



Utility Commission Regular Meeting

Dripping Springs City Hall

511 Mercer Street - Dripping Springs, Texas

Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 4:00 PM

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Commission Members

Charlie Busbey, Chair
Barney Austin
Lara Dudek
Matthew Ordway
Zach West

Staff, Consultants, & Appointed/Elected Officials

Utilities Operations Manager Gray Lahrman
Deputy City Secretary Maverick D. Coleman
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 February 19, 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.

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

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

June 18, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
July 16, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
August 20, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
September 17, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
October 15, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

City Council Meetings

June 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
June 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
July 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
July 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
August 4, 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 **May 13, 2026 at 4:40 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.



Utility Commission Regular Meeting

Dripping Springs City Hall

511 Mercer Street - Dripping Springs, Texas

Thursday, February 19, 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

Zach West

Commission Members absent:

Lara Dudek

Matthew Ordway

Staff, Consultants, & Appointed/Elected Officials

Utilities Operations Manager Gray Lahrman

Utilities Coordinator Micaela Betts

PRESENTATION OF CITIZENS

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No one spoke during Presentation of Citizens.

MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the December 18, 2025 Utility Commission regular meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner West and seconded by Commissioner Austin to approve the December 18, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion 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

March 12, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

April 16, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

May 21, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

June 18, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

July 16, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

City Council Meetings

March 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

March 17, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

April 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

April 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

May 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Chair Busbey adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.



City of Dripping Springs

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

Staff Report from: Gray Lahrman

Commission Meeting Date:	5/21/26
Item Wording:	Update on Utilities for the month of April, 2026
Agenda Item Requestor:	Utility Commission

Projects Under Construction:

Driftwood 150 TE and Sewer – Phase 1 Under Construction and on schedule. Phase 2 Prebid held 4/1/2026. Waiting to construct phase 2 until South Collector has been constructed.

West Interceptor Segment 2 – Under Construction and ahead of schedule. Creek crossing is waiting on some documentation before coffer dam can be installed.

South Collector – Bid Opening has been scheduled and will be due 5/29

Heritage –480 LUE’s total 286 LUE’s have COA – 194 remaining LUES

Village Grove –Pump and haul completed and ready for Final Inspection. This facility will be operated by a third-party contractor.

Carter Ranch –Utility is being installed – Pump and Haul negotiations under way.

Big Sky Ranch – TLAP interim Phase 3 Accepted 54,300 gpd capacity.

Howard Ranch Treated Effluent – Waiting on contractual documentation from HOA

Cannon Ranch Regional Lift Station/ Heritage Lift Station/East Interceptor – Design and easements procurement. This Lift Station will divert flows from the 15” gravity main to the East Interceptor. Plan is to build this during phase 2 of the new Discharge Plant. Easement needed for interim route for East Interceptor

Cannon Ranch – Phase 3 and 4 under review

Anarene (Double L) – Phase 1 Construction has started. Discussion with Engineers being had on design of irrigation fields. This will be a 321 plant that converts to TLAP at certain LUE set threshold.

Wild Ridge (Cynosure) – Water and Wastewater plans under review. Site work has started.

Fellers – Tri point – New development with 18 homes. Requesting pump and haul permission. Will eventually be served

by the West Interceptor line.

South Regional Water Reclamation Expansion Project Update:

Design of discharge plant is currently being finalized. Contract engineers have identified last design elements that need updating. Decided on recuperative thickening for sludge. We expect to go out to bid early June.

Dripping Springs Retail Water Update:

Stage 2 watering restrictions are in place for all CODS water customers starting April 1, 2026. Rate study under way for water and wastewater customers.

South Regional Water Reclamation Facility Operations Report.

The South Regional Water Reclamation Facility had violations for the month of April 2026. Average flow of 361,000 gpd. We experienced a die off in the biological reactor (aeration basin), cause unknown. Plant was reseeded with 3 7000-gallon loads from 8,000mlss MBR plant in March. We also introduced an Oppenheimer V formula into the collection system to boost bacteria growth. The Plant has fully recovered, and we are seeing effluent samples that are the permit effluent limitations.

Arrowhead Wastewater Plant Update:

GST that was being constructed by Contain Water Systems fell off the jack during a lift and fell damaging the tank. The city is not accepting any material involved in the incident and will be requesting a restart of the project using another subcontractor to build the ground storage tank. Superior Tanks is the contractor, start date to be determined.

Arrowhead WWTP had no violations for the month of April.

Big Sky Wastewater Treatment Plant Update:

Big Sky Treatment Plant operated with one violation for TSS for the month of April 2026. Plant is now operating within permit effluent limitations.

Interim phase III complete allowing for 54,300 gpd capacity 310 LUE's

Update on Reclaimed Water:

41,000 gallons were hauled from the fill station this month. Sports Park 1,249,000 gallons. Founders Park 339,000 gallons. Village Grove construction 157,000 gallons. Total 1787,070 gallons in reclaimed water was used this month for irrigation and construction purposes.

Texas Water Development Board Funding

The City has submitted application to the TWDB for additional funding request for \$53,000,000.

Since initial funding was received in 2019, construction costs have increased and the City will be building out the entire plant in phases 1 and 2. The city has also added additional infrastructure. We are on the June TWDB Agenda for consideration of this loan.

Dripping Springs Wastewater Plant Report

Month of April 2026

Regional	Combined Flow	Plant TLAP	Caliterra	210 Reuse	Cl2 residual	NTU	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	10823.6	2857	6220.7	1235	>1	<3	<5	<5	<20
Daily Average	361	95	207	39.85	4.49	4.63	5	4	2.11

Arrowhead	Flow	Cl2 residual	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	1851	>1	<10	<15	<126
Daily Average	59.7	6.2	1.75	7.8	0.1

Flow x1000

Big Sky	Flow	Cl2 residual	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	1062	>1	<20	<20	<126
Daily Average	35.4	5.62	1.5	11.25	0.1

210 Reuse	Fill Station	Sports Park	Founders Park	Village Grove Construction
Total	41	1249	339	157
Daily Average	1.37	41.64	11.31	5.24

Flow is in 1000's gallons

