

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 26, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Jacinto River Authority was held at 8:00 a.m., September 26, 2019, at the San Jacinto River Authority General and Administration Building, a notice of said meeting was posted as required by law. President Lloyd Tisdale, Vice-President Ronnie Anderson, Treasurer Mark Micheletti, Secretary Kaaren Cambio, Assistant Secretary Ed Boulware, and Board Members Brenda Cooper and Jim Alexander were present. General Manager Jace Houston, Deputy General Manager Ron Kelling, Director of Financial and Administrative Services Tom Michel, Director of Water Resources and Flood Management Chuck Gilman, Director of Communications and Public Affairs Heather Ramsey Cook, Woodlands Division Manager Chris Meeks, GRP Division Manager Mark Smith, Lake Conroe Division Manager Bret Raley, Highlands Division Manager Kimberly Wright, Administrative Services Manager Cynthia Bowman, General Counsel Mitchell Page, and Financial Advisor Jan Bartholomew were in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

2. PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledges of Allegiance were led by Ms. Cooper.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. DIVISION UPDATES

a. G & A:

Mr. Houston deferred updates to Ms. Cook.

b. G & A:

Ms. Cook reported on the official launch of the Know Your Watershed website as well as various presentations of same and stated they have received very positive feedback. She reported on the newly launched SJRA Blog and explained the premise behind same; Ms. Cook provided statistics related to information shared on social media regarding Tropical Storm Imelda and the GRP waterline break in The Woodlands. She explained that during Tropical Storm Imelda, several SJRA staff were stationed and worked in conjunction with the Harris County Flood Control District and the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management.

c. G & A:

Ms. Bartholomew provided information regarding the Raw Water Enterprise Water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2019A and 2019B refunding results, and reported an overall savings of approximately \$208,000 annually.

d. Woodlands:

No update was provided by the Woodlands Division.

e. GRP:

Mr. Smith reported that there were no actions taken at the GRP Review Committee meeting on Monday, September 23, 2019. He stated that because of the fiscal year end close-out process, the financials were not provided in the monthly operations report, however he did report that the division's Fiscal Year 2019 fund balance was approximately \$1,068,000, which is roughly .69 months of their budgeted reserves. Mr. Smith went on to provide an update related to the September 13, 2019, GRP waterline break at Research Forest Drive and Technology Drive in The Woodlands.

f. Lake Conroe:

No update was provided by the Lake Conroe Division.

g. Highlands:

Ms. Wright provided information related to specific division operational adjustments made during Tropical Storm Imelda.

h. Flood Management:

Mr. Gilman announced that the Highlands Division tour will take place on Friday, October 11, 2019. He also presented statistical information as provided by the Corps of Engineers related to the West Fork of the San Jacinto River Emergency Dredging Project.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Agenda item 5 c was removed from the consent agenda for separate consideration. The remainder of the consent agenda was approved upon a motion by Mr. Anderson with a second by Ms. Cambio, carrying unanimously.

a. Approval of Minutes

Approve minutes of Regular Meeting of August 22, 2019.

b. Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter Ended August 31, 2019

Approve the Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter Ended August 31, 2019.

d. Work Order No. 2 for Professional Engineering Services for Implementation of the Pretreatment Program

Authorize the General Manager to execute Work Order No. 2 with Alan Plummer Associates in an amount not to exceed \$73,003, for professional engineering services for implementation of the Pretreatment Program in The Woodlands.

e. Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resources Investigations with the U.S. Geological Survey

Authorize the General Manager to execute a joint funding agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey, in the amount of \$156,430 (SJRA's portion) for water resource investigations for data collection and analysis activities for the period October 1, 2019, through September 30, 2020.

f. Lake Conroe Surplus Property

Declare to be surplus and authorize the disposal by sale of a 0.353 acre tract of real property located in the Wier WM Survey, A-17, near Willis, Texas, at a price of \$19,836.95, and authorize the General Manager to execute all necessary documents to complete the transaction.

g. Lake Conroe Surplus Property

Declare to be surplus and authorize the disposal by sale of a 0.070 acre tract of real property located in the William C. Clark Survey, A-6, near Montgomery, Texas, at a price of \$84,328.40, and authorize the General Manager to execute all necessary documents to complete the transaction.

6. BRIEFINGS AND PRESENTATIONS

a. Receive presentation of 2018 Annual Groundwater Report from Harris-Galveston Subsidence District.

