

City of Lamar Aquatic Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Present: Mike Main, Curt Roland, Mandy Sturgell, Denise Clements, Marlee Mathia, Sami Peine, Mayor Mike Hull, City Administrator Rusty Rives, Assistant City Administrator Bethany Aborn, City Clerk Felicia Costley, Parks & Recreation Director Heidi Johnson, and five guests.

Absent: None

Next meeting: TBD

Meeting called to order by Mike Main at 5:31 p.m. Chair Main announced that there will be no public speaking at the meeting and no decisions will be made. Following role call with all members present, he turned the meeting over to City Administrator Rives.

1. Introduction & Role of the Board

Rives introduced the ordinances involving the Aquatics Advisory Board. This ordinance can be found in the city ordinances, [Chapter 2, Article III, Section 32-60 & 61](#).

2. Presentation of Project Outline

Rives presented a project outline. He stated that there will not be decisions to make at this meeting because there are decisions to be made by city council prior to this board's decisions. This board will have input on design and amenities of the new pool.

3. Cost estimates

Rives showed estimates for an outdoor pool with splashpad, diving boards and slides, along with administration costs and yearly operational cost. He broke down loan costs for a 20 year loan with a 5 percent interest rate. Revenue from sales tax historically is about \$420,000 for the half percent. The figures do not include any money for repairs. Costs do NOT include any renovation to the pool house other than the pump/circulation room.

A budget worksheet from Water's Edge was presented.

Rives presented cost estimates for an indoor pool at \$4.6 million.

4. Next Steps

Council will need to decide how much of a loan they will ask for. Once that happens admin will start looking for loans while the Advisory Board is finalizing design. Once Water's Edge gets a final design, they will bid out the work to be done. Rives pointed out that with construction estimates, the most likely opening date will be May of 2028.

5. Comments

- a. Mayor Hull pointed out that a positive of this process is that the Aquatic Board does have money to work with for this project because of the pool tax.
- b. Rives pointed out that the tax will not begin to be collected until April and the city would not get a payment until July.

- c. Discussion about the design included it being enough for future use, being able to be used for swim lessons, number of guards needed and how many can swim in the current proposed size was had.
- d. Meetings will be held at least quarterly.
- e. Curt Roland presented a petition that was collected at Halloween Hullabaloo. Rives suggested that the petition would be better served being presented to the board of aldermen.

Adjourned at 6:15 p.m.