October 24, 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 24th day of October 2022, and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Board.

Robert R Robinson  
President  
Blair Williams  
Vice President  
Sandra Blankenship  
Secretary  
John Fisher  
Director  
Kenny Wells  
Director  
Richard Grandy  
Director  
Dale Treadway  
Director  
Brian Dosa  
Fort Hood Representative  
Ricky Garrett  
General Manager

Public attendees were Paul Bryant, Killeen Daily Herald; Steve Kana, City of Killeen Staff; Ricky "2Gunz" Wilson, District 1 candidate; Josh Coleman, 5 Electric; Nash Whitney, Terry Dodson, Bhavin Patel, RPower; Shey Cowan, K&K Inc.; Mark Perkins, Perkins Eng.; and Trish Ferguson, P. Ferguson, A.L.

With all said members present except the following absentee(s): None, thus constituting a quorum.

There being no public comment, 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 September 28, 2022, approval of September Financial Statements and approval of 3rd Quarter Investment Reports. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the minutes of the September 28 2022 with an amended change to first new item of business on line where she made a motion “to award” a bid that reflects a typo, and seconded by Director Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item was to discuss and consider approval of financial statements for September 2022. Natasha Keeney went over both the water and wastewater financial statements. Water spent 38.0% of their total budget and wastewater spent 29.0% for the year. A motion was made by Vice President Williams to approve the September financial statements and seconded by Director Treadway. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The final consent item was to approve the 3rd Quarter Investment Reports. Mr. Garrett, General Manager, stated that on both reports, the special O&M accounts received their annual excess operating funds transfer. Water report showed activity on the 2020 water bond account. On the wastewater report, Perkins Engineering is being paid out of the special O&M account. A motion was made by Director Treadway to approve the 3rd quarter Investment Report and seconded by Director Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

New Business Items: Discuss and consider authorizing the General Manager to negotiate an agreement with Perkins Engineering Consultants Inc., for engineering services of the necessary Plant 1 upgrades, in the amount of $2,300,000.00 and take the appropriate action. Mr. Mark Perkins, of Perkins Engineering presented a power point with the seven (7) major areas of concern to be upgraded. One particular area would be the effluent filters; replacing the filter sand with Aqua Diamond Cloth Media. It is much more efficient at collecting the solids. The cloth would have to be replaced every 5 – 8 years. A motion was made by Director Fisher to authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with Perkins engineering, in the amount of $2,300,000.00 and seconded by Secretary Blankenship. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item was to receive a report from Rpower regarding the Belton Water Plant Standby Generation project. Mr. Bhavin Patel, Rpower opened discussion with a power point presentation of the various steps going on currently; with pipeline phase I and installation of generators as phase II; with a projected completion time of July 2023. With high demand on materials possibly extending the substantial completion date back to September 2023. Final cost should be $11,625,000.

Staff Reports: Trevor Butler, Wastewater Superintendent, informed the board that Plant 1 is averaging 9.2 to 9.5mgd. All 4 Aeration basins are up and running. One clarifier basin was pumped down and a skimmer arm located at bottom and re-attached. Basin back in full working order. Chlorine contact basin coating project is almost completed.
Plant 3 overall is doing well and is averaging 3.2 to 3.5 mgd. SBR Basin diffusers are still on order with a delivery date of early December 2022. SCADA server call out system had to be upgraded due to callout issues.

Compost facility sales continue to be slow. No update on the turner clutch rebuild. Bagger was delivered and staff is working with it. Trying out various bags from vendors to decide on which one to use.

Director Wells asked if the compost sales would go retail and if sales tax would be charged. Ms. Ferguson, districts’ attorney stated that the compost is a by-product of our business and bagging is not concern, however the comptroller’s office states if sales tax is charged; which the district does.

Keith Baker, Deputy General Manager, gave an update on both lake levels; Lake Belton down 13 feet and Lake Stillhouse down 10.3 feet. Belton plant treatment is 28.4mgd low, 38.9mgd mid; and max is 45.3 mgd. Stillhouse plant is averaging 3.0mgd.

All 4 plants are up and running at the Belton Plant. Staff continues to work on preventative maintenance at Belton and Stillhouse plants. Staff is installing a PLC at Plant 1 & 2 so that the operators can make chemical changes from the control room.

Staff had 170 – 811 call outs last month.

The divers scheduled to check out the intake tunnel for silt buildup at the Stillhouse plant. Should be out by end of week.
A hydro test will be performed on the 24” water line under the Lampasas River to check for any leaks. The test is a T.C.E.Q. requirement.

Mr. Garrett, General Manager, stated that obtaining easements is going to be an ongoing situation. Staff has seen it with the current Atmos gas line install. Mr. Ron Carroll, of Temple, is a surveyor who has worked with Fort Hood and the Corps of Engineers to help with easement questions. An action item will be forthcoming at a future board meeting to employ his services. This particular item may become a new budget item going forward.

Everyone knows that November 8th is election day. Election canvassing of votes has to be done no earlier than 3 days but no later than 11 days; so, a Board Meeting is being called for Monday, November 14, 2022 at 09:00am. Another regular scheduled meeting to be held on December 5, 2022 at 09:00, to swear in the in new elected candidates and address any last items of the year.

At 10:33am, President Robinson stated that the board is going into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

At 10:47 board reconvened back in open session. No action taken. A potential succession plan discussed.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 by Secretary Blankenship and seconded by Director Wells.

Sandra Blankenship, Secretary  
Board of Directors