

January 22, 2025

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 22nd day of January 2025, 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	Fred Welch	Director
Sandra Blankenship	Secretary	Brian Dosa	Fort Cavazos Representative
Ricky Wilson	Director	Ricky Garrett	General Manager
Dr. Joyce Bateman Jones	Director		

Public attendees were Dale Treadway, Copperas Cove City Council; Allen Woelke, CDM Smith; Steve Kana, City of Killeen; Erik Walsh, Killeen Daily Herald; Bear Jones, Citizen of Killeen.

With all said members present except the following absentee(s): none, thus constituting a quorum.

President Robinson 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 December 11, 2024, minutes of the Called Board Meeting, held on December 20, 2024, approval of November 2024 and December 2024 Financial Statements and approval of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Investment Report. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting and seconded by Director Welch. All members present approved the motion unanimously. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2024 meeting and seconded by Vice President Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next consent item was to discuss and consider approval of financial statements for November and December 2024. LaFranshonna McAllister presented the financial statements for both water and wastewater for the months of November and December. Water spent 57% of their total budget and wastewater spent 56%. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve November and December financial statements and seconded by Vice President Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The final consent item was to discuss and consider approval of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Investment Reports for 2024. Mr. Ricky Garrett, General Manager, presented the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024 Investment Reports. There was minimal activity in the accounts, apart from transactions related to the 2024 water bonds for CDM Smith and DN Tanks. The principal and interest (P&I) accounts would reflect a decrease next month due to January interest payments. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024 Investment Reports and seconded by Vice President Wells. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

New Business Items: The first new business item was to discuss and consider awarding a bid to Jurgenson Pump, LLC, McGregor, Texas in the amount of \$85,755.00 for a Wastewater Plant 1 Effluent Pump Rebuild and installation and take the appropriate action. Mr. Trevor Butler, Deputy General Manager, stated Wastewater Treatment Plant 1 currently operates with two (2) of its three (3) 24" vertical turbine pumps as effluent pumps, originally installed in the 1978 era. These pumps play a critical role during storm events by forcing treated wastewater into Nolan Creek when rising water levels create treatment challenges. To ensure continued operational reliability, a three-year process is planned to rebuild all three pumps. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the bid to Jurgenson Pump, LLC, McGregor, Texas in the amount of \$85,755.00 for the effluent pump rebuild and seconded by Director Welch. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item of business was to discuss and consider awarding a bid to R.K. Bass Electric, Harker Heights, Texas in the amount of \$34,258.75 to add electricity and lighting to Wastewater Plant 3 new vehicle building and take the appropriate action. Mr. Butler, Deputy General Manager, stated the project involves installing electrical equipment, receptacles, interior lighting, and exterior security lighting for the new vehicle building constructed earlier this fiscal year at Wastewater Treatment Plant 3. The building is designated for parking vehicles, UTVs, and parts storage. Initially, a bid was solicited for two buildings and sent to nine companies, but no bids were received. The scope of

work was revised to include only one building, resulting in two bids. The second building's electrical needs will be deferred to the next fiscal year's budget. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to approve the bid to R.K. Bass Electric, Harker Heights, Texas in the amount of \$34,258.75 to add electricity and lighting to Wastewater Plant 3 new vehicle building and seconded by Director Grandy. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item of business was to discuss and consider awarding a bid to Smith Pump Company, Inc. Waco, Texas in the amount of \$50,230.00 to remove raw pumps 3 and 4 for cleaning and inspection and take the appropriate action. Mr. Butler, Deputy General Manager, stated the Stillhouse Water Treatment Plant's Pumps 3 and 4 require removal, cleaning, and inspection due to operational issues, including Pump 4's failure and Pump 3's reduced capacity, likely caused by silt buildup in the caissons. Staff recommend awarding the bid to Smith Pump Company, Inc., the original equipment manufacturer, for the work. Any findings during inspections will incur additional fees for corrective repair and will be brought back to the board. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to award a bid to Smith Pump Company, Inc. Waco, Texas in the amount of \$50,230.00 to remove raw pumps 3 and 4 for cleaning and inspection and seconded by Director Jones. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The next item of business was to discuss and consider awarding a purchase order for one (1) new replacement Kaeser blower block to Environmental Treatment Technologies, LLC., Georgetown, Texas in the amount of \$26,165.00 and take the appropriate action. Mr. Butler, Deputy General Manager, stated the Plant 3 Wastewater Treatment Plant relies on five Kaeser rotary screw blowers to supply dissolved oxygen (DO) to the Sequence Batch Reactor (SBR) Basins. Currently, one blower is non-operational, and while the remaining four can maintain DO levels, the loss of another blower could compromise compliance with wastewater treatment standards. Environmental Treatment Technologies, LLC, as the sole Kaeser representative, is the only source for purchasing a replacement blower to ensure continued compliance. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to award a purchase order for one (1) new replacement Kaeser blower block to Environmental Treatment Technologies, LLC., Georgetown, Texas in the amount of \$26,165.00, and seconded by Director Jones. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

