

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 26, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Jacinto River Authority was held at 8:00 a.m., August 26, 2021, 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 Ronnie Anderson, Secretary Wil Faubel, Secretary Pro Tem Ricardo Mora, and Director Stacey Buick were present. Treasurer Mark Micheletti and Vice President Ed Boulware participated remotely. Also in attendance were Jace Houston, General Manager; Ron Kelling, Deputy General Manager; Tom Michel, Director of Financial and Administrative Services; Heather Ramsey-Cook, Director of Communications and Public Affairs; Ed Shackelford, Director of Utility Operations; Wayne Owen, Director of Raw Water Operations; Cynthia Bowman, Administrative Services Manager; and Mitchell Page, General Counsel.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

2. PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledges of Allegiance were led by Director Anderson.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs requested that staff attend a meeting to discuss various topics. Mr. Dan Krueger spoke about the seasonal lake lowering initiative.

4. DIVISION UPDATES

a. G & A:

Mr. Houston provided an update on the recent tropical storms.

b. G & A

Ms. Cook provided updates related to various division and department projects and initiatives.

c. G & A

Mr. Michel provided no update related to Finance and Administration.

d. Woodlands

Mr. Shackelford provided information related to The Woodlands Wastewater Treatment Plan Consolidation project.

e. GRP

Mr. Shackelford provided an update related to the GRP 30-inch waterline leak on Research Forest Drive.

f. Lake Conroe

Mr. Raley provided an operational update relative to the Lake Conroe Division as well as an update related to the Lake Conroe Queen riverboat incident.

g. Highlands

Mr. Smith provided no update related to the Highlands Division.

h. Flood Management

Mr. Barrett provided no update related to the Flood Management Division.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

a. Approval of Minutes

Approve the minutes of Regular Meeting of July 22, 2021.

b. Unaudited Financials

Approve the unaudited financials for the month of July, 2021.

c. Professional Services Agreement and Work Order No. 1 - 2026 Region H Water Plan

Authorize the General Manager to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement and Work Order No. 1 with Freese and Nichols, Inc., on behalf of the Region H Water Planning Group for development of the 2026 Region H Water Plan.

d. Master Professional Services Agreement - Structural Engineering

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Master Professional Services Agreement with Ascend Consulting & Engineering, PLLC, for professional structural engineering services for all divisions.

e. Master Professional Services Agreement - Structural Engineering

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Master Professional Services Agreement with Halfff Associates, Inc., for professional structural engineering services for all divisions.

f. Master Professional Services Agreement - Staff Augmentation Consulting

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Master Professional Services Agreement with Texas Water Engineering, PLLC, for staff augmentation consulting services for the Technical Services department.

g. Work Order No. 1 - Geographical Information System (GIS) Consulting

Authorize the General Manager to execute Work Order No. 1 with Texas Water Engineering, PLLC, in an amount not to exceed \$83,216.64 for professional Geographic Information System (GIS) consulting services.

h. Master Professional Services Agreement - Staff Augmentation Consulting

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Master Professional Services Agreement with KIT Professionals, Inc., for staff augmentation consulting services for the Technical Services department.

i. Interlocal Agreement with Region 8 Education Service Center TIPS Program

Authorize the General Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with Region 8 Education Service Center TIPS Program for the purpose of utilizing their competitively bid contracts.

6. REGULAR AGENDA

Mr. Houston announced that items 6a through 6c would be considered together and provided a brief overview stating that each item was presented to the Board of Directors in detail at the previous Board meeting. Director Micheletti thanked staff for their participation in the budget and rate order compilations and stated that after a detailed review, the Finance Committee recommended approval of each item. Director Micheletti made a motion to approve items 6a through 6c with a second from Director Mora. The motion passed with five ayes and one abstention (Director Buick).

a. Resolution - Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budgets

Adopt Resolution No. 2021-R-18, of the San Jacinto River Authority Board of Directors approving and adopting a budget for the fiscal year beginning on September 1, 2021, and ending August 31, 2022, inclusive.

b. Amended Rate Order - Woodlands Division Customers

Adopt Order No. 2021-O-02, by the San Jacinto River Authority Board of Directors of an amended Rate Order for Woodlands Division Customers, effective September 1, 2021, establishing the revised wholesale water and wastewater rates at \$2.37 per 1,000 gallons and \$4.85 per 1,000 gallons, respectively.

c. Amended Rate Order - Raw Water Customers

Adopt Order No. 2021-O-03, by the San Jacinto River Authority Board of Directors of an amended Rate Order for Raw Water Customers, effective January 1, 2022, establishing the revised rate of \$166.18 per acre foot (\$0.5100/1,000 gallons).

d. Loan Payment and Funding of Repair and Replacement Fund

Mr. Michel provided a brief overview of the unsecured loan for the construction of the G&A Building, the Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2013, and the Lake Conroe Division Repair and Replacement Fund. Director Micheletti made a motion to authorize the General Manager to expend certain SJRA funds for the purpose of paying off an unsecured loan with First Financial Bank, the Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2013 (Highlands), and fund \$1,000,000 to the Lake Conroe Division

Repair and Replacement Fund. The motion was seconded by Director Buick and carried unanimously.

7. BRIEFINGS AND PRESENTATIONS

a. Presentation regarding the Know Your Watershed Campaign

Michelle Simpson, Communications Project Manager and Melissa Lanclos, GIS and Technical Services Administrative Manager provided an overview of the Know Your Watershed campaign by highlighting the technology used in developing the website.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was convened in executive session at 9:13 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; and
 2. Expedited Declaratory Judgement Act litigation and other litigation related to GRP; and
 3. Pending litigation styled *Lake Conroe Assn., et. al. v. City of Houston and San Jacinto River Authority*, Cause No. 21-03-04382, in the 284th District Court, Montgomery County, Texas.

9. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called into open session at 10:25 a.m. A quorum of the Board being present, no action was taken regarding the items discussed in executive session.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS / FUTURE AGENDA

It was announced that the next San Jacinto River Authority's next Regular Board Meeting will be held on September 23, 2021.

11. ADJOURN

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.



Wil Faubel
Secretary, Board of Directors