August 13, 2026
San Benito, Texas 78586

The Board of Directors of Cameron County Irrigation District #2 met in regular session in the office of the District upon the above date at 9:00 a.m.

The following Directors were present: Brady Taubert, Buck Rhyner, Zac McLemore, Lupe Argullin, and M.R. Garcia. Also present were Ben Escobar, General Manager, and Buddy Dossett, Attorney.

There was no public comment.

The General Manager explained that there is a discrepancy between the subdivisions and the minutes were not ready for review. No action was taken regarding the minutes of the meeting for July 16, 2026, nor the minutes for the special meeting of July 30, 2026. They will be reviewed for approval at the next meeting on September 10, 2026.

Billie Mack Simpson addressed the Board regarding ongoing irrigation system inefficiencies and delayed District response times. Mr. Simpson noted that slow resolutions force him to personally investigate issues, citing one instance where he found the issue of why there was a water flow obstruction—a beaver dam—that should fall under the purview of canal riders and maintenance crews. He requested that his grievances be formally entered into the record and urged the Board to take immediate action to resolve these recurring maintenance issues. The General Manager acknowledged the concerns and confirmed that additional training for canal riders would be conducted. Furthermore, he noted that upcoming infrastructure improvements will address these underlying issues. Specifically, he highlighted a pending funding application for the conversion of open earth Canal 13A2 to a pipeline system, which is expected to resolve the majority of these localized system inefficiencies. Additionally, the General Manager requested a separate meeting with Mr. Simpson to discuss his specific concerns in greater detail. No action was taken by the Board.

Mr. Roberto Lopez, C.P.A. Services, presented the 2025 fiscal year audit to the Board. A motion was made by Buck Rhyner, seconded by Lupe Argullin, and upon unanimous vote, passed to approve the 2025 fiscal year audit as presented. Motion carried.

The General Manager informed the Board that the 5-year lease to Benchmark Outdoor Media, LLC for property located on the south frontage road of Expressway 77 San Benito, Texas for a sign is set to expire September 30, 2026. The current annual fee is $4,500.00. After discussion, a motion was made by Buck Rhyner, seconded by Lupe Argullin, and upon unanimous vote, passed to authorize the General Manager to review the lease terms, negotiate a potential rate increase, and execute a 5-year lease renewal subject to acceptable terms. Motion carried.

The General Manager informed the Board that an amendment of the Personnel and Policies Manual Section 9.1 Pay Policy is required due to the transition to the new electronic payroll system. The current policy is as follows:

> <u>9.1 Pay Policy</u>
> Non-salaried employees are paid on an hourly basis for hours worked according to time shown on a timecard recorded by their supervisor. The regular work week begins on **Thursday** and runs through the following **Wednesday**. Employees are

paid bi-weekly. **Thursday** is payday unless it is a holiday. In such cases, every effort will be made to pay on the preceding **Wednesday** or the following **Friday**.

Amendment:

9.1 Pay Policy

Non-salaried employees are compensated on an hourly basis for all hours worked. **Hours worked shall be recorded through the District's electronic timekeeping software, which will serve as the official record for payroll purposes.**

The District's regular work week begins on **Wednesday and ends the following Tuesday**. Employees are paid on a **bi-weekly basis**, with **Friday** designated as the regular payday. If a scheduled payday falls on a District-observed holiday, every reasonable effort will be made to issue payroll on the preceding **Thursday**. If this is not practicable, payroll will be issued on the following **Monday**.

A motion was made by Buck Rhyner, seconded by Lupe Argullin, and upon unanimous vote, passed to approve the amendment of the 9.1 Pay Policy on the Personnel & Policies Manual to reflect the new pay period and pay date with the electronic payroll system. Motion carried.

The General Manager requested the Board adopt a PTO Buyback Program for tenured employees. After discussion, a motion was made by Zac McLemore, seconded by Buck Rhyner, and upon unanimous vote passed to adopt the following PTO Buyback Program:

PTO Buyback Program for Tenured Employees

Employees who have completed ten (10) or more years of continuous service may request payment for up to eighty (80) hours of accrued Paid Time Off (PTO) per buyback. Eligible employees may exercise this option no more than two (2) times during a calendar year and may submit a request at any time during the year.

Buyback requests will be processed automatically, provided the employee has sufficient accrued PTO available. Management may delay or deny a request for documented cause, including budgetary constraints, payroll limitations, pending disciplinary action, an insufficient PTO balance, or other legitimate operational or administrative reasons.

PTO buybacks will be paid at the employee's regular base rate of pay in effect on the regular processing date, less all required payroll deductions and withholdings. PTO buybacks will not count as hours worked for overtime purposes.

Motion carried.

There was nothing to discuss in Executive Session. Accordingly, no executive session was held.

