Utility Commission Regular Meeting

Dripping Springs City Hall

511 Mercer Street - Dripping Springs, Texas

Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 4:00 PM

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Commission Members

Charlie Busbey, Chair
Barney Austin
Lara Dudek
Bruce Moulton
Matthew Ordway

Staff, Consultants, & Appointed/Elected Officials

Utilities Operations Manager Gray Lahrman
Utilities Coordinator Paola Palacios
City Attorney Aniz Alani

PRESENTATION OF CITIZENS

A member of the public that wishes to address the Commission on any issue, regardless of whether it is posted on this agenda, may do so during Presentation of Citizens. It is the request of the Commission that individuals wishing to speak on agenda items with a public hearing hold their comments until the item is being considered. Individuals are allowed two (2) minutes each to speak regarding issues not on the agenda and two (2) minutes per item on the agenda and may not cede or pool time. Those requiring the assistance of a translator will be allowed additional time to speak. Individuals are not required to sign in; however, it is encouraged. Individuals that wish to share documents with the Commission must present the documents to the City Secretary or City Attorney providing at least six (6) copies; if six (6) copies are not provided, the Commission will receive the documents the following day. Audio Video presentations will not be accepted during Presentation of Citizens. By law no action shall be taken during Presentation of Citizens; however, the Chair may provide a statement of specific factual information, recitation of existing policy, or direction or referral to staff.

MINUTES

1. **Consider approval of the August 20, 2026 Utility Commission regular meeting minutes.**
2. **Consider approval of the September 17, 2026 Utility Commission regular meeting minutes.**

UTILITY REPORTS

Reports listed are on file and available for review upon request. The Commission may provide staff direction; however, no action shall be taken.

3. Water & Wastewater Facility Report
Gray Lahrman, Utilities Director

BUSINESS AGENDA

4. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the 2027 Utility Commission meeting calendar.

CLOSED SESSION

The Commission has the right to adjourn into closed session on any item on this agenda and at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matter as authorized by law or by the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation With Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gifts), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits), 551.0761 (Deliberation Regarding Critical Infrastructure Facility), and 551.087 (Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations), and 551.089 (Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits). Any final action or vote on any Closed Session item will be taken in Open Session.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Utility Commission Meetings
November 19, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
December 17, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

City Council Meetings
October 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
November 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
November 17, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
December 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
December 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

I certify that this public meeting is posted in accordance with Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Open Meetings. This meeting agenda is posted on the bulletin board at the City of Dripping Springs City Hall, located at 511 Mercer Street, and on the City website at, www.cityofdrippingsprings.com, on ***October 7, 2026 at 2:30 PM****.*

Maverick D. Coleman, Deputy City Secretary

This facility is wheelchair accessible. Accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for auxiliary aids and services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting by calling (512) 858-4725.

DRIPPING SPRINGS
Texas

Utility Commission Regular Meeting

Dripping Springs City Hall

511 Mercer Street – Dripping Springs, Texas

Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 4:00 PM

MINUTES DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

With a quorum of commissioners present, Chair Busbey called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Commission Members present were:
Charlie Busbey, Chair
Lara Dudek
Bruce Moulton

Commission Member absent was:
Barney Austin

Staff, Consultants, & Appointed/Elected Officials
Utilities Director Gray Lahrman
Utilities Coordinator Paola Palacios

PRESENTATION OF CITIZENS

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No one spoke during Presentation of Citizens.

MINUTES

1. **Consider approval of the July 16, 2026 Utility Commission regular meeting minutes.**

   A motion was made by Commissioner Moulton and seconded by Commissioner Dudek to approve the July 16, 2026, meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously 2 to 0, with 1 abstention by Commissioner Moulton..

UTILITY REPORTS

Reports listed are on file and available for review upon request. The Commission may provide staff direction; however, no action shall be taken.

2. Water & Wastewater Facility Report

No action was taken.

