

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool Board of Trustees Election

This is the official ballot for the election of Places 1 through 4 of the Board of Trustees for the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool. The Governing Body of each Member of the Pool is entitled to vote for members of the Board of Trustees. Please record your organization's choices by placing an "X" in the square beside the candidate's name or writing in the name of an eligible person in the space provided. You may vote for only one candidate for each Place.

The officials listed on this ballot have been nominated to serve a six-year term on the TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool (Workers' Compensation, Property and Liability) Board of Trustees. The names of the candidates for each Place on the Board of Trustees are listed in alphabetical order on this ballot.

About Write-In Candidates. A write-in candidate is a person who is **not** listed on this ballot. The write-in line for each Place is provided only for a governing body that wishes to vote for someone other than the candidates printed on this ballot. If you vote for a candidate whose name is printed on the ballot, mark the square beside that candidate's name and leave the write-in line for that Place blank. **Do not also write that candidate's name on the write-in line.** A ballot that shows both a marked square and a name on the write-in line for the same Place has two votes recorded for that Place, and no vote can be counted for that Place. Marking a square and writing the same name does not strengthen the vote. Write in a name only if you are voting for a person not listed. A write-in candidate must meet the same eligibility requirements as the nominated candidates.

Ballots must reach the office of David Reagan, Secretary of the Board, no later than September 30, 2026. Ballots received after September 30, 2026, cannot be counted. **The ballot must be properly signed and all pages of the ballot must be mailed to: Trustee Election, David Reagan, Secretary of the Board, P.O. Box 149194, Austin, Texas 78714-9194. If the ballot is not signed, it will not be counted.**

PLACE 1

- ☐ **Kevin Clark.** Council Member for the City of Gladewater (Region 15) for eight years. He has also served as the City Council's Ex Officio representative to the Board of Adjustments, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Parks and Recreation Board. During his tenure, he spearheaded the restructuring of the Gladewater Fire Department. Prior to his municipal service, Kevin retired after a distinguished 20-year career in the United States Marine Corps, attaining the rank of Gunnery Sergeant and serving during Operation Desert Storm. He then earned a degree in Speech Communication with a minor in English and spent 23 years as a teacher and coach at Gladewater High School. He has more than four decades of public service.
- ☐ **J.W. 'Buzz' Fullen** (*Incumbent*). Commissioner for the Henderson Housing Authority (Region 15) from 2012 to 2018 and from 2024 to present. Formerly, Mayor of the City of Henderson from 2004 to 2012 and from 2018 to 2024. He currently serves on the Henderson Civic Center Board (2003–present), the Henderson ETMC Hospital Diabetes Board (2009 – present), the Texas Eastern 911 Board for Rusk and Harrison Counties as Chair (2024 – present) and the Keep Henderson Beautiful Board (2008 – present). He has been a Board member of the TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool since 2010, during which time he served as Chair (2018 – 2020) and Vice Chair (2016 – 2018).
- ☐ **John Kinnaird.** Chairman of the McLennan Central Appraisal District (Region 9). He was a four-term member of the Waco City Council and served in various leadership roles with the National League of Cities. He also provides governance and oversight for several non-profits within the community, engaging in areas ranging from workforce and economic development to arts, beautification, and culture. He is a Baylor University graduate, CFA charterholder, and is an SVP and lead investment officer of a local wealth management firm. Mr. Kinnaird has more than a decade of public and municipal government service, complemented by over two decades of professional experience in the financial services sector.
- ☐ **Carey D. Neal, Jr.** City Manager for the City of Seagoville (Region 13). Previously, he served as Deputy City Manager for the City of Lancaster. Mr. Neal holds a Master of Public Administration from American University and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Texas at Arlington. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Public Policy at Liberty University. He is an active member of the International City/County Management Association, the Texas City Management Association, and serves as Director at Large for the North Texas City Management Association. He has served on several governing boards, including the Texas Coalition for Affordable Power Board and the North Texas Housing Finance Corp. Board.

