CITY of EL PASO
EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT TRUST

BOARD MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026, AT 8:30 A.M.
RETIREMENT TRUST ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1039 CHELSEA

Members in Attendance:

Karina Brasgalla, Chair
Karl C. Rimkus, Vice Chair
Matt Kerr
Deborah G. Hamlyn
Rene Peña
Rep. Chris Canales, in at 8:36 AM

Members Absent:

Isaura Valdez
Rep. Art Fierro

Others in Attendance:

Adrian Sanchez, Deputy Executive Director
Karina Chavez, Administrative Assistant
Roman Sandoval, Benefits Supervisor
Eduardo Miranda, Legal Counsel
Jose Espino, Office of the Comptroller
Alex Browning, Callan LLC
Alex Ford, Callan LLC

Item 1. Benefits Supervisor Roman Sandoval called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM. Sandoval noted that a quorum was met.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Retirement Trust Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Benefits Supervisor Roman Sandoval read the Notice to the Public.

All matters listed under the CONSENT AGENDA will be considered by the Retirement Trust Board to be routine and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Retirement Trust Board or persons in the audience request specific items be removed from the CONSENT AGENDA to

the REGULAR AGENDA for discussion prior to the time the Retirement Trust Board votes on the motion to adopt the CONSENT AGENDA.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item 2. Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 16, 2026.

Item 3. Consideration and action on the following retirements:

	Name	Department	Service Time (estimated)
A.	Age & Service Retirement:		
1.	De Los Santos, Victor	Police	32 years 03 months
2.	Garcia, Santos R.	Airport	11 years 07 months
3.	Gutierrez, Arthur	Environmental Services	16 years 08 months
4.	Gutierrez, Manuel	Sun Metro	13 years 07 months
5.	Mendoza, Araceli	Police	34 years 07 months
6.	Miramontes, Jose	El Paso Water	18 years 09 months
7.	Rodriguez Felix, Richard	El Paso Water	22 years 00 months
8.	Rosales, Christine J.	Fire	14 years 09 months
9.	Sandoval, Ignacia G.	Sun Metro	18 years 04 months
10.	Taylor, Gregory W.	El Paso Water	18 years 06 months
B.	Deferred Retirement:		
1.	Cazares, Jesus J.	El Paso Water	19 years 00 months

Item 4. Consideration and action on survivor benefit applications for:

A. Arias, Esther S., survivor of Jose H. Arias, retiree.
B. Brosman, Janice L., survivor of David Brosman, retiree.(*Name corrected via floor amendment).*
C. Corrales, Victoria, survivor of Jose Corrales, retiree.
D. Torres, Elena M., survivor of Avelino J. Torres Jr., retiree.

Item 5. Consideration and action regarding the receipt of the death verification analysis.

Item 6. Consideration and action on the following Committee reports/appointments:

A. Ad Hoc Selection Committee
B. Administrative Services Committee
C. Executive Committee
D. Facility and Maintenance Committee
E. Financial Oversight Committee
F. Investment Committee

Motion made by Karl Rimkus to approve the Consent Agenda with a floor amendment to change the name for Item 4B from Brosman, Debra to Brosman, Janice L.; seconded by Deborah Hamlyn. The motion required polling:

Matt Kerr	**aye**
Deborah Hamlyn	**aye**
Karina Brasgalla	**aye**
Karl Rimkus	**aye**
Rene Peña	**aye**

Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

Item 7. Discussion and action regarding the Treasurer's Report for the month ended September 30, 2026.

Jose Espino of the Office of the Comptroller (OTC) presented on behalf of Deputy Chief Financial Officer/Comptroller Margarita Marin; the Board received the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2026.

The Treasurer's Report is prepared monthly by the OTC based on information received from the Trust's custodian.

The report consists of two statements ("Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits" and the "Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits"), three schedules ("Quarterly Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits", "Investment Income Analysis", and "Pension Administration Actual/Budget Comparison"), and five graphs ("Net YTD Investment Income", "Net Investment Income Rate of Return", "Refunds & Administrative Expenses", "Benefits Paid to Retirees", and "Net Assets Available for Benefits Monthly").

The information in the report includes (i) receivables, which include amounts due to the Trust as of the date of the report; (ii) liabilities, which include amounts owed by the Trust as of the date of the report; and (iii) unrealized/realized investment income, which is an estimate of the value of the portfolio as of the reporting dates.

Espino reviewed the statements, schedules, and graphs. The unaudited totals are for the periods ended September 30, 2026. Net assets available for benefits were about $1.185 billion, a net decrease of ~$13.7 million for the month/fiscal year. Espino noted that despite the decrease, the fund remains about 11.7% higher compared to August 31, 2025. Contributions were ~$5.5 million. Benefits paid to retirees were about $7.4 million. The rate of return, which is the fiscal net investment loss/gain over the average net assets available for benefits, was negative 0.96%. Espino noted performance was below target (about 0.6 percent) for the month of September.

