

May 29, 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 29th day of May 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 Dr. Cameron Cochran, citizen; Bear Jones, citizen of Killeen; Allen Woelke, CDM Smith; Erik Walsh, Killeen Daily Herald; Steve Kana, City of Killeen.

With all said members present except the following absentee(s): Robert Robinson and Ricky Wilson, thus constituting a quorum.

Vice President Wells called the meeting to order at 09:00 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 April 24, 2024 and approval of April Financial Statements. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2024 meeting 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 April 2024. LaFranshonna McAllister went over both the water and wastewater financial statements. Water spent 92% of their total budget and wastewater spent 83% for the fiscal year. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve April 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 awarding a bid for a new water department service truck to Jim Turner Chevrolet, McGregor, Texas in the amount of \$69,835 plus TT&L and take the appropriate action. Mr. Ricky Garrett, General Manager, stated that a replacement vehicle for I/E has been discussed and recommended in the budget for the past two years. The current I/E truck will be used to haul vac equipment on the Maintenance side. Other priorities and delivery time issues have kept the truck in the budget. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to award the bid for a new water department service truck to Jim Turner Chevrolet, McGregor, Texas in the amount of \$69,835 plus TT&L and seconded by Director Grandy. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item of business was to discuss and consider authorizing the General Manager to negotiate a professional services contract with CDM-Smith for final design services for the Lake Belton Water Plant upgrades and capacity improvements in the not to exceed amount of \$8,860,825 and take the appropriate action. Mr. Allen Woelke, CDM-Smith, updated the board on the project details, outlining its scope and requirements. He also discussed the benefits of using the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) method over the Design-Build approach for this particular project. Following Mr. Woelke's update, Mr. Garrett, the General Manager, informed the board that the final customer contract agreements for the necessary improvements have been completed, and the funds from the issued debt have been deposited, allowing the project to move forward. Given the extensive nature of the repair and expansion needs, which cover the entire plant grounds and must be implemented while maintaining adequate service levels, the engineering effort must be equally comprehensive. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to authorize the General Manager to negotiate a professional services contract with CDM-Smith for final design services for the Lake Belton Water Plant upgrades and capacity improvements in the not to exceed amount of \$8,860,825 and seconded by Director Treadway. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The final item of business was to discuss the WCID1 employee benefits package and consideration of June 19<sup>th</sup> as a paid holiday. Natasha Keeney, Office Manager, reviewed the current benefits offered to the District employees, noting that the annual cost of these benefits is \$1.4 million. The district currently offers 13 paid holidays annually and is considering adding June 19th as an additional holiday, following its designation by Congress as a federal holiday.

A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve June 19<sup>th</sup> as a paid holiday for the District and seconded by Director Treadway. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

Staff Reports: Keith Baker, Operations Manager, gave an update on both lake levels; Lake Belton up 17.5 feet and Lake Stillhouse up 15 feet. Belton treatment plant averaging 30 mgd; a minimum of 22 mgd; and max is 33 mgd.

Plant 2 backwash valve project is scheduled to be finished by tomorrow. Both Plant 1 and Plant 2 will be brought back online immediately after the completion of the project.

The Belton generator project has been delayed slightly. The high voltage cable contractors are currently working on other areas but are expected to return after completing their current assignments. Testing of the backup generator is planned to start by the end of June. All generator breakers have been successfully wired in.

The communications tower went down due to the storm. Appreciation is extended to all personnel who were called in after the storm for their time and effort. Thanks to all entities involved for their support during the SCADA system downtime.

Stillhouse Plant is averaging 1 mgd.

Trevor Butler, Deputy General Manager, gave a presentation about the storm events during May. During recent storm events, Plant 3 experienced significant electrical issues, including burned wiring and blown fuses, leading to a power outage. Despite efforts to restore power, troubleshooting revealed bad switchgear, necessitating temporary generators until new switchgear arrived and was installed.

A high flow rate, peaking at 62 million gallons and exceeding the plant's 42 MGD capacity for 11 hours, caused damage to a manhole and asphalt on Avenue G. We also experienced overflow of the Aeration Basin. The overflow, exceeding 100,000 gallons, was reported to the TCEQ and required a press release. The flooding also affected filters and clarifiers. Operations and Maintenance teams, with assistance from the City of Killen, addressed a clogged 18" siphon line and conducted extensive cleanup. TTG patched Avenue G, and I&E installed a spare motor on a filter, with new motors arriving on May 21.

Overall, the incident highlighted the dedication and swift response of all personnel involved.

Plant 1 is averaging 23 mgd. Plant 3 is averaging 5.2 mgd.

Mr. Garrett, General Manager, thanked Steve Kana and the City of Killeen for helping with Plant 3 and for helping repair Ave G. The switchgear replacement and diesel costs for the generator will be about \$250,000. This can be funded through reserves. Once all expenses are accounted for a report will be provided for the board.

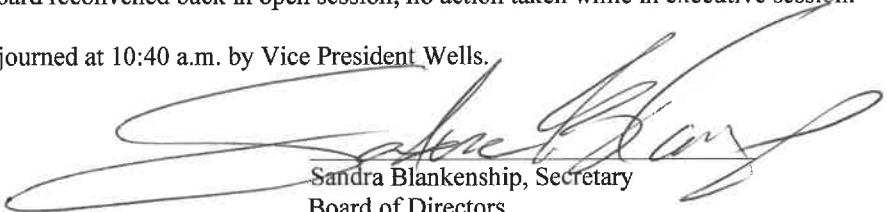
Mr. Garrett presented an update on Stormwater Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) to the board. He highlighted that high lake levels create an opportunity for injection without affecting water rights, thus providing a new water source. If 5 million gallons per day (mgd) had been injected each day while Lake Belton was above the conservation pool, 80 million gallons would have been stored by now, with likely another week of injection potential remaining. Additionally, the Lake Stillhouse Hollow Plant, which is currently underutilized, could have injected another 80 mgd. In just 16 days, a total of 160 million gallons (491 acre-feet) could have been stored without straining water plants or impacting other water right holders.

At 10:20 a.m. the board went into executive session.

At 10:42 a.m. board reconvened back in open session; no action taken while in executive session.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. by Vice President Wells.



  
Sandra Blankenship, Secretary  
Board of Directors