

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Jacinto River Authority was held at 8:00 a.m., October 22, 2020, at the San Jacinto River Authority General and Administration Building, a notice of said meeting was posted as required by law. Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.125, as amended, and as modified by the temporary suspension of various provisions thereof effective March 16, 2020, by the Governor of Texas in accordance with the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, all as related to the Governor's proclamation on March 13, 2020, and as renewed, certifying that the COVID-19 pandemic poses an imminent threat of disaster and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas, the San Jacinto River Authority Board of Directors meeting was held via publicly accessible webinar/telephone conference. A roll call of the Board of Directors was taken and President Lloyd Tisdale, Vice-President Ronnie Anderson, Treasurer Mark Micheletti, Assistant Secretary Ed Boulware, and Director Jim Alexander were present. Director Brenda Cooper participated remotely via webinar, and Secretary Kaaren Cambio was absent. Jace Houston, General Manager; Ron Kelling, Deputy General Manager; Tom Michel, Director of Financial and Administrative Services; Chuck Gilman, Director of Water Resources and Flood Management; Heather Ramsey-Cook, Director of Communications; Cynthia Bowman, Administrative Services Manager; and Mitchell Page, General Counsel were also in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m.

2. PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledges of Allegiance were led by Director Tisdale.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs commented on the odor issue at Lakeside Coves in The Woodlands. Mr. Dan Krueger commented on the seasonal lake lowering initiative.

4. DIVISION UPDATES

G & A:

- a. Mr. Houston provided an update related to a recent briefing with Congressman Crenshaw and other dignitaries regarding the progress of the Lake Houston Spillway Improvements Project; the Texas Water Conservation Agency's (TWCA) virtual conference; and the commencement of the annual audit by SJRA's outside auditing firm.

b. G & A:

Ms. Cook provided an update related to various Public Communications efforts: participation in the TWCA conference; Know Your Watershed video; blog posts; Gulf Coast Water Symposium; and thanked the Lake Conroe Division for hosting the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management meeting.

c. G & A:

Controller Pam Steiger reported on format changes related to the financial statements.

d. Woodlands:

Chris Meeks provided no update related to the Woodlands Division.

e. GRP:

Mr. Meeks provided no update related to the GRP Division.

f. Lake Conroe:

Bret Raley provided no update related to the Lake Conroe Division.

g. Highlands:

Jay Smith provided an update related to the East Canal erosion repair project performed in-house by the Highlands Division staff.

h. Flood Management:

Division Engineer Matt Barrett provided an update related to the various Texas Water Development Board Flood Infrastructure Fund grant applications submitted on October 19, 2020. He spoke in regards to the anticipated funding sources for each project: Spring Creek Watershed Flood Control Dams Conceptual Engineering Feasibility Design; the Upper San Jacinto River Basin Regional Sedimentation Study; the Lake Conroe-Lake Houston Joint Reservoir Operations Study; and the Flood Early Warning System for San Jacinto County.

Mr. Gilman provided an update related to the Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation grant application, stating that the Caney Creek Project score was just below the scoring threshold. Further, he explained that applications that fail to score a minimum of 65 points will only be considered after all applications scoring greater than 65 points have been funded. He stated that the current budget exceeds the maximum allowable award amount under the grant for any individual project. With that, Mr. Gilman stated that the best option would be to defer submission of the application from October, 2020, to the summer of 2021. He stated that this option would grant more time to further refine the project scope and consider other projects identified in the San Jacinto Master Drainage Plan. Further, Mr. Gilman explained that the scoring criteria may be adjusted in the second round if the LMI (“Low to Moderate Income”) national objective is achieved. He stated that the extension would provide an opportunity to identify other potential funding opportunities, seek other potential funding partners, and finalize and formalize an operations and maintenance strategy.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Director Anderson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as recommended. The motion was seconded by Director Micheletti and carried unanimously, following a roll call of the Board of Directors.

a. Approval of Minutes

Approve the Regular Meeting minutes of September 24, 2020.

b. Unaudited Financials

Approve the unaudited financials for the month of September, 2020.

c. Interlocal Agreement with Harris County Department of Education

Authorize the General Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with Harris County Department of Education to utilize the Choice Partners Purchasing Cooperative.

d. Master Intergovernmental Agreement with OMNIA Partners

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Master Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with OMNIA Partners for the purpose of utilizing their competitively bid contracts.

e. Construction Contract for Wastewater Treatment Facility No. 2 Digester Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Rehabilitation

Authorize the General Manager to execute a construction contract with Wharton-Smith in the amount of \$1,775,050, for Wastewater Treatment Facility No. 2 Digester Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Rehabilitation in The Woodlands and contract modifications up to \$50,000.

f. Construction Phase Services for Wastewater Treatment Facility No. 2 Digester Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Rehabilitation

Authorize the General Manager to execute Work Order No. 2 with Garver, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$95,103, for construction phase services for Wastewater Treatment Facility No. 2 Digester Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Rehabilitation in The Woodlands.

g. Sale of Real Property

Declare to be surplus and authorize the disposal by sale of a 0.657 acre tract of real property located in the Owen Shannon Survey, A-36, near Montgomery, Texas, at a price of \$113,613.79, and authorize the General Manager to execute all necessary documents to complete the transaction.

6. REGULAR AGENDA

a. Stand-By Services Agreement for Emergency and Non-Emergency Response

Risk Manager Belinda Raindl presented information related to Request for Proposals for Emergency and Non-Emergency Restoration Services. Director Boulware made a motion to authorize the General Manager to execute a Stand-By Services Agreement with US Ecology, Houston, Inc., for emergency response for hazardous incident handling and non-emergency cleanup of hazardous and/or non-hazardous waste and related items for all San Jacinto River Authority divisions. The motion was seconded by Director Alexander and carried unanimously, following a roll call of the Board of Directors.

b. Master Services Agreement and Service Order for Dark Fiber Services

SCADA I&C Manager Matt Volna provided information related to dark fiber services to be used for the Highlands Division. Director Micheletti made a motion to authorize the General Manager to execute a Master Services Agreement and Service Order with PS Lightwave, Inc., in the amount of \$86,853, for dark fiber services to assets in the Highlands. The motion was seconded by Director Anderson and carried unanimously, following a roll call of the Board of Directors.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors did not convene in executive session.

9. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Because the Board of Directors did not convene in executive session, there was no action.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS / FUTURE AGENDA

Mr. Tisdale announced that the next San Jacinto River Authority Special Board Meeting will be held on December 3, 2020.

11. ADJOURN

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m.



Kaaren Cambio
Secretary, Board of Directors

