

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2021 – 5:30 pm

Orange County Water Control & Improvement District No. 1 Board Room
460 E Bolivar Street, Vidor, Texas

Frank Inzer.....President
Tim BeardVice President
Trey HaneySecretary
Kelly Brewer.....Director
Troy Taylor.....Director
Chris Serres.....General Manager
David LeJune.....Operations Manager

In accordance with Section 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, this agenda has been posted in the lobby and on the front door of the Orange County Water Control & Improvement District No. 1 Administrative office for the time required by law. The President requests that all cell phones and pagers be turned off or set to vibrate.

Members of the audience are requested to step outside the Board Room to respond to a page or to conduct a phone conversation.

The O.C.W.C & I.D #1 Administrative office is wheelchair accessible. Sign interpretation or other special assistance for disabled attendees must be requested 48 hours in advance by contacting the General Manager's Office at 409.769.2669.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Frank Inzer called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCE THE PRESENCE OF A QUORUM

Members present were President Inzer, Vice President Beard, Secretary Haney, and Director Brewer. Director Taylor was absent.

STAFF PRESENT

General Manager Chris Serres, Operations Manager David LeJune, and District Attorney Larry Hunter were present.

OTHERS PRESENT

LJA Engineering Toby Davis, Auditor Jeremy Triska, Grant Administrator Melinda Smith, and Financial Advisor Mark McLIney were present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGES

Invocation was given by Vice President Tim Beard and Pledges were led by Secretary Trey Haney.

MEETING AGENDA

1. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

2. Consideration and possible action regarding a presentation by Mark McLiney with SAMCO Capital Markets, the District's Financial Advisor, regarding a bond refunding of the Unlimited Tax Bonds, Series 2012, and authorizing SAMCO Capital Markets and District Staff to proceed if certain savings targets are reached and other matters related thereto.

Mark McLiney addressed the Board regarding the refinancing of the 2012 Unlimited Tax Bonds. Mr. McLiney presented an outline of benefits for refinancing the 2012 Bonds as follows:

- a. Savings would be approximately \$5,000,000.
- b. The debt would not be extended
- c. Actually, paying of the debt faster
- d. The debt would stay level through 2038 thus keeping the tax rate level

He then stated that the purpose before the Board tonight is to get permission to pursue the refinancing of the 2012 bonds. He would then come back to the Board in December with the set interest rates for the Boards consideration.

A motion made by Director Kelly Brewer and seconded by Vice President Tim Beard to approve pursuing the refunding of the Unlimited Tax Bonds, Series 2012, and authorizing SAMCO Capital Markets and District Staff to proceed if certain savings targets are reached and other matters related thereto. All Voted Aye.

3. Consideration and possible action approving Resolution 04-2021 authorizing the submittal of one or more DR-4586 HMGP applications to the Texas Division of Emergency Management, authorizing the President and General Manager to act as the District's authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the application, and committing matching funds.

Melinda Smith, Grant Administrator, presented Resolution 04-2021 which would authorize the submittal of one or more Hazard Mitigation Grant applications. Ms. Smith then gave an overview regarding the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and the origins of the program. She stated the funds are released only after a major disaster and is based on unmet needs following any kind of a major disaster. She then stated that the Water District actually has an advantage with this grant as it allows District to apply for the grant without the aid of the City or County. She then stated that the application is due November 5 and will take between 4 to 6 months before award of the grant is known. Melinda also addressed the Matching Funds requirement of 25% but noted that the \$5,000,000.00 presented in the Resolution is a maximum cap and that the project would be spread out of a period of 3 to 5 years. She then gave the floor to Toby Davis with LJA Engineering to present the scope of the project.

Mr. Davis outlined the scope of the projected stating that plans include up to 3 test wells, acquisition of property, a 420,000-gallon ground storage tank, and a 2000 gallon per minute water well.

A motion was made by Secretary Trey Haney and seconded by Director Kelly Brewer to approve Resolution 04-2021 authorizing the submittal of one or more DR-4586 HMGP

applications to the Texas Division of Emergency Management, authorizing the President and General Manager to act as the District's authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the application, and committing matching funds. All voted Aye.

4. Consideration and possible action regarding LJA Engineering, Inc. Monthly Status Report concerning ongoing District projects.

Toby Davis presented LJA Engineering monthly status report as follows:

**2015 Surplus Funds Water and Sanitary Sewer Projects ENGINEERING INVOICE
DETAIL September 2021 6560C – SURPLUS FUNDS WATER SYSTEM
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (Contract No. 1 - Cast Iron Water Line Replacement
and Contract No. 2 - Water Well Sites Improvements)**

Contract No. 1:

This project has been completed.

Contract No. 2:

This project has been completed.

**6560D – SURPLUS FUNDS SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT (Contract No. 4 – Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Rehabilitation Project)**

There is no invoicing during this period for this project. The plans are near completion except for the electrical. This project is on hold awaiting direction from the water district.