The final item of business was to discuss and consider awarding a contract for Phase 1 Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) services to Archer Western Construction, LLC, Irving, Texas at a not to exceed amount of \$697,466.00 and take the appropriate action. Mr. Garrett, General Manager, introduced Mr. Allen Woelke of CDM Smith, who reviewed the Belton Water Treatment Plant expansion project. The project includes expanding Plant 3 by 8.6 MGD, Plant 4 by 3.5 MGD, along with repairs, RWPS expansion, heavy electrical upgrades, and other improvements. Key challenges include long lead times for equipment, maintaining plant operations during sequencing, and market competition for large-scale projects. CMAR benefits were highlighted, such as reducing the construction schedule, early procurement to control costs, minimizing change orders, and incentivizing value engineering. Proposals were evaluated on firm profiles, financials, team structure, experience, approach, interviews, and pricing, with Archer Western scoring 81.5 compared to Sundt's 74.5. A motion was made by Secretary Blankenship to award a contract for Phase 1 Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) services to Archer Western Construction, LLC, Irving, Texas at a not to exceed amount of \$697,466.00 and seconded by Director Wilson. All members present approved the motion unanimously.

Staff Reports: Keith Baker, Capital Projects Manager, provided an update on the backup generator project, reporting that all tests have been completed successfully. The system is fully operational, highly efficient, and allows operators to effectively monitor the generators. Trevor Butler, Deputy General Manager, is working on a preventative maintenance contract for the system, which he will present to the board for consideration during another board meeting.

The 3MG surge tank project is progressing on schedule. The slab was poured on 12/12, and shoring for the dome panels has been completed. All dome and wall panels have been poured, and the crane is scheduled to arrive on 1/27 to set the panels.

The transmission line replacement project has 2,800 feet of pipe on the ground, but there have been challenges in obtaining specialty pieces. They plan to begin laying 2,100 feet of pipe next week.

Trevor Butler, Deputy General Manager, provided an update on wastewater flows, reporting that Wastewater Plant 1 is averaging 10.8 MGD, while Plant 3 is averaging 2.5 MGD, with operations running smoothly overall.

Security updates at the Belton Water Plant upgrade are complete and operational, though a few cameras were unable to connect and will be included in the next fiscal year's budget. Work at Plant 1 is partially complete and expected to finish next week. Additionally, Mr. Butler met with a company to obtain quotes for compost and Plant 3 security upgrades.

Lake Belton is down 2.5 feet and Lake Stillhouse down 2.75 feet. Belton treatment plant is averaging 28 mgd and max is 33 mgd.

The Stillhouse Water Treatment Plant is partially online, with one train operational while the second train requires repairs and alignment. The distribution line is being flushed, with 2 MG already completed, and flushing continues in preparation to supply water to the City of Killeen.

The FEMA work is progressing, with two roofs at the Belton Water Plant needing replacement and proposals being prepared. The tower project has been approved for reimbursement and submitted to the Texas Department of Emergency Management. Repairs for the South Wastewater Treatment Plant were submitted through insurance, which will cover the costs minus the deductible. The deductible will be submitted to FEMA for reimbursement.

Mr. Butler provided a presentation on PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances), highlighting their presence in various products such as electronics, textiles, non-stick cookware, firefighting foams, and waterproof coatings. He reviewed specific PFAS compounds, including PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA (GenX), and their respective uses. He also discussed PFAS in drinking water, noting the EPA's Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Monitoring milestones include initial quarterly monitoring by April 2027, compliance monitoring beginning later that year (either every three years or quarterly, depending on trigger levels), and compliance enforcement starting in 2029 for violators. For wastewater, the EPA recently released a Risk Assessment for Sewage Sludge on January 14, 2025, which does not yet require action. In preparation, the District has tested its final effluent and biosolids to anticipate future regulatory requirements.

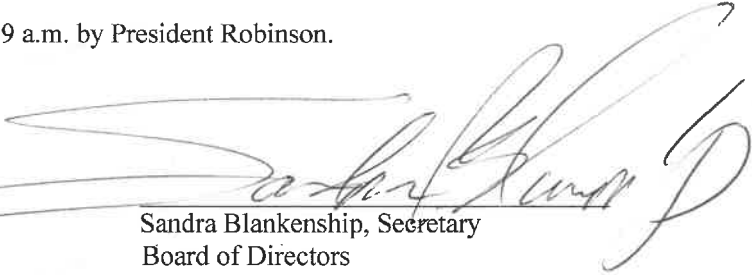
Natasha Keeney, Office Manager, provided an update and presented the new website for the district and the compost facility.

Ricky Garrett, General Manager, announced that the City of Killeen has approved the addendum to the wastewater contract for the 2025 bonds. Key upcoming dates include the chlorine conversion on February 1st, the annual water conservation meeting on February 5th at 9 a.m., the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the standby generators on February 20th, and the next board meeting on February 26th.

Items from the Board: none.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m. by President Robinson.



  
Sandra Blankenship, Secretary  
Board of Directors

