May 25, 2022

The Board of Directors of Bell County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 of Bell County, Texas met in Regular Session, open to the public, in the Conference Room, 201 South 38th Street, Killeen, Texas 76543, at 09:00 a.m., on the 25th day of May 2022, and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Board.

Robert R Robinson       President
Blair Williams
Sandra Blankenship
John Fisher
Kenny Wells

Richard Grandy       Director
Dale Treadway
Brian Dosa
Ricky Garrett

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Brian Dosa
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Fort Hood Representative
General Manager

Public attendees were Thad Imerman, Killeen Daily Herald; Steve Kana, City of Killeen Staff.

With all said members present except the following absentee(s): Blair Williams, thus constituting a quorum.

There being no public comments, President Robinson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

The first item of business was the consent items, which included the minutes of the regular Board Meeting, held on April 27, 2022, and approval of April Financial Statements. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2022, meeting as written and seconded by Director Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously. Secretary Blankenship requested that the record reflect her recommendation that a 3.5% cost of living adjustment be included in the 2022-2023 budget from the April board meeting.

The next consent item was to discuss and consider approval of financial statements for April 2022. Natasha Keeney went over both the water and wastewater financial statements. Water spent 82% of their total budget and wastewater spent 92% for the year. A motion was made by Director Treadway to approve the April financial statements and seconded by Director Grandy. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

New Business Items: Was to discuss and consider awarding the full capacity, standby generation project to RPower of the Woodlands, Texas, in the not to exceed amount of $10,811,180, and take the appropriate action. Ricky Garrett, General Manager, turned it over to Mr. Josh Coleman, L5E Group to go over several updates received since last board meeting. Atmos Gas service priority issue has been resolved. WCID No 1 gas supply will qualify for the highest firm commercial gas priority service. Rpower base bid is estimated to be $8,297,489; added to that is Atmos gas meter station, Oncor transformer purchase for another estimated cost of $1,350,000.00 bringing the total estimated cost to $12,161,180.00. Mr. Garrett, General Manager, recommended staff and Josh Coleman, L5E Group to negotiate final numbers with Atmos, Oncor and Rpower to extend the 6” gas main line while working to seek commitments from the entities for their final numbers for payment. Fort Hood Representative Dosa inquired if the transformers will be used or new. Mr. Coleman informed everyone that they will be used and the district will maintain them. Mr. Dosa stated that there is a DEAA (Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant) grant, in the amount of five million dollars that he feels would be available for the project. Mr. Garrett stated that Fort Hoods obligation is estimated to be 2.1 million dollars and the balance would go to the other member entities to reduce their obligations. The generators pull 100mcf per hour; a high-pressure line to be installed; district pursuing full capacity; the generators would be likely permitted for 300 hours per year and would be used during high demand periods which would save electrical cost by $500,000.00 annually. President Robinson asked for a timeline to finalize participation from each entity. Mr. Garrett stated possibly 6 weeks. Senate Bill 3 requirement is for all to have backup generation. All entities must participate or could be in breach of contract. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to award the full capacity, standby generation project to Rpower of the Woodlands, Texas in the not to exceed $10,811,180.00 and seconded by director Treadway. Director Wells stated that he supports the project but sees a lot of loose ends. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

Director Fisher made a motion to amend the previous motion to include the additional cost from Atmos Gas and Oncor for a project total cost of $12,161,180 and seconded by Director Treadway. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

Staff Reports: Trevor Butler, Wastewater Superintendent, informed the board that Plant 1 is running smoothly and is averaging 9.5 mgd. Recent rain event did not impact plant flows.
Plant 3 overall is doing well and is averaging 3.5mgd. The next basin is on schedule to be taken down for maintenance. This project has been put on hold due to short staff and diffusers having a 12-week delivery time. The 4 lift station pumps are running well. Both headworks screens are running at full capacity after the Duperon rep and staff fixed the issues.

Compost facility is very busy now. The turner is down, clutch won’t fire up. Vendor is due out next Wednesday to diagnose. Rows have to be turned manually with the front-end loader. The bagging system has been researched; one has a 10-week delivery time.

Working on the new budget. Some items, equipment have a long delivery time and may need to be ordered pretty soon to get here within the current budget.

Keith Baker, Deputy General Manager, gave an update on both lake levels being down just over 4 feet. Belton Plant flow is averaging 34.6mgd and 51.2mgd max. Stillhouse is averaging 3.1mgd.

Belton Plant I/E and Maintenance departments are performing preventative maintenance at both plants. Two I/E techs go out to the Stillhouse Plant on Tuesday and Thursday to assist the I/E tech assigned to the Plant 3 WW Plant who also works fulltime at the Stillhouse Plant.

Pump station upgrade for the City of Belton, excavation continuing. Contractor has dug down 39 feet and still has another 3 – 4 feet left to go. Project final completion time is February 2023. Twenty-four-inch water line has been installed; contractor approaching the Belton Storage tank. The isolation valve replacement has a delivery of 21 weeks. Project completion date is November 2022.

Mr. Steve Kana stated that the Killeen elevated storage tank completion date is March 2023.

Mr. Garrett, General Manager, stated that staff will be obtaining new screener bids. Bids will be brought back to the board in June or July. The approximate cost is $300,000.00 – 400,000.00. Leasing option not feasible. Capital projects and debt service items:

The backup generation project approved today; Belton Plant expansion still on the forefront. The 48” water line replacement project – breaks take place within the 5000 feet being replaced. WCID 1 is a vehicle to treat and deliver the water to our member entities; cannot issue debt without entity approval. We are a wholesale water/sewer supplier. All of our customer entities own a capacity interest in the treatment and delivery systems. Ms. Joann Culp was recognized for her recent anniversary of completing 25 years of exemplary service.

Items from the Board: Director Fisher stated that it would be beneficial to educate our customers and the public on the history of the water district and how it came about.; Camp Hood needing water when it was set up, etc. Secretary Blankenship stated that the Belton Plant expansion is vital in guaranteeing our customers water for the next 30 years.

At 10:05 the board went into executive session to discuss personnel issues.

At 10:21 board reconvened back in open session; no action taken while in executive session.

10:22a.m. Director Fisher moved for adjournment and Secretary seconded.

Sandra Blankenship, Secretary
Board of Directors