WRITE IN CANDIDATE (complete only if you did not mark a square above):

PLACE 2

- ☐ **Adam Benefield.** Council Member for the City of Lago Vista (Region 10). He has served as the City Council liaison to the Building and Standards Commission and has been actively involved in matters related to municipal operations, budgeting, infrastructure, development, public safety, and risk management. Mr. Benefield has extensive experience as a business owner and operator in the construction, irrigation, landscaping, and water-related service industries. He is licensed through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as a Licensed Irrigator, Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester, Water Treatment Specialist, Customer Service Inspector, and Irrigation Inspector. He is committed to responsible local government and fiscal discipline.
- ☐ **Emily Crawford** (*Incumbent*). City Manager for the City of Abilene (Region 6) since June 2025. Previously, she was City Manager of Brownwood, Texas, for 10 years where she led numerous transformational initiatives including downtown revitalization, a countywide 911/dispatch center, and major investments in infrastructure and public facilities. She serves as Immediate Past President of the Texas City Management Association (TCMA). Ms. Crawford holds a Master of Science in Organizational Development from Abilene Christian University, a bachelor's degree in Health and Wellness Promotion from Texas State University, and has completed the Executive Training Institute at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin.
- ☐ **Anthony DeFrancis.** Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Bertram (Region 10). He has a Bachelor of Science degree from Pennsylvania State University, an MBA from Point Park University, and an M.Ed. from Lamar University. He served as a school administrator, domestically and internationally, for 6 years, a secondary mathematics educator for 20 years, and as a mentor and evaluator of incoming educators for various school districts. Previously, he was a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for the City of Hutto. He is a member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons and the Ben Hur Shriners. He has a strong commitment to public service and sound local governance.

WRITE IN CANDIDATE (complete only if you did not mark a square above):

PLACE 3

- ☐ **Corby Alexander.** City Manager for the City of La Porte (Region 14). He is a native of Henderson, Texas, and has guided other Texas cities in previous management roles and administrative positions. Corby Alexander holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Texas A&M University and a master's degree in public administration from the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M. He is involved with the International City/County Management Association, the Texas City Management Association, and Rotary International. Corby and his wife are proud parents who enjoy spending quality time with their family, participating in church activities, and engaging in community events.
- ☐ **Jim Holgersson.** City Manager for the City of Corsicana (Region 9). He previously served as City Manager for the Texas cities of Waco and Arlington and has held municipal management positions in four additional states. He is a member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), where he has served on three committees, and is a past president of both the North Texas City Management Association and the Tennessee City Management Association. He holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Arkansas.
- ☐ **Cecil A. Hutson, Jr.** Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Combine (Region 13) since May 2022 and served on the City Council since May 2018. Mr. Hutson and his wife, Barbie, moved to Combine in September of 2016 after raising their family in Mesquite, Texas. They have three adult children and eleven grandchildren. Currently, he is the branch owner of TWFG – Hutson Insurance Services in Mesquite, and Barbie is a retired educator. He and his wife are active in their local church and in the community. Mr. Hutson states his experience in the insurance industry, serving as a risk advisor, would be invaluable as he further serves Texas communities as a Board member of the TML Risk Pool.
- ☐ **Andy Joslin.** City Manager for the City of Beeville (Region 11). Previously, he served as City Manager for the City of Floresville from 2021 to 2024. Mr. Joslin also served as City Manager and Finance Director for the City of Alice. Earlier in his public service career, he held multiple leadership roles with the City of Floresville, including Interim City Manager, Assistant Chief of Police, and Narcotics Task Force Commander. Mr. Joslin earned a Bachelor of Occupational Education degree with a specialization in Law Enforcement from Wayland Baptist University and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, Session 219. He has served as President of the Floresville Lions Club and held board positions on other governing boards.
- ☐ **Ronda Perez.** City Manager for the City of Anna (Region 13) since March 2026. She notes her accomplishments are built upon a strong foundation, and her years of experience in servant leadership speak volumes regarding her keen understanding of local government and its purpose. She also states she is deeply dedicated to the cities she serves with vision, execution, development and consensus building. Ms. Perez earned a master's degree in criminal justice from California State University, Long Beach, as well as dual bachelor's degrees in political science and criminology, law and society from the University of California, Irvine. She is also a recent graduate of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government for local and state officials.
- ☐ **Garrett Spradling.** City Manager for the City of Borger (Region 2). He began his public service career on the Borger City Council. His background includes service as Deputy Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Coordinator and multiple supervisory and command roles with the Borger Police Department. He also served as President and Vice President of Spradling Oil, LP, where he oversaw safety programs, DOT and regulatory compliance, spill prevention planning, commercial vehicle operations, OSHA-related documentation, and workers' compensation. Mr. Spradling holds a Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Texas Tech University and is a Certified Public Manager.