CLOSED SESSION

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The commission did not meet in Closed Session.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Utility Commission Meetings
September 17, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
October 15, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
November 19, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
December 17, 2026, p.m.

City Council Meetings
September 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
September 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
October 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
October 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
November 3, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Chair Busbey adjourned the meeting at 4:24 p.m.

DRIPPING SPRINGS
Texas

Utility Commission Regular Meeting

Dripping Springs City Hall

511 Mercer Street - Dripping Springs, Texas

Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 4:00 PM

MINUTES DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

With a quorum of commissioners present, Chair Busbey called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Commission Members present:
Charlie Busbey, Chair
Barney Austin
Lara Dudek (*Arrived late)*
Bruce Moulton

Commission Members absent:
Matthew Ordway

Staff, Consultants, & Appointed/Elected Officials
Utilities Director Gray Lahrman
Utilities Coordinator Paola Palacios
City Council Member Ana Grace Husted

PRESENTATION OF CITIZENS

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No one spoke during Presentation of Citizens.

MINUTES

1. **Consider approval of the August 20, 2026 Utility Commission regular meeting minutes.**

   A motion was made by Commissioner Moulton and seconded by Commissioner Busbey to approve the August 20, 2026, meeting minutes with two corrections. The first correction is to change the title from Agenda to Minutes Draft. The second correction is to change the vote recorded in the August 20, 2026, meeting minutes to 2 to 0, with 1 vote abstained. Commissioner Moulton abstained from that vote because he was not Commissioner for the previous meeting. The motion to approve the minutes with these corrections carried unanimously 3 to 0.

UTILITY REPORTS

Reports listed are on file and available for review upon request. The Commission may provide staff direction; however, no action shall be taken.

2. **Water & Wastewater Facility Report**

   No action taken.

CLOSED SESSION

The Commission has the right to adjourn into closed session on any item on this agenda and at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matter as authorized by law or by the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation With Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gifts), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits), 551.0761 (Deliberation Regarding Critical Infrastructure Facility), and 551.087 (Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations), and 551.089 (Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits). Any final action or vote on any Closed Session item will be taken in Open Session.

The commission did not meet in Closed Session.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Utility Commission Meetings
October 15, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
November 19, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
December 17, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

City Council Meetings
October 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
October 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
November 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
November 17, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
December 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Chair Busbey adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Post Office Box 384
511 Mercer Street
Dripping Springs, Texas 78620

Staff Report from: Gray Lahrman

Commission Meeting Date:	October 15, 2026
Item Wording:	Utilities Staff Report for the month of September, 2026
Agenda Item Requestor:	Utility Commission

Projects Under Construction:

Driftwood Treated Effluent Pond – The Effluent Pond is under construction. Substantial completion date March 3, 2027.

Driftwood 150 TE and Sewer –Discussion regarding Phase 2 construction to be under Santa Clara's contract. We anticipate a 3–4-week stagger on projects.

West Interceptor Segment 2 - Contractor is installing the last portion of gravity main across the creek and is scheduled to complete the project in early November 2026.

South Collector –Construction will begin October 2026.

Village Grove *571 LUE's*–Pump and Haul up to 75 LUE's. TLAP WWTP to be start construction in October 2026.

Carter Ranch 285 LUE's- Infrastructure has been constructed. Majority of the system will be operated by Si Enviro until capacity has been added at the SRWRF WWTP. At that point, the City will take over the infrastructure and operation of the wastewater system.

Cannon Ranch Lift Station/ Heritage Diverted Lift Station/East Interceptor – Design and easements procurement underway. Cost analysis on lift station configuration is under discussion.

Anarene (Double L) *3,393 LUE's*– Phase 1 Construction has started. Lift Station construction under review. Pump and Haul plans approved for 250 LUE's, covering all of Phase 1 lots.

Wild Ridge (Cynosure) *1,050 LUE's*–Water and wastewater plan under review.

