgo County, and Texas from R-1 One Family Dwelling District to B-1 Neighborhood Business District. First reading of Ordinance 2026-11. (Staffed by Planning & Code Enforcement Department.)

Xavier Salinas stated staff concurred with the recommendation from The Planning and Zoning Commission and recommended denial of the rezone.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to deny Ordinance 2026-11 to rezone 505 Santa Anna. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

C. Discussion and consideration to approve an amended lease agreement with Chris De Leon at Mid Valley Airport. (Staffed by City Manager.)

Xavier Salinas recommended the item be tabled for the next regular meeting.

Commissioner Farias seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to table the item. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

A. Personnel — Discussion regarding the goals, objectives, and evaluation of the City Manager for the City of Weslaco as authorized by Section §551.074 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

B. Legal Consultation - Consultation with City Attorney regarding Liquid Environmental as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

No action.

C. Legal Consultation — Consultation with City Attorney regarding property tax reimbursement as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

Commissioner Pedraza seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez Jr. moved to authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to finalize property tax reimbursement as discussed in executive session. The motion passed unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

D. Legal Consultation — Consultation with City Attorney regarding Military Highway Water Supply Corporation as authorized by Section §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Farias seconded by Pedraza moved to adjourn the regular meeting of April 15, 2026 at 7:21p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Gonzalez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

Adrian Gonzalez, **MAYOR**

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, **CITY SECRETARY**