PLACE 3 CANDIDATES CONTINUE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

CANDIDATES FOR PLACE 3 (CONTINUED)

- ☐ **Isaac Tawil.** City Manager for the City of McAllen (Region 12). He has over 25 years of dedicated service to Texas municipalities. As City Manager, he oversees a budget exceeding \$650 million. Before his appointment as City Manager, he served in the City Attorney's Office for 13 years, most recently as City Attorney where he gained experience in municipal law, governance, risk management, insurance, and regulatory compliance. Mr. Tawil also serves as a Trustee of the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS). He states his combined executive leadership, fiduciary oversight, and legal expertise provide a strong foundation for advancing sound governance, fiscal responsibility, and effective risk management on behalf of Texas cities.
- ☐ **Alun Thomas.** City Administrator for the City of Rollingwood (Region 10) since March 2025. Previously, he served the City of Santa Fe where he began as City Secretary and advanced to City Manager. In that role, he reports he used his emergency management experience to mitigate the effects of Hurricane Beryl through proactive hardening of City-owned facilities, employee training, and extensive pre- and post- event community outreach and education. Mr. Thomas holds a bachelor's degree in political science, and a master's degree in both political science and public administration from the University of Houston. He is a member of the Texas City Management Association and the Government Finance Officers Association.

WRITE IN CANDIDATE (complete only if you did not mark a square above):

PLACE 4

- ☐ **Austin Bleess** (*Incumbent*). City Manager for the City of Jersey Village (Region 14) since 2017. He has served on the TML Risk Pool Board since 2022, and as Vice Chair of the Board since 2025. Previously, he served as City Administrator in Winnebago, MN and City Manager in Caribou, ME. Mr. Bleess holds a BA in Political Science from Bethel University and a Master of Public Administration from Walden University. He is a Credentialed Manager through ICMA. He is a member of TCMA and served on the TCMA Board from 2024 to 2026. As a part of the America 250 celebration, he was named as one of 250 Government Champions who exemplify “democracy at the doorstep” through dedication, innovation, and the highest sense of public service.
- ☐ **James Hotopp**. City Manager for the City of Weatherford (Region 8) since November 2018. He began his career with the City of Weatherford in 2007 and advanced through a series of positions, including Utility Engineer, City Engineer, Director of Water Utilities, Director of Planning and Development, Assistant City Manager, and Deputy City Manager. Mr. Hotopp is a member of the International City/County Management Association, the Texas City Management Association, the North Central Texas City Management Association, and the Tarrant Regional Transportation Coalition. He also serves on the Parker County Economic Development Board, the Parker County Transportation Safety Committee, and the Texas Public Power Association Board.

WRITE IN CANDIDATE (complete only if you did not mark a square above):

BALLOT MUST BE SIGNED TO BE COUNTED

Certificate

I certify that the vote cast above has been cast in accordance with the will of the majority of the governing body of the public entity named below.

Witness my hand, this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Signature of Authorized Official

Title

Printed Name of Authorized Official

Printed Name of Public Entity