



Utility Commission Regular Meeting

Dripping Springs City Hall

511 Mercer Street - Dripping Springs, Texas

Thursday, September 17, 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 Director 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.

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**

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

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

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 **September 9, 2026 at 4:45 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, August 20, 2026, at 4:00 PM

AGENDA

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 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 was 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

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.



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

Staff Report from: Gray Lahrman

Commission Meeting Date:	September 17, 2026
Item Wording:	Update on Utilities for the month of August, 2026
Agenda Item Requestor:	Utility Commission

Projects Under Construction:

Driftwood Treated Effluent Pond – Notice to proceed was issued September 3, 2026. Pond size 15 million gallons. Pond will be effluent storage to irrigate the Driftwood Golf Course.

Driftwood 150 TE and Sewer – Phase 1 has been completed. Discussion regarding Phase 2 construction to be under Santa Clara's contract. We anticipate a 3–4-week stagger on projects. Sept 16th is the start date for South Collector.

West Interceptor Segment 2 – Cofferdam #2 should be in next week for the final leg of the interceptor to be built.

South Collector –Construction scheduled to begin on 9/16/26.

Village Grove 571 LUE's–Preconstruction meeting for Village Grove Plant scheduled for the week of 9/7/2026

Carter Ranch 285 LUE's–Development under construction and all utilities have been installed. Majority of the system will be operated by Si Enviro until capacity has been added at the SRWRF WWTP.

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.

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

Fellers – Tri point 18 LUE's– New development with 18 homes. Temp P&H plans approved. P&H 12 LUE's then can use 18 when the plant has expanded.

South Regional Water Reclamation Expansion Project Update: Pushed the date of bid package to council to October. We plan to have bid awarded by January 2026.

Dripping Springs Retail Water Update: Stage 3 watering restrictions in effect for all City of Dripping Springs water customers as of August 25,2026.

South Regional Water Reclamation Facility Operations Report: The South Regional Water Reclamation Facility has 2 violations for month of August 2026. One for Turbidity daily average of 3.93 above and one for the daily average of 134,000 TLAP. TLAP fields had extra flow due to unplanned construction on permitted 210 irrigation system in the Caliterra development

Plant characteristics show improvement and are currently in permit limits.

Arrowhead Wastewater Plant Update: No Violations during the month of August 2026 and continues to operate within permit effluent limitations. New GST has been constructed and testing is scheduled.

Big Sky Wastewater Treatment Plant Update: The Big Sky Wastewater Treatment Plant operated with no violations in the month of August 2026 and continues to operate within permit effluent limitations.

Reclaimed Water: A total of 2,146,000 gallons of reclaimed water were utilized this month for irrigation and construction purposes, including:

- Fill Station: 207,000 gallons hauled
- Sports Park: 1,481,100 gallons
- Founders Park: 457,600 gallons

Texas Water Development Board Funding: The application to the TWDB for additional funding request for \$53,000,000 was approved. The TWDB Supply Infrastructure Grant application for a Direct Potable Reuse project was submitted on 7/30/2026. If awarded, the scope would include an update to the City's 2015 DPR feasibility study and an advanced purification pilot.

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 July 2026

Regional	Combined Flow	Plant TLAP	Caliterra	210 Reuse	Cl2 residual	NTU	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	11788.0	4141	5501	2146	>1	<3	<5	<5	<20
Daily Average	380	134	177	69	7.47	3.93	3.75	2	0.68

Arrowhead	Flow	Cl2 residual	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	1848	>1	<10	<15	<126
Daily Average	59.6	6.74	1.05	3.25	0.1

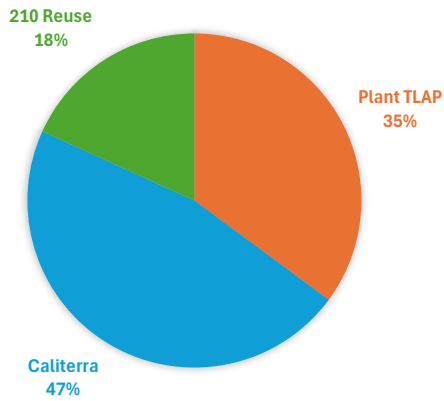
Flow x1000

Big Sky	Flow	Cl2 residual	BOD	TSS	E-coli
Total	1141	>1	<20	<20	<126
Daily Average	36.8	8	0.1	0.1	0.1

210 Reuse	Fill Station	Sports Park	Founders Park	
Total	207	1481.1	457.6	
Daily Average	6.68	47.8	14.8	

Flow is in 1000's gallons

REGIONAL FLOW DISTRIBUTION



210 Flow Distribution