Fellers – Tri point *18 LUE's*– Pump and Haul has been approved for 12 LUE's.

South Regional Water Reclamation Expansion Project Update: Plans are to have the bid awarded by January 2026. This facility will add 399,000 gallons of treatment after the initial phase of construction.

Dripping Springs Retail Water Update: Stage 3 watering restrictions in effect for all City of Dripping Springs water customers as of August 25,2026. Temporary Stage 4 watering restrictions to go into effect on October 7, 2026 due to WTCPUA's repair efforts on leaking main.

South Regional Water Reclamation Facility Operations Report: The South Regional Water Reclamation Facility had violations for BOD for month of September 2026. Plant conditions have shown improvement. Staff looking into supplemental air for the aeration basin. Current BOD daily average of 5.13mg/l and permit limits to 5.0 mg/l.

Arrowhead Wastewater Plant Update: No Violations during the month of September 2026 and continues to operate within permit limits. 58,900 gallons daily average flow. Plant is currently operating within permit limits.

Big Sky Wastewater Treatment Plant Update: The Big Sky Wastewater Treatment Plant operated with 1 violation in the month of September 2026. Filter pumps stuck in a backwash cycle were determined to be the cause of this issue and the problem has been resolved. Plant is currently operating within permit limits.

Reclaimed Water: A total of 3,162,000 gallons of reclaimed water were utilized this month for irrigation and construction purposes, including:

- Fill Station: 553,000 gallons hauled
- Sports Park: 2,177,500 gallons
- Founders Park: 430,800 gallons

Commission Recommendations:	
Actions by Other Jurisdictions/Entities:	
Previous Action:	
Recommended Action:	
Alternatives/Options:	
Budget/Financial Impact:	
Attachments:	
Related Documents at City Hall:	
Public Notice Process:	
Public Comments:	
Enforcement Issues:	
Comprehensive Plan Element:	
Next Step/Schedule:	

Dripping Springs Wastewater Plant Report

Month of September 2026

Regional	Combined Flow	Plant TLAP	Caliterra	210 Reuse	Cl2 residual	NTU	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	11375.2	3874	4339.6	2146	>1	<3	<5	<5	<20
Daily Average	379	129	145	69	5.69	3.47	5.14	2	0.91

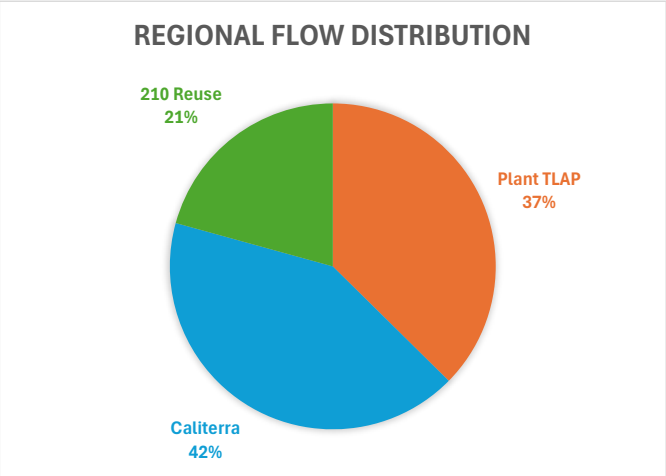
Arrowhead	Flow	Cl2 residual	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	1892	>1	<10	<15	<126
Daily Average	63.06	5.2	2.5	4	0.1

