

Siesta Shores Water Control and Improvement District

5325 South Siesta Lane
Zapata, Texas 78076
Regular Monthly Meeting
February 18, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Siesta Shores Water Board was held at the Siesta Shores Business Office on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. The Board Secretary brought the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Attendance:

In attendance were members: Ms. Irma G. Hinojosa, Mr. Rene Calderas and Mrs. Francisca Campos. The following members were not in attendance: Mr. Manuel Garcia III and Mr. Moises Camacho.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the January meeting were read individually by each member prior to the meeting. Mr. Rene Calderas made the motion to accept the minutes as read and Mrs. Francisca Campos second the motion.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Old Business:

The Manager provided the board with a list of quotes for the new chopper pump and Mr. Rene Calderas made the motion to accept the lowest bid from Dynamic Pump Systems for \$28,365.00 and the motion was second by Mrs. Francisca Campos.

The implementation of commercial rates was once again discussed since we currently have at least 20 commercial sites. Some sites are consuming large amounts of water day and night for their business, which concerns the Water District whether there will be enough water for residential customers. It was suggested by board member Mr. Rene Calderas that the board schedule a working workshop to address this need and to compare rates from other water districts to come up with a suitable commercial rate for the Water District.

New Business/Executive Session:

It was brought to the Manager's attention by the Texas Comptroller's office, since the Water District is a tax-exempt entity that a federal tax should not be imposed on customers' billings. This will be discussed further at the next regular meeting.

Any customer who decides to do any excavating on their own must call the office prior to executing the project. This avoids any misunderstanding when water lines are broken by the consumer.

The Water District received a bid for a raw pump monitor from JAH-CON Instrumentation for \$3,950 dollars and Mr. Rene Calderas made the motion that we accept the bid and Mrs. Francisca Campos second the motion.

The renaming of the water plant was tabled for the March meeting.

Financial Reports:

The board reviewed checks, invoices and wages for the month, and Mr. Rene Calderas made the motion to approve the financial report as presented and Mrs. Francisca Campos second the motion. All members present approved. A balance of \$459,929.08 was reported for the month.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Manuel Gonzalez presented the board with an opportunity to apply for a new grant under the Texas Water Development Board. This is an infrastructure grant that can help provide clean water by upgrading water lines, filters, generators etc. There is no matching funding required as the grant funds the project 100%. Because we serve less than 10,000 customers, the amount that the Water District can apply for is \$5 million dollars. Mr. Rene Calderas made the motion that Mr. Manuel Gonzalez apply for this grant and Mrs. Francisca Campos second the motion. Mr. Manuel Gonzalez has been given permission to research and apply for this grant as it is needed to improve the Water District's facilities.

In addition to the grant stated above, another grant known as the Clean and Drinking Water Project is also available and Mr. Gonzalez will also review that grant and apply for it.

Discussion followed concerning the Loma Linda Ranches and Mr. Gonzalez mentioned that placing new meters and tapping into the water line would cost an estimated amount of \$1,200. The district will only be responsible for materials and labor at a cost of \$340 a meter. Once the water is tapped into a charge of \$800 will be required for new customers at the new subdivision. Mr. Rene Calderas agreed to the charge and made the motion that we approve that amount, and it was second by Mrs. Francisca Campos. Keep in mind that this is only for water and not sewer.

Previously on Falcon Lake Grant the board had requested Mr. Gonzalez to look into buying directly from a set company to purchase pumps and filters, but USDA stated that it was not allowable.

Office Manager's Report:

The office manager stated that 88 accounts were past due and 2 were still pending.

One new customer was added to the Water District.

As for the lift stations, it was reported that they all have two pumps except Lift Station E.

There were five (5) water leaks, and all have been repaired. Backhoe hours were recorded as 1986.

Bids, Proposals, Contracts:

The MARS company based on the USA Blue Book quote was selected to provide equipment for testing and monitoring water meters at a price of \$2,310.31. Mrs. Francisca Campos made the motion to approve this company and Mr. Rene Calderas second the motion.

Operational Report:

Concerning the plant status, Mr. Santiago stated that the Water District needs additional materials for the water filters. Currently the filters need 4" of sand and carbon. He has submitted a call for quotes to replace these materials. The board will address this request at their next meeting.

The Water District must also complete a water survey by March 1, 2026, indicating the percentage of water loss. The standard water loss is 12% and the Water District is 8% so the board was very pleased with the numbers.

New Business and Review Correspondence:

None

Future Agenda Items:

Quotes from auditors for March 2026.

Grants awarded to the Water District.

Texas State Comptroller's fees.

Next Board Meeting:

The next board meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 5:00pm.

Adjournment:

Mr. Rene Calderas made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Ms. Francisca Campos and all board members approved. The meeting adjourned at 6.42 p.m.