

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026
118 SOUTH CAGE 2nd FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Regular Called Meeting on Monday, January 20, 2026, and following is the record of attendance.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez
Comm. Michael Pacheco
Comm. Roberto Carrillo
Comm. Ramiro Caballero
Comm. Daniel Chavez
Comm. Ricardo Medina
Comm. Itza Flores

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Jonathan Flores, City Manager
Cynthia Garza, Deputy City Manager
Melanie Cano, Assistant City Manager
Alessandra Garcia, Assistant City Clerk
Patrizia Longoria, City Engineer
Jamison Merrick, Finance Director
Veronica Ramirez, HR Director
Juan Villescas, Municipal Court Judge
Juan Gonzalez, Chief of Police
Pilar Rodriguez, Fire Chief
Roy Rodriguez, Code Comp. Director
Joe Garza, Dev. Svcs. Assistant Director
Luis Marin, Public Works Director
Keyla Jalife, Interim O.S.E. Director
Ruben Rosales, Public Utilities Director
Sergio Alanis, Parks & Rec. Director
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director
Jose Pena, I.T. Director
Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Maricela Moreno, Purchasing Manager
Danny Ramirez, EMS Chief
CJ Sanchez, Pharr Chamber President
Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer
Elizabeth Diaz, Public Health Director
Will Borowski, Golf Director
Abel Molina, Interim Special Events Director
Napoleon Coca, Interim Grants Mgmt. Director
Isaac Escobedo, Interim Maintenance Dir.
Victoria Brewster, Dir. of External Relations
Kenneth Walsh, Food Service Director

CITY ATTORNEY: Ricardo Rodriguez, City Attorney

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY ABSENT MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BOARD.

Mayor Hernandez called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

Comm. Daniel Chavez was not present at the time of roll call but arrived at 4:01 p.m.

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, led the pledge of allegiance and said the invocation.

Comm. Daniel Chavez entered the meeting at this point of the agenda. The time being 4:01 p.m.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A) PUBLIC HEARING ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

A) SUBMISSION OF SALES TAX COLLECTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2025

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item. He briefly reported the City of Pharr showed an increase of 4.28% year to date true growth for the month of December.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, further stated Jamison Merrick, Finance Director, was in the audience and questions could be entertained at this time.

B) RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE BILLY BOWDEN ON PASSING HIS NATIONAL REGISTRY EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and called upon Luis Marin, Public Works Director.

Danny Ramirez, EMS Chief and Luis Marin, Public Works Director, presented an overview of a professional development initiative under the City's strategic plan, highlighting the selection and successful completion of EMT training by Public Works

employee Billy Bowden. Mr. Bowden was recognized for graduating from EMT school and passing the National Registry, as well as for his continued service and value to the City.

Billy Bowden expressed appreciation to the Commission for supporting professional growth opportunities. He stated the training was a significant step toward achieving his career goal of becoming a firefighter.

C) CITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, called upon Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, for a report on upcoming city events.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, presented video recaps highlighting the Baylor Business Students and Texas Comptroller visiting the Pharr International Bridge, the EMS Trauma Gel, and the Public Health Department.

Yuri Gonzalez, Chief Communications Officer, also announced the city would host the 117th City of Pharr Birthday Celebration on Thursday, January 22, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in downtown park. She stated the event would feature music, trivia, and games, and extended an invitation to the public to attend the free community celebration.

ITEM 5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 26, 2025 - SPECIAL CALLED MEETING; AND JANUARY 5, 2026 - REGULAR CALLED MEETING.**
- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE GENERAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FY 2027. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY.**
- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE FOR BODY-WORN CAMERA GRANT PROGRAM FY2027. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SSC - SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY.**
- D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR – PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE FOR OPERATION LONE STAR (OLS) GRANT PROGRAM (FY2027) FOR OVERTIME FUNDING TO SUPPORT BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS AND DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES FOR GRANT ADMINISTRATION. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS PS – PUBLIC SAFETY**

E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CASES:

- 1. OCTAVIO CANTU, OWNER, REPRESENTING AUTO DIAGNOSTIC CENTER, LLC., REQUESTED A CHANGE OF ZONE FROM SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (R-1) TO TOWNHOUSE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (R-TH). THE PROPERTY IS LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING A 3.79-ACRE TRACT OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 207, KELLY-PHARR SUBDIVISION, PHARR, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY IS PHYSICALLY LOCATED WITHIN THE 900 BLOCK OF EAST RIDGE ROAD. COZ#251222 - THIS ITEM SUPPORTS EV - ECONOMIC VITALITY.**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced consent agenda and recommended approval.