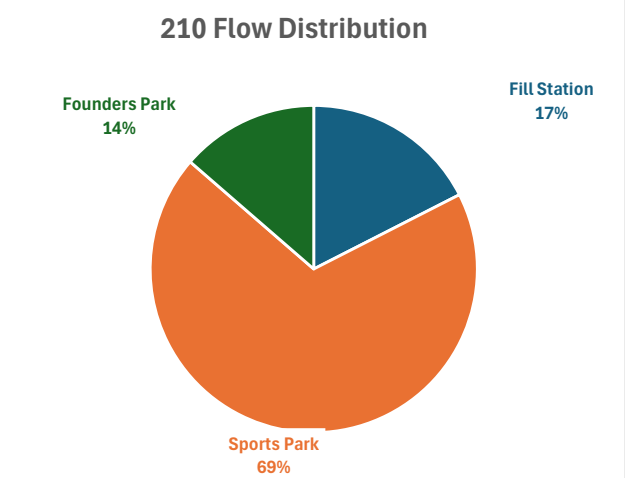
Flow x1000

Big Sky	Flow	Cl2 residual	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	1166	>1	<20	<20	<126
Daily Average	38.8	7.92	12.5	1.7	0.1

210 Reuse	Fill Station	Sports Park	Founders Park
Total	553	2177.5	430.8
Daily Average	18.44	72.6	14.4

Flow is in 1000's gallons





STAFF REPORT

City of Dripping Springs

PO Box 384
511 Mercer Street
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Submitted By: Diana Boone, City Secretary

Commission Meeting Date: October 15, 2026

Agenda Item Wording: **Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the 2027 Utility Commission meeting calendar.**

Agenda Item Requestor: Gray Lahrman, Utilities Director

Summary/Background: Each year the City Secretary prepares next year's meeting calendar for approval by the Commission. Meeting dates are scheduled using the frequency as stated in the Commission ordinance. The Utility Commission ordinance calls for monthly meetings which are currently scheduled for 4:00 p.m., the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Attached for review is the proposed 2027 meeting calendar with approved city holidays. The proposed meetings dates are highlighted yellow for easy reference. Please note that the March meeting date falls during DSISD Spring Break. If this affects commission members' availability or raises concerns about achieving a quorum, you may consider an alternative meeting date. Meetings may be cancelled or rescheduled throughout the year as needed.

Commission Recommendations: Staff recommends approval of the 2027 calendar. Should there be any changes to meeting dates, please provide for those changes in a motion.

Attachments: UC 2027 Proposed Calendar

Next Steps/Schedule:

1. Update calendar if any changes
2. Add meetings to Outlook Calendars and send invites
3. Add meeting dates to City Calendar on website
4. Create meetings on Municode for agenda management
5. Add deadlines to Agenda Calendar

2027 Utility Commission

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

DRIPPING SPRINGS
Texas

City Holiday (blue)

Proposed Meeting Dates (yellow)

Meeting Dates:

Thursday, January 21, 2027
Thursday, February 18, 2027
Thursday, March 18, 2027
Thursday, April 15, 2027
Thursday, May 20, 2027
Thursday, June 17, 2027
Thursday, July 15, 2027
Thursday, August 19, 2027
Thursday, September 16, 2027
Thursday, October 21, 2027
Thursday, November 18, 2027
Thursday, December 16, 2027

UTILITY COMMISSION

Approve the 2027 meeting calendar

2027

MONTHLY

Third Thursday • 4:00 p.m.

PROPOSED 2027 SCHEDULE

Every date below is a third Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

JAN	21	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.	FEB	18	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.	MAR	18	THU • DSISD BREAK 4:00 P.M.
APR	15	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.	MAY	20	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.	JUN	17	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.
JUL	15	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.	AUG	19	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.	SEP	16	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.
OCT	21	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.	NOV	18	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.	DEC	16	THURSDAY 4:00 P.M.

MARCH 18 falls within DSISD Spring Break (March 15–19); confirm member availability and quorum.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends approval—with any date changes stated in the motion

Approve as presented

Adopt the third-Thursday dates at 4:00 p.m.

State any changes

Include revised meeting dates directly in the motion.

Retain flexibility

Meetings may be cancelled or rescheduled as needed during the year.

MOTION GUIDANCE

If dates change, identify each revised date in the approving motion.