No action was taken on this item.

Item 8. Discussion and action regarding the receipt of an investment performance report for the month of September 2026 and related matters from Callan LLC (Alex Browning and Alex Ford, Callan).

Alex Ford of Callan LLC presented; the Board received and reviewed the investment performance report for the month of September 2026.

Ford provided a market summary and reviewed allocation. Public markets experienced sell-offs across equities and Fixed Income. Private market allocations (e.g., Private Equity, Real Estate) provided stability and helped support overall asset value. Ford noted that asset allocation is within range (as outlined in the Investment Policy Statement). Rebalancing will be conducted next month to address cash flow needs. Ford noted that monthly net negative cash flow is approximately $7.8 million (including administrative and benefit expenses).

Ford reviewed performance and attribution. The total portfolio was down ~1.4% for the month, underperforming the strategic blended index (-1.33%). The 3-year and 5-year returns stand at ~$13% and nearly 7%, respectively. Total fund value ended at ~$1.17 billion. Equity and bond allocations saw reductions over the month. The S&P 500 declined approximately 0.40%, whereas the equal-weighted version fell 4.8%, highlighting that performance was driven by a few major

AI companies. Small-cap stocks (Russell 2500 Index) performed significantly worse due to rising interest rates and higher debt costs. In International Equity, Arrowstreet Capital continued to add value above the benchmark and protect capital in a down-market environment. Fixed Income was impacted by rising interest rates and widening credit spreads. Active managers, BlackRock and Wellington, faced headwinds due to corporate credit exposure, though longer-term returns remain positive.

No action was taken on this item.

Item 9. Discussion and action regarding the results of a search for an international equity investment manager.

Alex Ford of Callan LLC presented; the Board received and reviewed the results of a search for an international equity investment manager.

Ford provided background and context. Arrowstreet Capital has closed virtually all strategies to new capital due to capacity constraints, preventing rebalancing into their fund. Callan conducted a search for a complementary international equity manager, narrowing candidates down to two finalists: Connor, Clark & Lunn (CCL) and BlackRock. The mandate size is approximately $75 million, shifting structure from passive towards active management with ~40% allocated to Arrowstreet Capital. Ford discussed selection. The Investment Committee (IC) recommended hiring CCL for their Quantitative Systematic International Equity Strategy, which provides a core style focus and low key-person risk. Trustee and IC Member Rep. Chris Canales concurred, noting the Committee's due diligence. Ford and Deputy Executive Director Adrian Sanchez advised that discussions had been ongoing for roughly 18 months.

Motion made by Karl Rimkus to authorize contract negotiations with Connor, Clark & Lunn Financial Group Ltd. (CCL) for the management of an international equity portfolio identified as their Quantitative International Equity CIF as recommended by the Investment Committee and as further described by search materials identified by Callan LLC and authorize the Board Chair or Executive Director to sign contract documents in conformance with the search materials provided by Callan. Should contract negotiations be unsuccessful with CCL, that contract negotiations be authorized with BlackRock Institutional Trust Company for the investment in the Systematic Active Global ex-US Alpha Tilts Commingled Fund as further described by the search materials identified by Callan and authorize the Board Chair or Executive Director to sign contract documents in conformance with the search materials provided by Callan; seconded by Rep. Chris Canales. The motion required polling:

Matt Kerr	**aye**
Deborah Hamlyn	**aye**
Karl Rimkus	**aye**
Rene Peña	**aye**
Rep. Chris Canales	**aye**

Motion carried.

Item 10. Discussion and action regarding notice of the resignation of Trustee Robert Studer.

The resignation of Trustee Robert Studer was formally noted and accepted. The Trust's vacancy policy mandates posting the position on the Trust website for qualified applicants to submit resumes for Administrative Services Committee (ASC) review. The Board discussed filling the vacancy versus waiting for the upcoming regular election in April. Due to approaching holidays

and ongoing Executive Director hiring, the Board agreed there is sufficient time and quorum to handle upcoming meetings without rushing. The posting details and timeline will be coordinated with the ASC.

No action was taken on this item.

Item 11. Discussion and action on a report from the Deputy Executive Director Adrian Sanchez regarding:

A. Office Operating Hours
Office operating hours will temporarily shift to Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, starting in November through January due to holiday closures. Notifications will be posted on the Trust's website and in the office.

B. November Investment Committee and Board Meeting Dates
Investment Committee Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 2026 (adjusted for Veterans Day on Wednesday, Nov 11)
Board Meeting: Thursday, November 12, 2026

C. Compass Points Newsletter
The semiannual publication, coordinated by Administrative Assistant Karina Chavez, was released. This newsletter features articles on protecting private information, a farewell message from former Benefits Supervisor David Garcia, and an interview with a 100-year-old retiree. It is posted online, and printed copies are available by request. Retirees and City employees respond very positively to the Trust's newsletter.

