girl scouts of southwest texas

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES – January 14, 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
Dr. Sarah Baray
Rebecca Brune
Luis de la Garza
Dr. Gretcha Flinn
Kim Ford
Lori Johnson Leal
Dr. Cindy Johnston
Michelle Martinez
Makayla Matheson
Anthony Medina
Erika Prosper
Maritza Rodriguez
Dr. Atikah Shemshack
Annie Uribe Turner
Angie Salinas, CEO, Ex Officio

Board Members Absent, Excused
Sara Brouillard
Claudia Smithwick

Ex Officio Girl Board in Attendance
Amaya Hill, Girl Board Chair
Nicolette Duque
Akshara Gurrala
Maya Lopez
Adalon Montes
Tristyn Myrick
Leila Ramirez
Wendy Sauceda
Chloe Verducci

Ex Officio Girl Board Absent
Esha Cherukuri
Kiana Cunningham
Milana Dudley

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 5:15 p.m. The meeting was held as a hybrid of both in-person and virtual participants.

Ms. Perry, Secretary, conducted roll call to confirm quorum. There were no motions to amend agenda.

Ms. Hill, Girl Board Chair, led the Pledge of Allegiance, Girl Scout Promise, and Mission. Ms. Gurrala, Girl Board Member, shared her Mission Moment.

The following items were presented for approval in the Consent Agenda:
- November 5, 2025 Board of Directors meeting minutes
- Motion to approve Board Approved Volunteer Awards

Dr. Baray moved to approve the Consent Agenda. It was seconded and the motion carried.

Chair Update
Lea Ream Chair, provided welcome remarks and congratulated the CEO on 10 years with the council.
- For the record, she stated: On Dec. 10, 2025, the Board voted via Action by Written Consent to approve the Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas Strategic Plan (2027-2029) presented by the Strategic Committee.

Audit Report

Ms. Ford, Audit Committee Chair, presented the FY2024-2025 Financial Audit Report. On behalf of the Audit Committee, she moved to accept the FY2024-2025 Financial Audit Report. The motion carried.

Attract and Retain a More Diverse Volunteer Base

Ms. Turner, Committee Chair, presented the Board Development Committee update.

- She then deferred time to Mr. de la Garza, BDC Member, for an update from the BDC education subcommittee.

Ms. Brune, VAT Liaison, provided the Volunteer Advisory update.

Grow Revenue

Ms. Grubbs, Treasurer, delivered the financial report ending Nov. 2025. There was no investment report.

Ms. Gonzalez, presented the Fund Development Report ending January 14, 2026.

Provide Engaging Programs for Girls

Mr. Medina, Committee Chair, presented the Long Range Property Committee report ending January 14, 2026 and Backyard Project update. He deferred time to:

- Ms. Jaramillo, 1st Vice Chair, who made a presentation on the contract for the construction on the backyard. Q&A discussion followed.
- Ms. Ford moved for the Board to approve the terms of the proposed construction contract with Troy Jessee Construction, LP, as presented, with the GMP not to exceed $6.75M and authorizing the CEO to execute the contract in accordance with the executive summary. Motion was seconded and the motion carried.

CEO Update

Ms. Salinas, CEO, deferred time to:

- Dr. Baray, Committee Chair, for the Membership Committee update.
- Ms. Abad, CMO, for the Membership data update.

Ms. Salinas, CEO, provided an update on council operations. She deferred time to:

- Ms. Hill, Girl Board Chair, provided the Girl Board update.

New Business and Executive Session

There was no new business. Ms. Grubbs, Treasurer, moved to adjourn into executive session at 6:41 p.m.. It was seconded and the motion carried.

At 7:07 p.m., executive session concluded. As a result of executive session, the following occurred:

- Ms. Ford moved: As a result of the council CEO announcing her retirement, the Board authorizes the Executive Committee to appoint a search committee and take any action needed on recruitment until the next Board meeting as discussed in executive session. It was seconded and the motion carried.

Announcements & Adjourn:

Next meeting: Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, March 7, 2026, SCGSLC, 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Meeting adjourned 7:10 p.m.