**6560E – SURPLUS FUNDS WATER AND SEWER SERVICE EXTENSIONS
PROJECT (Contract No. 3 – Water and Sanitary Sewer Service Extensions
Project)**

No work was completed during this period.

**Texas Water Development Board TWDB CWSRF Project No. 73825 Sanitary Sewer
Lift Station Restoration Project**

PROJECT STATUS REPORT September 2021

TWDB has responded to our submittal of the plan set and contract documents and has provided a list of items to address before bidding. These items have been addressed and returned to TWDB for approval to bid.

A motion was made by Secretary Trey Haney and seconded by Vice President Tim Beard to accept LJA Engineering monthly status report. All voted Aye.

5. Consideration and possible action approving the 2019/2020 Audit as prepared and presented by Wathen, DeShong, Junckner, LLP, Certified Accounts.

A motion was made by Vice President Tim Beard and seconded by Director Kelly Brewer to accept the 2019/2020 Audit as prepared and presented by Wathen, DeShong, Junckner, LLP, Certified Accounts. All voted Aye.

6. Consideration and possible action regarding the selection of a health insurance policy for Orange County Water Control & Improvement District No. 1 employees and to receive recommendations of such policy by the Insurance Committee.

A motion was made by Director Kelly Brewer and seconded by Vice President Tim Beard the selection of Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance policy. All voted Aye.

7. Consideration of and possible action regarding Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) plan changes, if any, to the District Contribution rate for 2022.

Chris Serres, General Manager, stated that the District's contribution for 2022 has gone up from 5.76% to 8.08%. She then informed the Board that, in anticipation to the increase in rates, they contribution was kept at 5.81% throughout 2021. The 5.81% was the 2020 rate. She pointed out that the Retirement Account was underfunded due to interest rates dropping and the uncertainties surrounding COVID-19. She then stated that she would like to round the 8.08% to 9.00% to help with contributions going toward the unfunded balance.

A full discussion was had regarding the request to contribute 9% as opposed to the required 8.08% rate and it was agreed to increase District's Contribution rate up to 9.00%.

A motion was made by Vice President Tim Beard and seconded by Secretary Trey Haney to accept the plan with a 9% rate. All voted Aye.

8. Consideration and possible action to approve Orange County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1's participation in the "Christmas in the Park" event scheduled for December 11, 2021 and December 12, 2021 at the Pirate's Pride Park (next to the Administrative Offices) that is being held in conjunction with the "Vidor Winter Light Show" by allowing sponsors of the "Christmas in the Park" event to use District electrical outlets that are located on the outside of the Administrative Offices and to allow use of the District Parking area during the event.

A motion was made by Secretary Trey Haney and seconded by Director Kelly Brewer to approve participation in the "Christmas in the Park" event scheduled for December 11, 2021 and December 12, 2021 at the Pirate's Pride Park. All voted Aye.

9. Consideration and possible action regarding approval/amendments for the minutes of the September 20, 2021 Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting.

A motion was made by Secretary Trey Haney and seconded by Director Kelly Brewer to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2021 Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting. All voted Aye.

10. Board Member comments.

Frank Inzer commented on the upcoming City of Vidor Council Meeting and inquired on Board Member's attendance to discuss shared funding for Alamo Lift Station.

11. Consideration and possible action regarding General Manager's monthly status and financial report.

Chris Serres, General Manager, reported that the monthly billing was up a little over \$9,000 from last month and that all bank accounts are balanced. She noted that the General Operating Account is holding a steady balance of approximately \$400,000 to \$500,000 which is a great improvement from the balances of one year ago. Ms. Serres then stated that revenues for the month were \$413,507.00 and expenditures were kept to a low of \$274,989.00. Lastly, she reported \$349.45 dollars in interest earned.

David LeJune presented the field report with 34,160,000 gallons of water pumped into the system. 30,554,660 of the total gallons pumped is water that is accounted for through billing, leaks, flushing, etc. A total of 411 workorders were completed for the month of September, 366 Water Jobs and 45 Sewer Jobs. He then stated that there were no customer charges for LPSS call-outs.

A motion was made by Vice President Tim Beard and seconded by Director Kelly Brewer to approve monthly status and financial report as submitted. All voted Aye.

12. Consideration and possible action regarding payment of the District's monthly bills.

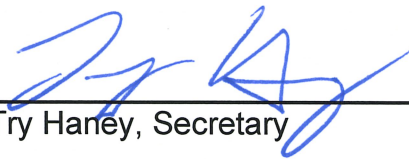
A motion was made by Secretary Trey Haney and Director Kelly Brewer to pay the District's monthly bills. All Voted Aye.

13. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Secretary Trey Haney and seconded by Director Kelly Brewer to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.



Frank Inzer, President



Trey Haney, Secretary

