

**WATER WORKSHOP
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF BLANCO**

**Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2024**

A water workshop of the City Council, City of Blanco, Texas was held on August 20, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Byars Building, 308 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Arnold, followed by roll call announcing a quorum was present. Council members present: Mayor Arnold, Mayor Pro-Tem Mack-McClung and Council Members Swinson, Moses, and Cargill. Council Member Moore was absent.

City staff present: Warren Escovy, City Administrator, Laurie Cassidy, City Secretary, and Chief Jerry Thornhill.

Mayor Arnold made the following announcements.

- This is a Water Workshop, and everyone is welcome to participate. There will not be an Executive Session.
- The next Blood Drive will be this Monday, August 26, 2024, 9:30 to 2:30 pm.

Public Comments:

- None

Water Workshop

Discussion only – **No Action Taken**

Tim Tuggey spoke regarding the following:

City of Blanco Water Rights:

- Blanco River -600-acre feet/year*
- GBRA (currently Canyon Lake)-600-acre feet/year* (*currently expires 2050 but will renew*)
*600-acre feet/year = 536,000 gallons/day

Water Treatment & Distribution:

- Blanco River water-City owned water treatment plant and internal distribution system
- GBRA water-Treatment by third party with joint distribution from Canyon Lake to point of distribution south of City and City-owned internal distribution system.

Systems Status:

- City Water Treatment Plant-under repair and slated for completion in late 2024-early 2025. City to issue CO in September 2024 for approximately \$450,000 in final repair costs.

- GBRA/Canyon Lake external distribution system-fully operational but requires ongoing repair and maintenance as well as resolution of ongoing disputes over delivery of full 600-acre feet and financial responsibility for ongoing costs for maintenance and repair.
- Internal distribution-operational but requires major ongoing repair and maintenance.

History of GBRA/Canyon Lake System:

Historically, the City has relied upon Blanco River water, but as a backup supply, in 2001 and 2003, the City acquired the GBRA water rights and then partnered for treatment and delivery with Canyon Lake Water Supply Co-now Texas Water Company. The City invested \$512,532 and acquired an interest in the distribution system from Canyon Lake up to the City, as follows:

- 20% of a 12” water transmission main beginning at the junction of Lakeshore Drive and Potter’s Creek Road to the 500,000 gallon elevated storage tank located in the Mystic Shores subdivision (a distance of approximately 26,330 linear feet);
- 11% of a pump station located immediately downstream of the 500,000 gallon elevated storage tank in the Mystic Shores subdivision;
- 11% off a 16” water transmission main beginning at the 500,000 gallon elevated storage tank located in the Mystic Shores subdivision, thence
- westerly along State FM 306 to the junction of US Highway 281 and FM 305 (a distance of approximately 32,100 linear feet);
- 25% of the 1,000,000 gallon elevated storage tank located at the far northwest corner of Stallion Estates subdivision on US Highway 281; and
- 50% of an additional main, a 12” water transmission pipeline beginning at the junction of US Highway 281 and FM 306, thence in a northerly direction along US Highway 281 (a distance of approximately 7,200 linear feet).

City of Blanco and Texas Water history:

As of 2001 and 2003:

City invests total \$512,532

Canyon Lake WSC invests total \$2,128,048

Respective interest and investment assigned based on PEAK CAPACITY USAGE.

CITY WILL PAY CANYON LAKE WATER FOR UP TO 500,000 GALLONS PER DAY

For example, investment required for 11% of 16” main along FM 306 was calculated upon and assumed full utilization of the City’s 600-acre feet divided by full projected capacity of the main as of 2001, as follows:

FM 306 16” main:

City invests \$127,116 (11%)

Canyon Lake WSC invests \$1,028,884 (89%)

Population Served:

| | Texas Water | Blanco |
|------|-------------|--------|
| 2005 | 20,000 | 1,6000 |
| 2023 | 85,000 | 1,900 |

Water Connections:

| | Texas Water | Blanco |
|------|-------------|---------|
| 2005 | 6,700 | <1,1000 |
| 2023 | 26,000 | <1,300 |

System Capacity/Demand (AF)*:

| | Texas Water | Blanco |
|---------------------|-------------|---------|
| Avail Groundwater | 8,800 | 0 |
| Avail Surface Water | 6,850 | 1,200** |
| Total Demand | 7,900 | 352 |

*Estimates based on TWC 2022 Water Avail Study & City of Blanco records

**600 AF currently offline for water treatment plan renovation

History continued—a growing disconnect between capacity and usage.

From 2005 to present, the disconnect between the original capacity/usage model and actual usage by the parties has grown rapidly.

- By 2015 the disconnect between capacity and usage is emerging and growing.
- In 2019, the City takes water treatment plant offline for repair and renovation and is for now 100% on GBRA water.
- From 2015-2022, CLWSC/Texas Water spends \$9,920,000 on upgrades, primarily FM 306 main.
- Texas Water claims City owes >\$990,000 (11% of improvement costs).
- If City doesn't pay its share, Texas Water claims City doesn't own share.
- City disputes all claims.

Issues Presented:

- What is the future need of Blanco?
- What maintenance burden is the City prepared to bear?
- Should the City reduce/adjust its ownership share?
- Texas Water proposes:
 - Firm delivery of up to 600-acre feet (535,000 gallons/day)
 - 1% ownership for City
 - Capped monthly maintenance fee (\$5,000).


Q&A Discussion

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Council Member Moses to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Mack-McClung, all in favor.

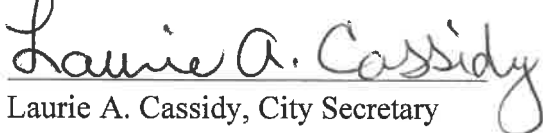
The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Arnold, Mayor

ATTEST:



Laurie A. Cassidy, City Secretary

These minutes were approved on the 10 day of September, 2024.

