September 28, 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 28th day of September 2022, and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Board.

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

Public attendees were Thad Inerman, Killeen Daily Herald; Steve Kana, City of Killeen Staff; Ms. Shirley Fleming, BCCBD; Louie Minor, Citizen; Lee Kelley, Central Texas WSC; Ricky “2Gunz” Wilson, District 1 candidate; Scharina Elmore, citizen.

With all said members present except the following absentee(s): Blair Williams, 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 August 24, 2022, approval of minutes of Special Called meeting of August 31, 2022 and August Financial Statements. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2022, as presented, and seconded by Director Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next consent item was the approval of the minutes of Special Called meeting of August 31, 2022. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the minutes as presented and seconded by Director Treadway. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The final consent item was to discuss and consider approval of financial statements for August 2022. Natasha Keeney went over both the water and wastewater financial statements. Water spent 31.9% of their total budget and wastewater spent 24.0% for the year. A motion was made by Director Treadway to approve the August financial statements and seconded by Director Grandy. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

New Business Items: Discuss and consider awarding a bid to JNA Painting, Dallas, Texas, in the amount of $49,000.00 for Plant 1 cleaning and epoxy coating for one chlorine contact basin at 38th Street Wastewater Plant and take the appropriate action. Mr. Garrett, General Manager stated that four (4) vendors were contacted and only one (1) bid was received. Based on their previous work it was recommended to award JNA Painting the bid. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to award the bid to JNA Painting, in the amount of $49,000.00 and seconded by Director Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item was to discuss and consider awarding a bid for filter media (anthracite) removal and installation to Stolz Mechanical, Washington, Texas, in the amount of $668,000.00 and take the appropriate action. Mr. Garrett, General Manager stated that five (5) bids were received and the low bid was disqualified for not having a bid bond, the next lowest forfeited on the last job and the bid should be awarded to Stolz Mechanical. With the current revenues, there will be sufficient funds to cover the additional cost over budget. A motion was made by Director Fisher to award the bid to Stolz Mechanical, in the amount of $668,000.00 and seconded by Director Treadway. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item was to discuss and consider awarding a bid for new compost bagging equipment to Sandbag Store, Las Vegas Nevada, in the amount of $39,900.00 and take the appropriate action. Mr. Butler, Wastewater Superintendent stated that six (6) bids were sent out five (5) bids received. Sandbag Store has the longest warranty (2 years) or one (1) million bags guaranteed. A motion was made by Director Fisher to award the bid to Sandbag Store, in the amount of $39,900.00 and seconded by Director Treadway, all members, except Director Wells, approved the motion.
The next item was to discuss and consider adopting Water and Wastewater rates for October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023 and take the appropriate action. Mr. Garrett, General Manager stated that the new rates were approved at the April 2022 board meeting. Water rate to increase to .78/1000 gallons and wastewater to 1.06/1000 gallons. A motion was made by Director Treadway to approve the water rate from 72 to .78/1000 gallons and the wastewater rate from .96 to 1.06/1000 gallons. Motion was seconded by Director Grandy. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The final new item was to discuss and consider temporary water service for Central Texas Water Supply and take the appropriate action. Mr. Garrett stated that the item was to authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with CTWSC to supply them with water for 30 days and would like it not to exceed 120 days. Mr. Lee Kelley, General Manager of CTWSC stated that they would not need more than 1 – 3.5 million gallons per day. Mr. Steve Kana, City of Killeen staff stated that Mr. Kelley reminded him that the City of Killeen has a 12” line at the intersection of Highway 195 and Chaparral Road that could deliver the water. President Robinson stated that a date timeline should not be added. A motion was made by director Fisher to authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement and the motion was seconded by Director Wells. Basic motion was approved unanimously. Secretary Blankenship requested that the motion be amended to include the 120-day timeline and was seconded by Director Treadway. All members present voted in favor of the amended motion except President Robinson, who was opposed.

Staff Reports: Trevor Butler, Wastewater Superintendent, informed the board that the recent TCEQ inspection at Plant 1 went well. No violations occurred. The storm water permit had two (2) missing documents; both were added and confirmation sent back to TCEQ. Aeration basin repairs ongoing; basin #2 back in service, basin #3 should be back in service at the end of the week. One wash water pump is down; one on order. Plant has four (4) filters; with low flow, only need two (2). Plant 1 is running smoothly and is averaging 10mgd.

Plant 3 overall is doing well and is averaging 3.0 mgd. SBR Basin 1 is down for maintenance. Diffusers are still on order with no firm delivery date. SCADA server call out system had a couple of issues; now fixed. Three of the influent pumps were out of service; one was clogged full of rags, the other two needed to be reseated. On employee has obtained their TCEQ wastewater certification.

Compost facility sales continue to be slow. The turner is out of service, clutch has been sent out for a rebuild. Looks like repairs are now out 10-11 weeks from original time line.

Keith Baker, Deputy General Manager, gave an update on both lake levels; Lake Belton down 10.3 feet and Lake Stillhouse down 9.5 feet. Belton plant treatment is 31.4mgd low, 37.9mgd mid; and max is 46.9.0mgd/day. Stillhouse plant is averaging 3.6mgd.

All 4 plants are up and running at the Belton Plant. Staff continues to work on preventative maintenance at Belton and Stillhouse plants. There is a High Service pump down, it will be mid-November before repairs is made.

Stillhouse Plant went down two weeks ago on Sunday. There was a communication breakdown between the Acorn Meter and the City of Killeen. Issue has been corrected.

Belton pump station upgrade ahead of schedule. Contractor waiting on a pump to complete the project.

Transmission line project – all material now on site to complete project. Due to deliveries, both projects likely to run past schedules.

Staff had 183 – 811 call outs last month.

Mid-October, divers are scheduled to check out the intake tunnel for silt buildup at the Stillhouse plant.

Mr. Garrett, General Manager, stated that we will lose 2ft of water out of Lake Belton within the next two weeks. If the dry conditions continue the way they are, we could go to Stage 2 drought contingency by early 2023. The City of Harker Heights has generated interest in buying into the South wastewater plant. Their permit schedule is the same as the districts’. Staff will meet with NuGen and the City of Killeen. City of Harker Heights has until August 2023 to file their permit renewal with TCEQ. If they do not buy in to the South WWTP, they will have to expand their plant.
RPower has been very responsive and the easements are going well. Design build going on with RPower. July 2023 target date to complete project.

A power point presentation was shown for Wastewater Plant 1 improvement made and needed going forward. Plant 1 is conventional activated sludge plant. At time, fats, oils, grease and non-biodegradable rags cause issues in the operation and flows. Perkins Engineering has determined that the plant does not have sufficient electrical power for the proposed digester blowers. District may need to issue debt in the near future to upgrade to operate efficiently for the next 20 years. Plant would need new meter for meter vault; aeration splitter box; chlorine contact basin gate repairs; conversion of 2 filters to diamond cloth filters. Plant does not need additional operating capacity, just operational upgrades.

General Manager has a conflict with the October 26th meeting date so it has been changed to meet on Monday, October 24, 2022 at 09:00am.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 by President Robinson and seconded by Secretary Blankenship.

Sandra Blankenship, Secretary
Board of Directors