

February 28, 2024

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 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Killeen, Texas 76543, at 09:00 a.m., on the 28th day of February 2024, and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Board.

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

Public attendees were Terry Dodson, RPower; Neil Deeds, Intera; Steve Kana, City of Killeen; Analuisa Carrillo-Tapia, LULAC.

With all said members present except the following absentee(s): Brian Dosa, thus constituting a quorum.

President Robinson called the meeting to order at 09:01 am. No public comments were made.

The first item of business was the consent items, which included the minutes of the regular Board Meeting, held on January 24, 2024, minutes of the Annual Water Conservation and Planning Meeting held on February 7, 2024, and approval of January Financial Statements. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024 meeting as presented, and seconded by Director Treadway. All members present approved the motion unanimously. A motion was made by Director Wilson to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2024 meeting as presented, and seconded by Vice President Wells.

The final consent item was to discuss and consider approval of financial statements for January 2024. LaFranshonna McAllister went over both the water and wastewater financial statements. Water spent 63% of their total budget and wastewater spent 62.0% through January. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve January financial statements and seconded by Director Treadway. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

New Business Items: The first new item was to discuss and consider approval of Water Budget Amendments and take the appropriate action. Mr. Garrett, General Manager discussed the need to adjust chemical expenses due to increased costs resulting from lack of rain. Mr. Garrett brought attention to unexpected repairs related to transportation, specifically mentioning issues with a power stroke engine and fuel injection. These repairs have led to additional expenses that need to be accounted for in the budget. He emphasized that the amendments do not entail changes to the bottom line or rates but rather involve rearranging expenses to better align with operational needs. A motion was made by Director Wilson to approve the amended line items and seconded by Director Grandy. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item of business was to discuss and consider approval of Wastewater Budget Amendments and take the appropriate action. Mr. Garrett, General Manager, noted that in line item 4035, there are sufficient dollars available to cover the proposed amendments. These amendments do not entail changes to the bottom line or rates but rather involve rearranging expenses to better align with operational needs. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the amended line items as presented and seconded by Vice President Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item was to discuss and consider awarding a bid for the Regional Compost Facility Grinding to Thelin Recycling Co. in the amount of \$45,600 and take the appropriate action. Mr. Garrett stated that the brush buildup observed over the course of the year has increased and the first grinding event was \$40,000, and the current bid of \$45,600 will exceed the allocated budget for this item. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to award a bid for the Regional Compost Facility Grinding to Thelin Recycling Co. in the amount of \$45,600 and seconded by Director Grandy. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item was to receive status report on Fort Cavazos ASR project from Neil Deeds of Intera Incorporated. The Fort Cavazos ASR test well update revealed promising findings, with no fatal flaws detected in the hydrogeological assessment. The presence of the Hosston aquifer, composed of clean sand and with sufficient drawdown capacity, supports the suitability for aquifer storage and recovery. Next steps include completing drilling, installing surface casing for the pumping well, and conducting aquifer testing over the next few weeks.

The next item was to receive status report on Standby Generation Project from Terry Dodson, RPower Incorporated. The pipeline is now in service, with the gas line activated. On May 2nd, the turnover to WCID will occur, marking the completion of the project.

The next item was to discuss long term water supply. This item was held until executive session and after staff reports.

Staff Reports: Trevor Butler, Wastewater Superintendent, informed the board that Plant 1 is averaging 12.5 to 13 mgd. All four filters are online and functioning well, contributing to efficient wastewater treatment operations. Issues with the belt press bearings, which require replacement which is a 4-week lead time for parts. The fence replacement project around admin has been completed. A break-in occurred at the 38th Street facility between Tuesday night and Wednesday morning. Various items were stolen during the break-in. A police report has been filed. Director Wilson stated better security was needed or value of loss would escalate.

Plant 3 is averaging 4.1 mgd. Issues with the SBR blower, which experienced a lock-up. While a rebuild of the blower is possible, a new blower block has been ordered to address the issue. The 2007 Mac Truck has been repaired and back in use. The recent Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) inspection of Plant 3 was successful, with no major issues identified. However, there were some discrepancies noted in the stormwater book, which have since been corrected and submitted to ensure compliance.

The compost facility is performing exceptionally well, with sales on the rise. The facility is now open every other Saturday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Keith Baker, Operations Manager, gave an update on both lake levels; Lake Belton down 12 feet and Lake Stillhouse down 16.7 feet. Belton treatment plant averaging 26 mgd; a minimum of 23 mgd; and max is 30 mgd.

The mag flow meter project for Plant 3 will be finished by the end of the week.

The Plant 4 Rapid Mix Replacement project will start on March 11th with the mixer and shaft already on-site. Additionally, the Plant 2 Backwash Valve Replacement project is waiting on schedule confirmation. The installation of the raw water pump station motor is scheduled for completion this week.

Stillhouse Plant is averaging 1 mgd.

RLC is integrating the SCADA system with Kempner's mag flow meter and actuator.

Mr. Garrett, General Manager, provided an update on the drought situation. There are no concerns regarding the Belton Water Plant's ability to supply water. However, the Stillhouse Water Plant has two intakes remaining. The Brazos River Authority is investigating the intake issue and may offer suggestions to address the situation.

The next Board Meeting will be held on March 27, 2024.

Items from the Board: Director Wilson asked for an update on Mr. Del Rio's property. Mr. Garrett, General Manager, stated that there are no updates. Reports have been shared and there are no further actions the District can take. The recommendation from Director Wilson was to engage the District's attorney to investigate any potential alternative courses of action that may be available

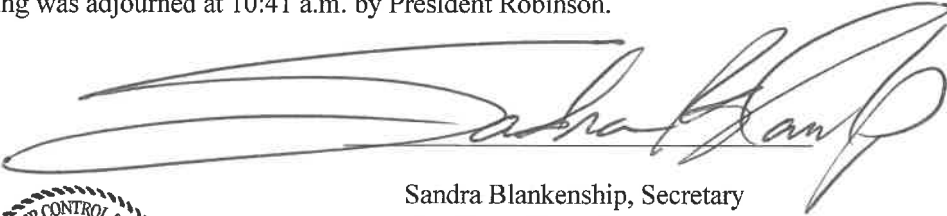
At 10:08 the board went into executive session to discuss long term water supply.

At 10:41 board reconvened back in open session; no action taken while in executive session.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m. by President Robinson.

(seal)



  
Sandra Blankenship, Secretary  
Board of Directors

