



NTMWD.COM

## **NORTH TEXAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

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### **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING (BY TELECONFERENCE) OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APRIL 22, 2021**

The North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) Board of Directors met in regular meeting by teleconference on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. Notice of the meeting was legally posted in accordance with Government Code, Title 551, Open Meetings.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Larry Parks called the meeting to order at approximately 2:32 p.m.

President Parks advised the following regarding today's meeting:

In accordance with the COVID-19 public health threat and the related March 16, 2020, action by the Office of the Governor, temporarily suspending certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, NTMWD will hold its meeting by telephonic conference call.

In lieu of physical attendance of the meeting, the public may teleconference into the Board meeting by calling 1 (844) 621-3956 and entering the following access code: 928 587 040. Members of the public wishing to make public comment during the meeting should follow the instructions for on-line registration listed under Item V. below no later than the start time of the meeting. The meeting will be recorded, and the audio recording will be available on the NTMWD website after the meeting.

#### **II. INVOCATION**

Director Richard Peasley offered the invocation.

#### **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Richard Peasley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE TEXAS FLAG**

Director Richard Peasley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

#### **V. ROLL CALL/ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM**

The roll was called, and attendance was confirmed by teleconference as follows:

1	Anderson, Terry Sam	
2	Appolito, Robert	Absent
3	Carr, John	
4	Crump, George	
5	Dyer, Phil	Absent
6	Farmer, Joe	
7	Fuller, Marvin	
8	Gordon, Don	
9	Hollifield, David	
10	Imrie, Chip	
11	Johnson, Blair	
12	Joplin, Joe	
13	Kelley, Ron	Absent
14	Kerr, James (Jim)	
15	May, Jack	
16	Murphy, John	
17	Obera, Marlo	
18	Parks, Larry	
19	Patrick, Brenda Jean	
20	Peasley, Richard	
21	Shuyler, Lynn	
22	Stephens, Keith	
23	Sweeden, John	

The following NTMWD legal and financial consultants attended the meeting:

Lauren Kalisek, Sheila Gladstone and Sara Thornton – Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend

Mark Walsh and Katie Thiele – Saunders Walsh & Beard

Alan Raynor and Molly Carson – McCall Parkhurst & Horton

David Medanich – Hilltop Securities

Edward Williams – Baker Tilly

## **VI. INSTRUCTIONS FROM MODERATOR**

Interim Executive Director Rodney Rhoades served as moderator for the teleconference and provided instructions to Board members, staff, and the public for conducting the meeting by teleconference. Instructions included:

- Remember to unmute your phone when you acknowledge your presence, provide comments, make a motion/second, and vote. Please then return to mute to minimize any background noise.
- Please announce your name when speaking and when making motions/seconds.
- Please speak clearly and try to be in a quiet location with now background noise.
- Also, please enunciate and project when speaking to ensure all listening can understand.
- If for some reason you drop off the call, simply follow the instructions to redial into teleconference.
- Audio for this meeting will be recorded and made available on our website in accordance with the current modified requirements.

- In the Secretary's absence, President Parks will oversee the voting process and confirm the votes of each Director.
- The public line will be muted except during public comment to avoid noise disruptions so that we can do our best to make sure all participants can clearly hear the proceedings.

**VII. OPENING REMARKS**

- A. President's Remarks concerning current events, conduct of meeting, posted agenda items, committee assignments, and related matters

President Parks advised that Governor Abbott renewed the COVID-19 disaster declaration on April 5<sup>th</sup> for an additional 30 days; therefore, the NTMWD will continue meeting through teleconference.

He asked attendees to announce names when speaking and when making motions/seconds.

President Parks reviewed the tentative schedule of meetings for May 2021 as follows:

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. – Executive Committee meeting
- 11:00 a.m. – Personnel Committee meeting
- 1:00 p.m. – Finance Committee meeting

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

- 10:00 a.m. – Real Estate Committee meeting
- 1:00 p.m. – Wastewater Committee meeting
- 2:45 p.m. – Water Committee meeting

Thursday, May 27, 2021

- 2:30 p.m. – Regular Board meeting

- B. Interim Executive Director's Status Report concerning legislation and regulatory matters, budgets, current projects and ongoing programs of the District including the Regional Water System, Regional Wastewater System, Regional Solid Waste System, Watershed Protection, and Water Conservation

Interim Executive Director Rodney Rhoades advised that April 14, 2021, was a historic day in NTMWD's history with impoundment of water beginning at Bois d'Arc Lake.

Mr. Rhoades advised that this is the time of year when budget discussions are beginning, and presentations will be made to Finance, Personnel, and Operational Committees and the full Board throughout the upcoming months.

Mr. Rhoades advised that NTMWD has been named #60 on the 2021 NAFA Fleet Management Association Best Fleets in the Americas list. This is an improvement from #78 last year and #80 the prior year (first year application was made). The contest looks for continually increasing performance improvements and innovation

within the public fleet industry. This year 20 fleets on last year's list did not make the top 100 so the District is proud of how Jeff Bond, Ronnie Duer and their team embraced the COVID challenges and excelled. Thank you to Kathleen who each year helps in the application submission. Congratulations to all members of the Fleet team for this impressive accomplishment.

#### **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

***INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON-LINE REGISTRATION:*** Prior to the start of the Board meeting, members of the public wishing to provide public comment must submit via email to [PublicRelations.Info@ntmwd.com](mailto:PublicRelations.Info@ntmwd.com) their first and last name, organization, comment topic, mailing address and email address. During the public comment portion of the meeting, speakers will be recognized by name and asked to provide their comments. The time limit is five (5) minutes per speaker, not to exceed a total of thirty (30) minutes for all speakers. The Board may not discuss these items, but may respond with factual or policy information.

There were no requests for public comments.

#### **IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 2:44 p.m. President Parks declared the need for an Executive Session of the Board of Directors to discuss Agenda Item Nos. Section X. Item A. and Section XII. Item C. on the agenda pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney; and,

Agenda Item Nos. Section XII. Item G. and H. on the agenda pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney, and Section 551.074, Personnel.

President Parks confirmed with staff that the public access line was disconnected and that the audio recording was disabled during the Executive Session discussion.

#### **X. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Update on litigation involving North Texas Municipal Water District/advice from legal counsel, including:
1. Provide update regarding possible easement encroachment by a contractor performing residuals removal, hauling, and disposal

#### **XII. AGENDA ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

- C. **Authorize use of revised Customer Contract template including updated annual minimum methodology – Administrative Memorandum No. 5714**
- Consider authorizing the use of the revised Customer Contract template that includes, among other revisions, the updated annual minimum methodology now applicable to Member Cities pursuant to the First Amendment to NTMWD Regional Water Supply Facilities Amendatory Contract, effective February 7, 2021
- H. **Possible action on Interim Executive Director**
- Discussion and possible action on Interim Executive Director
- G. **Possible appointment of NTMWD Executive Director**

- Discussion and possible action to appoint NTMWD Executive Director

Open Session reconvened at 5:04 p.m. No action was taken in Executive Session. The public teleconference line was reconnected.

**X. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Continued)**

**B. Panel discussion on impacts of severe winter weather event**

Mr. Rhoades advised that a panel was assembled to discuss the historic winter weather event that occurred in February. The following staff members presented:

- Billy George, Assistant Deputy - Water
- Jenna Covington, Assistant Deputy – Wastewater
- Jeff Mayfield, Assistant Deputy – Solid Waste
- Dave Patton, Assistant Deputy - Maintenance
- Scott Puckett, Energy Manager
- Jim Shirley, Assistant Deputy – Technology and Support
- Sam Friar, Emergency Operations Program Manager
- Topics of discussion
  - Review of winter storm impacts to NTMWD's operations
  - Review of what we did right
  - Review of what we need to improve upon going forward
- Q/A

Assistant Deputy Billy George reviewed the following regarding Water operations:

- From February 14 through February 18, our region experienced an exceptional weather event in which the temperatures never rose above freezing for those five days and we had two consecutive days with lows in the single digits. The preceding week was cold too and the two weeks together created significant challenges for NTMWD's service delivery.
- State Climatologist Dr. John Nielson-Gammon informed the Water Committee that same month that Texas experienced two of the coldest 15 days on record during that week. It was an unprecedented event.
- NTMWD faced many weather-related service delivery challenges that week along with many other utilities because of two main factors: First, much of our utility infrastructure is not constructed with protections during these types of freezing events and rolling power outages seriously inhibited our ability to operate systems without backup power. The systems with backup power faced significant challenges to remain fueled and in service.
- We did survive the event, however, but only because of the actions of many dedicated and selfless individuals at NTMWD, in our Member and Customer cities, and those supporting us through our partner contractors and vendors who all showed up to keep our services going through exceptionally long hours and in extremely difficult situations.
- There is still much work to be done going forward if we are to act on the lessons we learned and better prepare our systems for extended cold weather events.

Mr. George provided graphs that reflected the average pumping that occurred over seven days. He provided information on multiple circumstances that impacted the water system and other facilities. The increased water usage and capacity during that period was eased by the City of Frisco who contacted the District and advised

their flow could be decreased, allowing for the District to continue to provide water to others. Other factors that week included chemical systems freezing, and communications systems that failed. The actions of ERCOT and ONCOR that week greatly affected the District's operations.

Mr. George expressed his appreciation to the dedicated employees who worked in 18-hour shifts, never leaving the facilities for days, and who slept on cots and ate MREs. Use of cell phones and the District's Webex system were the only means of communicating with Customers and Member cities, vendors, and others critically involved in operations during that week.

Mr. George reviewed issues that the staff has identified needs for improvement, including the need for emergency response support staffing and dispatchers, backup power capability, cold weather infrastructure, more resilient control and communication systems, and utilization of the new Water Operations Center (Emergency Operations Center.) He noted that some facilities are still being assessed.

Assistant Deputy Jeff Mayfield reviewed the following regarding Solid Waste operations:

- Every solid waste facility opened on-time every day
- Member cities did not haul until February 19<sup>th</sup>
- During the week of February 22-27 extremely high tonnage accepted; the landfill accepted greater than 5,200 tons on February 22 and 23 (average is 3,400); Lookout Drive TS on those two days accepted greater than 1,400 tons; tonnage returned to normal the week of February 29<sup>th</sup>
- From February 27<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> the Member cities requested that the normal charges for residents to bring construction debris be charged to the cities so that residents who experienced weather related damage would not have to pay that expense
- Fleet staff made house calls when take home vehicles would not start

Mr. Mayfield reviewed that each facility opened on-time each day and was able to accept wastewater sludge when they started hauling. In preparation for this weather event, staff had topped off fuel tanks so that adequate fuel for trucks, vehicles and heavy equipment was available.

Mr. Mayfield reviewed issues that the staff identified as needing improvement. Those include the need for a larger diesel fuel tank at the Wylie Service Center in the future, the need to clearly and permanently mark water shut off valves and have hard copies of diagrams available (internet service was unavailable to access the District's Laserfiche records management software program) and consider purchasing four additional generators to run scales when the power is out for an extended period of time.

Assistant Deputy Jenna Covington reviewed the following regarding Wastewater operations:

- Preparations in Advance of the Storm  
Ms. Covington recognized the Conveyance Department who initiated winterization efforts in October. In the week prior to the event, staff spent the week planning to ensure readiness, ensuring all staff have proper cold weather PPE, headlamps and ice cleats. In addition, the reduction of

internal process sampling and delayed biomonitoring occurred, as well as other activities such as:

- Tarping outdoor equipment and use of kerosene heaters as needed.
  - Travelling bridges had salt or sand applied on the rails.
- During the Storm  
Ms. Covington advised staff worked around the clock to keep facilities operating during challenging conditions. While many across the region were home taking care of their homes, District staff was working around the clock staying on-site with cots and working extended schedules, commuting on icy roads. Some elected to rent hotel rooms without knowing if they would be reimbursed to ensure they would be available for their next shift.

In isolated locations freezing and breaks were addressed by our WW Ops and Maintenance staff. Our generators operated at a number of locations for hours on end and at other locations intermittently to sustain operations. We ran off generators at 4 plants: Mesquite, Panther Creek, Sabine, and Bear Creek; also at 9 lift stations: Renner Road, Plano Spring Creek #2, Preston Road, Upper Rowlett, Upper Cottonwood, Beck Branch, Princeton, Dublin, and Lakeside. Ms. Covington expressed appreciation to former employee Ken Wesson for his vision to advocate for generators, and to the Board and Engineering Department for allowing us to expedite installation of generators at locations throughout the system over the past several years.

Ms. Covington advised that the two biggest challenges were: 1) getting fuel/diesel to the generators that were spread throughout the system, and 2) keeping our solids in the plants under control when we were not able to remove them from the process for several days. The largest installations consumed 100 gallons of diesel fuel per hour. The District's contracted diesel delivery company discontinued delivery during this time. In response during the first day of the storm, our facility Maintenance personnel and Wastewater Operations staff shuttled diesel throughout the day and night to keep equipment operating. On Tuesday morning, due to a major concern for sustainability of this approach, we set up a multi-department team to coordinate diesel supply and demand to deploy resources to sustain operations. Joel Nickerson in Wastewater Operations took on the role of the Team Lead and participants included representatives from Maintenance, Engineering, Accounting, Purchasing, Fleet, Emergency Management, Energy Manager, and Wastewater Operations. The team setup mechanisms to track operating hours to deploy fuel to the most critical locations on a priority basis, and an emergency purchasing declaration was approved by Rodney Rhoades. Internal and external fuel resources were identified - 11 different external partners were willing to help. The primary fuel supply was local gas stations and the 121 RDF bulk storage. Within a day, generator sites were fueled, and we were able to adjust into maintenance mode. The next emphasis was on re-filling depleted reserves in bulk storage at 121 RDF which was refilled by Thursday morning. By that time, many sites were back on utility power. This cross departmental team stepped up to a huge challenge. None of the generators under the control of NTMWD ran out of fuel and operations were sustained.

Ms. Covington advised that another challenge for the week was controlling solids accumulation within plant processes. She reviewed the processes involved and advised that when the treatment process works correctly, clean water is discharged into our communities' waterways and solids are transported to the landfill for disposal. Our staff knew that our ability to process and dispose of solids during the winter storm would be disrupted and prepared in the week prior by reducing the inventory of solids within the process. As the duration of the storm and its impacts persisted, by mid-week staff became concerned with the accumulation of solids within the treatment process. On Thursday early morning, the Stewart Creek WWTP experienced a plant upset that resulted in solids being flushed from the plant into the creek. The data suggests this happened over a several hour period and an environmental impact was not observed. The remaining 12 plants were able to make operational adjustments to maintain reliable service throughout the storm with only minor and short-term issues. On Friday and Saturday, a majority of the facilities were able to resume solids processing and transportation for disposal.

Ms. Covington reviewed that no overflows occurred from the collection system. Three overflows occurred at Treatment Plants. One did require a press release, but no environmental impact occurred, and wastewater did not reach a waterway. Twelve of 13 plants operated to prevent any major process upset during this time, and there were no major injuries of the staff who were on the roads addressing freezing issues at plants or those continuing to operate our facilities around the clock.

Ms. Covington advised that TCEQ received authorization from the Governor's office to suspend certain rules which may prevent, hinder, or delay action to respond to the winter weather event. The District submitted a letter to TCEQ to request enforcement discretion and do not anticipate any enforcement occurring from these events:

- Reportable effluent violations (17 violations at 5 plants),
- Samples that were not processed (40 required samples),
- Overflows (3 occurrences),
- Delayed reuse reporting due to road conditions (4 plants)

Ms. Covington added that the Peak Performance Awards, which are recognition issued by NACWA for great compliance record, may be affected by the events of the storm. Several facilities had reportable effluent violations that will count against them, including Panther Creek which has had a perfect compliance record for 10 years. We have requested NACWA consider this event a force majeure event and not have them count against us for these awards as we had all the appropriate infrastructure in place and staff performed their duties exceptionally well.

Ms. Covington advised that Cold Weather Prep Standard Operating Procedures to share best practices across departments are prepared. District wide, an after-action review to identify further actions that would be beneficial is planned.

Ms. Covington expressed that the employees stepped up and did great during this event. Planning, designing, constructing, operating and maintaining resiliency is beneficial when systems become stressed.



Assistant Deputy Dave Patton advised that his team was in a support role for both the water and wastewater systems during the winter storm, and reviewed the following regarding Maintenance operations:

Mr. Patton reviewed that the loss of reliable power in the Engineering/IT building resulted in the System and Data Acquisition (SCADA) servers going offline. This ultimately resulted in lost visibility to 18 sites across the water system. The team worked with Water's transmission system team to man these sites in order to continue operations. Rolling blackouts also resulted in the need for electricians to move throughout the District to bring plants and systems back online. The one trailer mounted generator owned by the District was initially allocated to provide power to the Business and SCADA servers but had to be diverted into the water transmission system. Two additional generators were rented but these were unable to provide reliable power to the servers.

Multiple house water and chemical pipe issues at the Wylie Water Treatment Plant were responded to. There was a combination of burst water pipes that required repair and frozen chemical lines that either had to be thawed or bypassed. The need for continuous close coordination ultimately resulted in key leadership co-locating in the control room. Two major events occurred during the storm that resulted in long term repair operations: a pipe break that caused flooding in High Service Pump Station 2-1 and a leak on the High Service Pump Station 3-1 discharge line. Both of these repairs must be completed prior to this summer to meet peak demands.

Mr. Patton advised that the use of backup generators caused a need to conduct refueling operations across the wastewater system. The Maintenance team supported these refueling efforts during 24-hour continuous operations.

The sustained extreme cold weather caused fire suppression pipes to break in the Lab, Admin Building, and the Engineering Building and ultimately all fire suppression systems were drained at the recommendation of the Wylie Fire Department. Finally, the contracted gate guards were unable to man the gates for a couple of days after the initial snowstorm resulting in District employees manning the gates.

Mr. Patton expressed how dedicated the District employees are to ensure essential services were continued. The teamwork and direct communication and coordination between teams was awesome. In all three departments there were employees who went several days without going home to ensure mission success.

Mr. Patton reviewed that over the last few years efforts were made to ensure employees had adequate cold weather gear, so they were able to work continuously in extreme wet and cold conditions. Each fall ice melt and sand is prestocked in case of snow or ice storms. The systems in place to rapidly procure needed goods and services paid off to quickly obtain needed supplies or contractor support. The same can be said about the availability of spare parts and pipe components. Contingency plans to man gates and to operate in the event of losing SCADA communications were tested and validated. Finally, the District benefited from preventive maintenance programs for generators, electrical systems and HVAC.

Mr. Patton advised that in the future the District must take steps to ensure reliable power to the SCADA servers and other key facilities. This includes prewiring locations to enable them to quickly be switched over to generator power. The need for additional trailer mounted generators was identified. Three generators have been purchased, a 100KV and 2 150KV. The 100KV arrived last week and was immediately put to good use when Seis Lagos almost ran out of water because they had lost ONCOR power. We were able to get them running within one hour of them calling for help. The other 2 generators are due in by the end of the month. The need to increase internal fuel hauling capability was identified and there are now four 950 Gallon fuel trailers for refueling District assets. Mr. Patton advised that there is a need to review and assess winter hardening standards and winter system checks to ensure resiliency and system operation as designed. During the event, an additional 20 portable heaters were procured. He added that in the future the District will stage sand at select wastewater sites for sanding roads on plant sites as needed.

Mr. Patton reviewed that pre-planning and ongoing maintenance initiatives paid off. Staff identified the need to improve the resiliency of our electric power to key facilities and have further work to do to ensure our winter hardening standards are adequate.

Energy Manager Scott Puckett provided an overview of the Direct Energy Program and the effects of the February winter storm. He reviewed that the state was within five minutes of a system-wide blackout during this time.

Mr. Puckett reviewed that the Direct Energy Program that the District uses was established with the goals of maximizing predictability, maximizing volatility, and the best practical rates. He reviewed that the District does not target 100% fixed rates, that some of the needs are purchased from the market real time. This approach helps to manage costs.

Mr. Puckett reviewed that in a normal February energy cost is \$1-\$1.5 million. This February cost was approximately \$27 million, more than the District's total annual budget. He reviewed a chart that reflected the normal usage, the actual usage for the storm event and the costs. He advised that the normal cost for a kilowatt hour is 2.5 to 3.5 cents. The prevailing real time price was set by PUC at \$9,000 per megawatt hour. He explained that on February 15<sup>th</sup> the rolling outages began and ended on February 17<sup>th</sup>. That prevailing real time price was maintained after the outages stopped by approximately 30 hours.

Interim Executive Director Rhoades added that staff has developed potential ways to address the cost without any impact on the rate payers.

Assistant Deputy Jim Shirley reviewed the following regarding Technology and Support:

- Loss of power to the computer network
- Loss of power to the Cisco phone system
- Loss of power to badge access and video surveillance systems
- Loss of power to the laboratory facility

Mr. Shirley reviewed that Uninterruptable Power Supplies (UPS) prevented damage to expensive equipment during multiple outages. He advised that cell

phones provided to the Control Room for communications with agencies and cities were essential. Webex Teams and other applications hosted by other vendors offered communication alternatives.

Mr. Shirley reviewed improvements that should be made include:

- Reliable power to IT network services and the laboratory
- A dedicated generator for Engineering/IT and the Admin buildings
- Prewire Environmental Services building for generator connection for critical laboratory processes
- Automate disaster recovery failover to maintain uptime
- Deploy Office 365 Cloud services (currently underway)

Mr. Rhoades added that staff is currently looking at a permanent backup system for Engineering and Admin buildings.

Sam Friar, Emergency Operations Program Manager provided a review of emergency operations priorities as follows:

- Ensure open lines of communication throughout the District
- Identify and address issues that impact mission readiness
- Ensure proper and consistent messaging to employees
- Identify resources from outside the District that could assist as needed

Mr. Rhoades added to this Panel presentation that the administrative staff worked behind the scenes to ensure the Board packet was published. He also expressed this appreciation to President Larry Parks and Secretary Phil Dyer who were on hand assisting with ONCOR communications to ensure District facilities maintained power. He noted that throughout the process that staff was in contact with Collin County who aided the District by refueling generators, and Dave Patton's team also went to Member Cities to lend assistance in particular to the city of Mesquite. After action plans are being worked on currently. He thanked everyone involved.

President Parks thanked the staff for all their efforts.

## **XI. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

The motion, second and vote on the Consent Agenda was taken following the Individual Items discussion.

Upon a motion by Director George Crump and a second by Director James Kerr, the Board of Directors voted to approve the Consent Agenda items.

- A. **Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – Consent Agenda Item No. 21-04-01**
  - Consider approval of March 25, 2021, Board of Directors Regular meeting minutes
- B. **Approval of Monthly Construction Report – Consent Agenda Item No. 21-04-02**
  - Consider approval of April 2021 Monthly Construction Report

- C. **Authorize additional engineering services on Buffalo Creek Interceptor System and Mustang Creek Interceptor System projects – Consent Agenda Item No. 21-04-03**
- Consider authorizing additional engineering services for contracted project management services with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$90,000, Project Nos. 507-0484-17, 507-0549-19, 509-0455-17, Buffalo Creek Interceptor System and Mustang Creek Interceptor System

**XII. AGENDA ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

**WATER SYSTEM AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. **Authorize award of construction contract and internal inspection services on Wylie Water Treatment Plant II Sedimentation Basin Trough Improvements project – Administrative Memorandum No. 5712**
- Consider authorizing award of construction contract to Schofield Civil Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$2,603,000 on Project No. 101-0568-20, Wylie Water Treatment Plant II Sedimentation Basin Trough Improvements, and authorizing internal inspection services in the amount of \$38,250

Director Jack May advised that the Water Committee reviewed this item yesterday and voted to recommend the Board authorize award of a construction contract and authorize internal inspection services for the Wylie Water Treatment Plant II Sedimentation Basin Trough Improvements project.

Interim Executive Director Rodney Rhoades advised that the funding listed on this administrative memorandum has been updated to read as follows:

- Funding will be provided from the Regional Water System Capital Improvement Fund NOT the Regional Water System Construction Fund as noted in the administrative memorandum.

Upon a motion by Director Jack May and a second by Director Chip Imrie, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve.

- B. **Authorize award of construction contract and internal inspection services on Wylie Water Treatment Plant I Washwater Supply System Improvements project – Administrative Memorandum No. 5713**
- Consider authorizing award of construction contract to Schofield Civil Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$6,128,875 on Project No. 101-0511-18, Wylie Water Treatment Plant I Washwater Supply System Improvements, and authorizing internal inspection services in the amount of \$209,000

Director Jack May advised that the Water Committee reviewed this item yesterday and voted to recommend the Board authorize award of a construction contract and authorize internal inspection services for the Wylie Water Treatment Plant I Washwater Supply System Improvements project. This project constructs a larger elevated tank and modernizes pumping and process control.

Upon a motion by Director Jack May and a second by Director Joe Farmer, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve.

C. **Authorize use of revised Customer Contract template including updated annual minimum methodology – Administrative Memorandum No. 5714**

- Consider authorizing the use of the revised Customer Contract template that includes, among other revisions, the updated annual minimum methodology now applicable to Member Cities pursuant to the First Amendment to NTMWD Regional Water Supply Facilities Amendatory Contract, effective February 7, 2021

Upon a motion by Director James Kerr and a second by Director Don Gordon, the Board of Directors voted to approve with Directors Brenda Jean Patrick and John Carr voting nay. Directors John Murphy and Lynn Shuyler were not present for the vote.

D. **Authorize additional engineering services on Texoma Fiber Optic Improvements project – Administrative Memorandum No. 5715**

- Consider authorizing additional engineering services with Gupta & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$251,100 on Project No. 101-0558-20, Texoma Fiber Optic Improvements

Director Jack May advised that the Water Committee reviewed this item yesterday and voted to recommend the Board authorize additional engineering and surveying services for the final design of the fiber optic improvements project. Ongoing development around the Texoma Raw Water pipeline corridor has created several areas of anticipated limitation or conflict with the current best proposed path for fiber optic cabling in parallel with the raw water pipeline. Various locations have been identified as requiring additional design to mitigate impact to adjacent properties and utilities.

Upon a motion by Director Jack May and a second by Director Chip Imrie, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve.

**WASTEWATER SYSTEM AGENDA ITEMS**

E. **Authorize execution of engineering services agreement on Muddy Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Peak Flow Storage and Expansion project – Administrative Memorandum No. 5716**

- Consider authorizing the Interim Executive Director to execute an engineering services agreement with Garver, LLC, in the amount of \$2,350,000 for preliminary engineering design on Project No. 310-0592-21, Muddy Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Peak Flow Storage and Expansion

Director Richard Peasley advised that the Wastewater Committee reviewed this item at the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. This is to authorize an engineering service agreement for preliminary design of the Muddy Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant peak flow storage and expansion project. This project was recommended by the recently completed Master Plan. The project will improve the treatment reliability of the existing plant, provide peak flow storage and expand the plant capacity to support continued growth of the Cities of Wylie and Murphy.

Upon a motion by Director Richard Peasley and a second by Director Blair Johnson, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve.

F. **Authorize additional inspection services on Wilson Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance Facility and Solids Operations Facility and Upper East Fork Interceptor System Storage and Parking Facilities projects** – Administrative Memorandum No. 5717

- Consider authorizing additional inspection services with Dietz Engineering in the amount of \$103,244 on Project No. 301-0499-18, Wilson Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance Facility and Solids Operations Facility, and in the amount of \$33,442 on Project No. 501-0522-18, Upper East Fork Interceptor System Storage and Parking Facilities

Director Richard Peasley advised that the Wastewater Committee did not review this item. He advised that this item is to authorize additional outsourced inspection services for the project which provides a shared maintenance facility for Wilson Creek and Upper East Fork and a new solids operations building for Wilson Creek.

The general contractor has made slow progress due to inefficiencies related to COVID-19. Many of the subcontractors' policies would not allow their workers to be onsite while other subcontractors were performing work. This loss of construction efficiency has resulted in the need for additional inspections to support the extended construction schedule.

Upon a motion by Director Richard Peasley and a second by Director George Crump, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve.

**OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

President Parks advised Item H. will be considered prior to Item G.

H. **Possible action on Interim Executive Director**

- Discussion and possible action on Interim Executive Director

President Parks advised this item was discussed in Executive Session. He called for a motion.

Attorney Lauren Kalisek provided some proposed language for the motion. Director Don Gordon clarified this is for preparation of a severance package.

Upon a motion by Director John Carr and a second by Director Chip Imrie, the Board of Directors voted to reject the offer and authorize the Personnel Committee to develop a counteroffer to bring back to the Board. Director Joe Joplin voted nay on the motion. Directors Joe Farmer, John Murphy and Lynn Shuyler were not present for the vote.

G. **Appointment of NTMWD Executive Director**

- Discussion and possible action to appoint NTMWD Executive Director

President Parks advised that the Executive Director Search team has been meeting over the past year to recommend the best candidate for the Executive Director position, and Director Terry Sam Anderson has a report from the team.

President Parks advised this item was discussed in Executive Session.

Director Terry Sam Anderson, Chair of the Selection Team, made a motion to select Jenna Covington as the North Texas Municipal Water District Executive Director/General Manager, and delegate the authority to the Board President and Secretary to negotiate a contract to be brought back to the Board at a special called meeting, to be effective as soon as possible upon completion of contract execution.

Director James Kerr seconded the motion. The Board of Director voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**XIII. CLOSING ITEMS**

- A. Review of items for follow up raised during meeting

The Consent Agenda was voted on at this time.


- B. Opportunity for Board members to request potential future agenda items  
***(No substantive discussion of items will take place at this time)***

No potential future agenda items were requested.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:47 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LARRY PARKS, President