Comm. Carrillo **moved** to approve as recommended. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No.'s R-2026-03, R-2026-04, and R-2026-05 are filed with the City Clerk's Office.

REGULAR AGENDA - OPEN SESSION

ITEM 6. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION DECLARING SURPLUS ITEMS AND EQUIPMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SUCH ITEMS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS QL - QUALITY OF LIFE.**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Carrillo **moved** to approve as recommended. Comm. Caballero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2026-06 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RESOLUTION APPOINTING/REAPPOINTING TWO (2) MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SG - SOUND GOVERNANCE AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY.**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Carrillo **moved** to approve as recommended. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

Resolution No. R-2026-07 is filed with the City Clerk's Office.

ITEM 7. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS

- A) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FOR THE ADDITIONAL 87 DAYS AND RELEASE OF RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,250.47 FOR THE SUGAR ROAD AND MINNESOTA ROAD TRAFFIC SIGNAL INSTALLATION PROJECT; ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROJECT AS COMPLETE; AND AUTHORIZATION FOR STAFF TO CLOSE OUT THE PROJECT. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE.**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Chavez moved to approve as recommended. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

- B) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A SERVICE CONTRACT WITH HALFF ASSOCIATES FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR A UTILITY ADJUSTMENT PROJECT ALONG ELDORA ROAD. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE.**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Mayor Hernandez briefly discussed the project's responsibility and funding under an existing agreement. He noted coordination with the county and the MPO and confirmed construction was anticipated to begin in late spring or early summer of this year.

There being no further comments, Comm. Carrillo moved to approve as recommended. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

- C) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A SERVICE CONTRACT WITH NV5 CONSULTANTS FROM AUSTIN, TEXAS FOR COMMISSIONING AGENT (CXP) SERVICES FOR THE PHARR MULTI-USE FACILITY. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS SE - SERVICE EXCELLENCE.**

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Carrillo moved to approve. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

D) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, AWARDING SERVICE CONTRACT TO SAENZ BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION FOR EXPRESSWAY FRONTAGE SEWER LINE REPAIR (TIPS CONTRACT NO. 241001). THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE.

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Chavez **moved** to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

E) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR AND THE CITY OF HIDALGO FOR MAINTENANCE AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS. THIS ITEM SUPPORTS IF - INFRASTRUCTURE. (PURCHASING)

Jonathan Flores, City Manager, introduced the item and recommended approval.

Comm. Chavez **moved** to approve. Comm. Carrillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 8. CLOSED SESSION

The time being 4:25 p.m., Mayor Hernandez stated the commission would be entering into closed session in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Govt. Code to discuss agenda items listed in the public portion of the agenda and Pursuant to Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.084 and 551.087.

ITEM 9. RECONVENE

The time being 4:45 p.m. Mayor Hernandez stated the commission would be resuming the open meeting.

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Carrillo **moved** to adjourn. Comm. Chavez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR



AMBROSIO HERNANDEZ
MAYOR

MINUTES: REGULAR CALLED MEETING
January 20, 2026

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR**

ON THIS THE 20th DAY OF JANUARY 2026 the Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas convened in a **REGULAR CALLED MEETING** at the Commissioner's Room located at 118 S. Cage, 2nd Floor, Pharr, Texas. The meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, place, subject, hereof, having been posted in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Act) and there being present a quorum, I, **ALESSANDRA GARCIA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK**, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:



ALESSANDRA GARCIA
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

APPROVED: February 2, 2026