Mr. Mike Turco, General Manager of the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District ("HGSD"), presented the 2018 Annual Groundwater Report. He provided a brief history of HGSD stating that it was created by the Texas Legislature in 1975 to solve the subsidence issue in Harris and Galveston Counties. He explained that following its creation, groundwater regulation began nearest the coast in an area of concentrated emphasis (ACE). Further, as population spread to the north and west and water use increased, numerous regulatory plans were developed and implemented. He stated the 1999 Regulatory Plan designated the three regulatory areas that exist today. He went on to provide the latest percentages of groundwater to alternative water being used for each of the three areas. He explained that area three is still in the process of conversion and that the Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project, the Northeast Water Purification Plant Expansion, and the Water Distribution and Transmission Systems are all projects being implemented to address the increase in population and demand in said areas. Mr. Turco provided information related to the Evangeline water level altitude, stating that the areas of stress are southern Montgomery County and northern and western portions of Harris County. He went on to provide similar data for the Jasper Aquifer, stating that the greatest water-level decline is in southern Montgomery County. Mr. Turco provided an example of the impact of regulation in The Woodlands. He explained that before the requirement of conversion, the rate of subsidence in Montgomery County was about six-inches per decade. Further, he stated that when conversion was required by the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District and SJRA began providing an alternative water source to The Woodlands, groundwater levels increased, and the subsidence rates changed dramatically over that period of time, further demonstrating how the reduction of groundwater use has an impact on the

subsidence rate. Mr. Turco then provided information regarding various science and research programs such as the brackish groundwater development study, the aquifer storage and recovery evaluation, as well as the fault movement study in The Woodlands. He explained that Southern Methodist University (“SMU”) published a paper which investigated the occurrence and movement of faults in The Woodlands area utilizing InSAR satellite data. Further, he stated SMU developed a methodology to utilize InSAR techniques in the Houston area and were able to evaluate data from 2007 – 2011, concluding “...The newly discovered fault activation appears to be related to excessive groundwater exploitation from the Jasper aquifer in Montgomery County. The continuous mining of groundwater from the Jasper aquifer formed new water-level decline cones over Montgomery County, corroborating the intensity of new fractures...”. Mr. Turco also spoke in reference to a publication by Jiangbo Yu, et. al., in 2014, that concluded most compaction occurs in the upper ~2000 feet of sediment and there is no evidence of deep structural movement. Mr. Turco concluded with upcoming activities to include the 2023 Regulatory Plan Update, the Monitoring Program, and the Water Conservation Grant Program.

The Board of Directors then considered the item removed from the consent agenda for separate consideration.

c. Work Order No. 2 for Professional Engineering Services for Regulatory Support

Mr. Meeks explained that award of this professional engineering service is based on qualifications and requires highly technical expertise in wastewater facility regulations when needed. Ms. Cambio made a motion to authorize the General Manager to execute Work Order No. 2 with Alan Plummer Associates in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, for professional engineering services for regulatory support in The Woodlands. The motion was seconded by Mr. Boulware and carried unanimously.

7. REGULAR AGENDA

a. FLOOD MANAGEMENT

1. Letter Agreement with Harris County Flood Control District Regarding Senate Bill 500 Siltation and Sediment Removal Activities

Mr. Matt Barrett, Division Engineer, provided information regarding Senate Bill 500 related to siltation and sediment removal activities. He stated that Senate Bill 500 authorizes the Texas Water Development Board to provide a \$30 million grant to Harris County for siltation and sediment removal activities at the confluence of the San Jacinto River and Lake Houston. He stated that the Harris County Flood Control District obtained a proposal from an environmental consulting firm that would perform a long-term dredging program analysis study. Further, Mr. Barrett stated that the study would be the first step in the development of a program that would continue to address the issues of siltation and sedimentation into the future. Ms. Cambio made a motion to authorize the General Manager to negotiate and execute a letter agreement with the Harris County Flood Control District up to \$12,500 to provide funding for professional services related to Senate Bill 500 siltation and sediment removal activities with the caveat that participation from the Coastal Water Authority (CWA) be requested and that staff research to determine if the Authority’s contribution can be reimbursed from the grant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Micheletti and carried unanimously.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was convened in executive session at 9:22 a.m., under the following provisions:

- a. Discussion regarding items identified elsewhere on the agenda pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Real Property), 551.073 (Prospective Gifts), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), or 551.076 (Security Devices), as applicable.
- b. Consultations with attorney, pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 regarding:
 1. Litigation related to Hurricane Harvey, including additional legal services to be provided by Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP;
 2. Litigation related to GRP water line breaks (Line Segments W2A and W2B); and
 3. Expedited Declaratory Judgement Act litigation and/or collection litigation related to GRP.

9. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called into open session at 10:23 a.m. Mr. Alexander made a motion to authorize the General Manager to execute additional letters of engagement with Hunton Andrews Kurth for legal services related to Hurricane Harvey litigation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson and carried unanimously.

10. TOUR OF LAKE CONROE BUILDING

The meeting was recessed at 10:24 a.m., to conduct a tour of repairs to the Division Office at Lake Conroe. The meeting reconvened in the Board Room at 10:45 a.m.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA

Mr. Tisdale announced that the next San Jacinto River Authority Board Meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2019.

12. ADJOURN

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.


 Kaaren Cambio
 Secretary, Board of Directors