Sanchez advised that TEXPERS emailed Trustees regarding membership. While the reason for the outreach remains unclear, no Board action is required as staff manages TEXPERS memberships for the Trust.

Vice Chair Karl Rimkus and Chair Karina Brasgalla discussed the death verification audit and how staff process recovery payments.

No action was taken on this item.

Item 12. For Notation:

A. Refund of Contributions:

	Name	Department		Total Refund
1.	Arroyo, Christina	Public Health	$	17,410.16
2.	Bartlett, Martin	Capital Improvement	$	17,453.48
3.	Canales, Gabriel	Environmental Services	$	13,248.07
4.	Colorado, Faith	Fire	$	651.39
5.	Compean-Magallanes, Maria	Police	$	20,539.80
6.	Cortez, Simon	Streets and Maintenance	$	14,242.95
7.	Del Toro, Clarissa	Public Health	$	7,743.87
8.	Dominguez, Manuel	Streets and Maintenance	$	6,234.04
9.	Duran, Joseph	El Paso Water	$	28,304.13
10.	Espino, Alan	Real Estate	$	4,061.97
11.	Espinoza, Christopher	El Paso Water	$	18,629.23
12.	Garcia, Gretchen	Streets and Maintenance	$	50,685.61

13.	Garcia, Yesenia	Police	$	1,429.87
14.	Garza, Sophia	Municipal Courts	$	18,060.04
15.	Goh, Andrew	Capital Improvement	$	15,108.80
16.	Gonzalez, Michael	Streets and Maintenance	$	2,242.07
17.	Guardian, Rafael	Streets and Maintenance	$	841.86
18.	Guerra, Gustavo	Parks and Recreation	$	4,334.94
19.	Gutierrez, Joshua	Environmental Services	$	6,185.60
20.	Hanson, Adam	Police	$	2,793.53
21.	Hellwig, Albright	Parks and Recreation	$	5,184.91
22.	Hernandez Jr., Vicente	El Paso Water	$	11,295.05
23.	Hernandez, Angela	Public Health	$	4,321.90
24.	Hernandez, Ramiro	Parks and Recreation	$	7,886.69
25.	Herrera, Esmeralda	Internal Audit	$	12,285.97
26.	Hosanna, Judah	Parks and Recreation	$	1,024.18
27.	Ibarra, Ricardo	Planning and Inspections	$	1,858.97
28.	Lopez, Antonio	Fire	$	56,222.53
29.	Lopez, Pablo	El Paso Water	$	5,102.08
30.	Lujan, Jesus	Parks and Recreation	$	34,813.29
31.	Mendoza, Jennifer	Museums and Cultural Affairs	$	5,472.58
32.	Moreno, Stephanie	Public Health	$	2,828.62
33.	Munoz-Casales, Virginia	Airport	$	6,097.22
34.	Navarro, Elizabeth	Parks and Recreation	$	2,772.87
35.	Quintero, Julie	Environmental Services	$	19,204.52
36.	Santillan, Aimee	Mayor and Council	$	6,498.32
37.	Serrano, Ryan	Sun Metro	$	5,899.20
38.	Soto, Christopher	El Paso Water	$	52,363.97
39.	Turrieta, Alyssa	Airport	$	4,954.68
40.	Vivar, Adrian	El Paso Water	$	11,538.93
			$	**507,827.89**

Item for notation only. No action was required on this item.

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

The Board of Trustees allowed speakers from the public to comment on any pension-related issue that was not on the agenda. During the Open Comment Period of the meeting, the public was given an opportunity to address the Board.

There were no speakers to comment on any pension-related issue that was not on the agenda.

Motion made by Karl Rimkus to retire into Executive Session; seconded by Rep. Chris Canales. None opposed. The Board retired into Executive Session, pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney and Section 551.074 Personnel Matters, at 9:15 AM.

Motion made by Karl Rimkus to reconvene from Executive Session; seconded by Rep. Chris Canales. None opposed. Motion carried at 9:27 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board will retire into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071-551.076 and Section 551.078 to discuss any of the following:

Section 551.071	**CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY**
Section 551.072	DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY
Section 551.074	**PERSONNEL MATTERS**
Section 551.075	CONFERENCE WITH EMPLOYEES
Section 551.076	DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES
Section 551.078	DELIBERATION REGARDING DISABILITY APPLICANT'S MEDICAL RECORDS

EX1. Sections 551.071 and **551.074**
Discussion and action regarding the recruitment of an Executive Director.

No action was taken on this item.

Item 13. Adjournment.

Motion made by Karl Rimkus to adjourn the City of El Paso Employees Retirement Trust Board Meeting on October 21, 2026; seconded by Rep. Chris Canales. None opposed. The motion carried at 9:28 AM.

Secretary

Chair