girl scouts of southwest texas

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

Hybrid: Sally Cheever Girl Scout Leadership Center/Zoom

Board Members in Attendance
Lea Ream, Chair
Gwendolyn Jaramillo, 1st Vice Chair
Monica Gonzalez, 2nd Vice Chair
Amy Grubbs, Treasurer
Amy Perry, Secretary
Melanie Bagby
Dr. Sarah Baray
Rebecca Brune
Jennifer Daugherty
Dr. Gretcha Flinn
Kim Ford
Rosemary Gee
Dr. Cindy Johnston
Michelle Martinez
Brandyn Rodriguez
Maritza Rodriguez
Dr. Atikah Shemshack
Annie Uribe Turner
Dr. Jeanette Ball, CEO, Ex Officio

Board Members Absent, Excused
Sara Brouillard
Makayla Matheson
Erika Prosper

Ex Officio Girl Board in Attendance
Milana Dudley, Girl Board Chair
Amaya Hill, Girl Board Vice Chair
Melody Davidoff
Ayla Francis
Akshara Gurrala
Arirana Gutierrez
Adalon Montes
Amilia Moore
Wendy Sauceda
Yuliana Sauceda
Sarah Vasquez
Chloe Verducci

Ex Officio Girl Board Absent
Amaya Hill
Ayla Francis
Akshara Gurrala

Staff & Guests in Attendance
Gina Abad, CMO
Stephanie Finleon Cortez, CDCO
Blythe Simonson, CFO
Leticia Martinez, EA
Johnny Espinoza, IT

Call to Order: Ms. Ream, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held as a hybrid of both in-person and virtual participants.

Ms. Ream, Chair, confirmed quorum. Ms. Jaramillo, 1st Vice Chair moved to amend the agenda so that the CEO update occurred after the CEO introduction. Dr. Johnston seconded and the motion passed.

Ms. Dudley, Girl Board Chair, led the Pledge of Allegiance, Girl Scout Promise, and Mission. The Girl Board conducted an investiture ceremony for Dr. Jeanette Ball, the new GSSWT CEO.

The following items were presented for approval in the Consent Agenda:

- May 2, 2026 Board of Directors meeting minutes
- July 23, 2026 Board of Directors meeting minutes

Dr. Shemshack moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Turner seconded and the motion carried.

Chair Update:

Lea Ream Chair, provided opening remarks. For the record, she stated the following:

Results of the Actions by Written Consent:

On August 20, 2026 the Board of Directors/Executive Committee voted via Action by Written Consent to approve the motion on CEO A. Salinas Retirements Gifts.

The Chair then introduced Dr. Jeanette Ball as the new CEO of Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas.

Chair Update continued:

Ms. Ream, Chair, introduced the council's national delegates who presented a post report from the National Council Session and results from proposals.

CEO Update:

Dr. Ball, CEO, presented the CEO update.

- Ms. Abad, CMO, provided the membership update.
- Ms. Dudley, Girl Board Chair, shared the Girl Board update.

Attract and Retain a More Diverse Volunteer Base

Ms. Turner, BDC Chair, provided the Board Development Committee report.

Ms. Brune, VAT Liaison, provided an update from the Volunteer Advisory Team.

Grow Revenue

Ms. Grubbs, Treasurer, presented the financial report ending July 2026. Ms. Simonson, CFO, provided the investment report ending June 2026.

Ms. Gonzalez, 2nd Vice Chair, presented the Fund Development Report ending Sept. 19, 2026.

Provide Engaging Programs for Girls

Ms. Finleon Cortez, CDCO, presented the Long Range Property Committee report ending Sept. 19, 2026.

New Business and Executive Session

New Business: Ms. Finleon Cortez, CDCO, presented on the new media campaign and brand positioning.

Ms. Jaramillo, 1st Vice Chair, moved to enter into executive session. It was seconded by Dr. Johnston and the motion carried. Executive session was held 11:26 am – 12:11 pm. No actions were takend.

Announcements & Adjourn:

Next meeting: GSSWT Board of Directors, November 4, 2026, location TBD, 5-7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 12:12 p.m. The annual Board Retreat for Board Members at Large followed.