

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
BASTROP COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #2

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Bastrop County Water Control and Improvement District #2 was held on Thursday, May 20, 2021, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was conducted by videoconference and telephone.

Present BCWCID #2 Board Members:

Mary Beth O'Hanlon, President
Sam Kier, Treasurer
Ron Whipple, Secretary
Butch Carmack, Director

BCWCID #2 Staff/Other Professionals:

Paul Hightower, General Manager
Tony Corbett, Attorney
Tyler Walsh, Operations Manager
Alma Rodriguez, District Administrator

Absent:

Scott Ferguson, Vice President

MEETING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- 1.) Call to Order and Establish a Quorum – O'Hanlon
President O'Hanlon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum of Board members was present.
- 2.) Pledge of Allegiance – O'Hanlon
- 3.) Texas State Flag – O'Hanlon
- 4.) Public Comments/Announcements (The Board respectfully requests that persons limit comments to three (3) minutes. Under the Open Meeting Act, the Board may not deliberate or take action in response to any matter raised during public comment that is not a separate agenda item.)
None
- 5.) Discussion and possible action regarding scheduling of future meeting dates:
 - a. Regular Board of Director's Meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

President O'Hanlon announced the next Board meeting will be held on June 17, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. and also stated that the Board may have to a Special meeting for a decision on the Activated Carbon Unit.
- 6.) CONSENT AGENDA: (*Consent Agenda items are generally routine. Unless removed by a member of the Board or General Manager, items listed on the consent agenda may be acted on together and without prior discussion.*)
 - a. Approval of minutes from the April 15, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors;

- b. Approval of minutes from the April 17, 2021 Annual Public Road Meeting;
- c. Approval of monthly financial report for April 2021; and
- d. Approval of Release of Liens held by District on Real Property.

Motion: Butch Carmack moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items A, B and C. Seconded: Sam Kier. Vote: Three (3) in favor, motion carries.

Alma Rodriguez reviewed the Release of Liens.

Motion: Sam Kier moved to approve the Consent Agenda Item D. Seconded: Butch Carmack. Vote: Three (3) in favor, motion carries.

- 7.) Discussion regarding the following items to be presented in the General Managers report:

Paul Hightower reported on the following items:

7a. Status of TTHM compliance:

Major update... we finally got a good test unit to operate with, as I explained last month being an activated carbon, and we got back amazing results! We also had a sprayer style unit, that is supposed to break down the molecules and vent them, causing the THMs precursors to go down, and in short, it did not work. The test results were worse or same as, some of our testing without any treatment process...so we will skip that unit. Basically, our issues have been bromoform and their chemical counter parts, that has caused our THM issues. We also have extremely bad methane issues, to the point we have had to install a blower fan and "dangerous gas" signs, on the tank and fence. As for the AC unit itself, it will be a large 2-vessel structure that will allow a lag and lead unit for operation and according to their engineers, reading our last chemical analysis, we should get a 12 to 18 month run-time. Time will tell once it has actually put online and running, as to what it will be. It will effectively remove all the pre-cursors that the chlorine uses, to activate and cause the THMs. The activated carbon unit will clearly solve our issues and will be our end solution. It comes with an initial price tag as well as an annual renewal for the media. More on that in the actual agenda item below. Next step will be to publish a Request for Proposals and we will have a special agenda meeting or wait until the next Board meeting. Problem is that the lead times right now are 24+ weeks. The sooner we get it in, the better off timing wise we will be for next year's pumping season to kick off and use this unit.

7b. Update on district water plants and lift stations:

We are having an electrical issue with well #3 and the electrician should be out in the morning.

7c. W/W maintenance & Capital Improvements update:

No updates at this time.

7d. Road maintenance & improvement projects update:

19/20 Road Construction: All roads for last year's batch have been completed and closed out. We have ordered all the chip rock necessary for the paving and waiting for the County to get started.

20/21 Roads: Initial work for this project is on task and being completed. Culverts have been received and being installed along with ROW clearing and prep work being completed. The road crew has been receiving a lot of positive feed back from the residents.

7e. Employee update:

No major updates at this time. We are currently back to a full working crew.

7f. General Office Update:

New Maintenance Facility: Building was delivered, has been erected and siding/insulation has been put on. The garage doors will go on this week, sealing it up and next week will start the interior framing. We are behind general schedule by 2 weeks, but ahead 1 week in construction phase. The next step is for us to focus on getting the wastewater to the site.

- 8.) Discussion and possible action regarding the Road Committee:
a. Receive Monthly Committee Update

Paul Hightower stated there are no updates since there was not a meeting in May due to the fact, we just had the Annual Road Meeting on April 17th.

- 9.) Discussion on future capital improvement projects and financing analysis by SAMCO Capital Markets

Paul Hightower stated there are no new updates we are waiting on TCEQ for their ruling.

Director Kier asked if there is a time when it gets escalated?

Mr. Hightower stated we were shooting for the 45 to day mark but we did not fall in that that threshold.

- 10.) Discussion and possible action regarding approval of proposals for replacement of District water meters and meter software

Paul Hightower stated we received 3 proposals for water meters and software. The 3 received from Metron Farnier, Neptune and Badger. The proposals ranged from \$650k to \$668k. These are for cellular read meters. All meters have pros, cons, good, bad, and ugly about them but in the end, we keep coming back to the ultrasonic meter from Neptune which basically means no moving parts. The meters are ultra-accurate, and the software offers a mapping notifications feature. After comparing the 3 proposals on the meters and software Staff recommends the District move forward with purchasing the Neptune AMR Cellular Network System at a cost of \$672,720.

Director Kier asked if this price includes installation and what was the previous price?

Mr. Hightower stated this price does include installation of the water meters and the previous proposals was about \$660K.

Tony Corbett asked if this was going to be funded with the surplus of the TWDB funds.

Mr. