

April 11, 2024

The Board of Directors of Bell County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 of Bell County, Texas met at a Budget Workshop, at the district office located at 201 South 38th Street, Killeen, Texas, at 9:00a.m., on April 11, 2023.

Robert R. Robinson	President	Richard Grandy	Director
Kenny Wells	Vice President	Dale Treadway	Director
Sandra Blankenship	Secretary	Brian Dosa	Fort Hood Representative
Ricky Wilson	Director	Ricky Garrett	General Manager
Joyce Bateman Jones	Director		

Public attendees were Thad Imerman, Killeen Daily Herald and Trish Ferguson, Bosque Law.

All members present except the following absentee(s): Joyce Bateman Jones, thus constituting a quorum. President Robinson opened the workshop at 9:00a.m.

The first item of business was the budget workshop. Mr. Garrett, General Manager, gave a power point presentation reflecting the year in review for both water and wastewater systems projects; budget overview and what goes into costs associated with the budgets.

Salaries, chemicals, maintenance of equipment, operating expenses, and maintenance of building and grounds expenses main key factors in overall budget increases.

Projected gallons sold for budget year to be 13.2 billion gallons.

The water budget reflects an increase in overall salary which will include a cost-of-living increase of 3.0% and a merit increase of up to 3.0%.

Major items included in this year's budget is \$160,000 for natural gas expenses, intending to utilize generators to reduce electric costs which would anticipated a \$300,000 reduction in electric expenses. Budgeted \$200,000 for installing a new natural gas line network. Allocated an additional \$150,000 for transmission main repairs.

The proposed rate will be .86/1000 gallons, up from .85/1000 gallons.

Wastewater: similar in what changes affect new budget as in water budget with salaries.

Chemical expenses have increased by approximately 8.5%, attributed to new prices implemented in January and a slight projected increase in flow, with anticipated contributions from Harker Heights. Operating expenses have risen by 22.7%, primarily due to specific expenses: \$49,000 allocated for security purposes and \$74,000 for leasing a loader and replacing two servers. Continued upgrades to the SCADA system are budgeted at \$232,000. The replacement of a roll-off truck is budgeted at \$225,000. Construction of an equipment building at the South Wastewater Plant is budgeted at \$45,000.

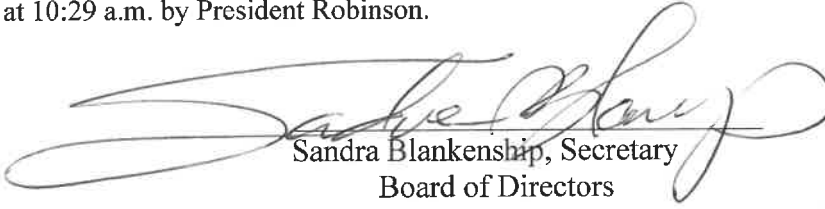
The proposed rate will be 1.15/1000 gallons, up from 1.14/1000 gallons.

Director Treadway thanked staff for all their hard work.

At 10:00 a.m. the board went into executive session.

At 10:29 a.m. board reconvened back in open session; no action taken while in executive session.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m. by President Robinson.



Sandra Blankenship, Secretary
Board of Directors