A motion was made by Lupe Argullin, seconded by Buck Rhyner, and upon unanimous vote, passed to approve the following bills:

Ck#	Vendor	Amount
23298	Aflac	$347.22
23299	Autozone	$41.03
23300	American Heritage Life	$212.69
23301	Alamo Iron Works	$189.84
23302	Amazon Capital Services	$171.06
23303	Cameron County Drainage #3	$22,280.15
23304	Central Ready Mix	$1,280.00

23305	Dropped Dead Pest Control	$175.00
23306	Irrigation-Mart Inc.	$196.73
23307	Hollon Oil Co.	$1,249.75
23308	Holt Cat	$1,163.31
23309	JI Special Risk Insurance	$60,883.00
23310	Matt's Building Materials	$726.92
23311	McCoy's	$2,322.98
23312	Oil Patch Fuel & Supply	$2,522.16
23313	Occupational Health Center	$444.97
23314	Pitney Bowes Global Financial	$223.53
23315	Romco Equipment	$1,110.47
23316	Rio Hondo Lumber	$98.69
23317	Rio Grande Concrete	$25.53
23318	Rio Grande Steel, LTD	$287.99
23319	Southern Tire Mart	$362.76
23320	TWA Risk Management Fund	$826.00
23321	Waste Management of Texas	$336.11
23322	Amazon Capital Services	$287.31
23323	Charter Communications	$1,171.46
23324	Drake, Larry	$599.99
23325	First Community Bank	$411.30
23326	Alfaro, Jorge Luis Sr.	$2,490.75
23327	Grajales, Neftali	$59.00
23328	Roberto Lopez, CPA PC	$13,250.00
23329	Linde Gas & Equipment	$574.25
23330	Oil Patch Fuel & Supply	$609.15
23331	Pro Billing & Funding Svc	$1,253.20
23332	TWA Risk Management Fund	$826.00
23333	Unifirst	$742.22
23334	Utility Trailer of Texas	$804.54
23335	Verizon	$636.74
23336	Pitney Bowes/Reserve Acct	$1,000.00

The Manager reported on the following items to the Board of Directors:

a) August water report:

The Falcon Reservoir contains 558,579 acre-feet of water of the normal conservation 2,666,203 acre-feet. The Amistad Reservoir contains 783,146 acre-feet of water of the normal conservation 3,226,704 acre-feet which 22.77%, is U.S. total combined conservation capacity compared to 18.35% this time last year.

District's useable water balance as of August 7, 2026, is 29,962.3755 ac-ft.
District's storage water balance as of August 7, 2026, is 29,962.3755 ac-ft.

District's useable water balance this time last year was 28,796.6400 ac-ft.
District's storage water balance this time last year was 28,796.6400 ac-ft.

b) July Pumping Plant Report

1) Running standard operations.

2) General maintenance of grounds and pumping plant. Removed the sensors to clean them, greased the pumps, assisted IT with the installation of the updated Internet system in the switch room.

3) Pumping for the month:

Station #1 (San Benito)

6/28 – Started pumping regular water at 50 CFS at midnight. **6/29** – Stopped pumping regular water at 50 CFS at 9:00 a.m. **6/30** - Started pumping regular water at 50 CFS at 9:00 a.m. **7/6** – Changed rate from 50 CFS to 100 CFS at 9:00 a.m. **7/9** – Changed rate from 100 CFS to 50 CFS at 2:00 p.m. **7/10** – Changed rate from 50 CFS to 100 CFS at 9:00 a.m. **7/13** – Changed rate from 100 CFS to 150 CFS at 9:00 a.m. **7/17** – Changed rate from 150 CFS to 100 CFS at 9:00 a.m. **7/25** - Stopped pumping regular water at 100 CFS at midnight.

Station #2 (Paloma)

7/14 – Started No Charge pumping at 6 CFS at 9:00 a.m. **7/16** – Stopped No Charge pumping at 6 CFS at 9:00 a.m.

4) Rainfall: 0.50”. **5)** Acre feet diverted: 4761.6055; **6)** Total No Charge Pumping in Acre Feet: 18.793; **7)** Average TDS readings: 750 p.p.m.

c) Water Duty – was 6.94 acre-feet per acre for the month of July 2026 and 2.26 acre–feet per acre, year-to-date.

d) July Financial Reports:

i. M&O account – the financial report was presented.
ii. Rehab account – the financial report was presented.
iii. Canal Rehab account – the financial report was presented.
iv. WaterSMART account – the financial report was presented.

e) Maintenance update – The General Manager reported that the District has completed the rehabilitation of Pump No. 18, including reconstruction of the pump house, rebuilding of the pump, and replacement of the electric motor. The District is currently performing similar rehabilitation work on Pump No. 17. In addition, mowing crews are continuing maintenance along Canal 13, including clearing brush and vegetation from the canal and rebuilding and widening a narrow section of the canal bank in Section 6.

The Attorney had nothing to report; therefore, no attorney reports were discussed.

A motion was made by Buck Rhyner, seconded by Zac McLemore, and upon unanimous vote, passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 a.m. Next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

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Brady Taubert, President — M.R. Garcia II, Secretary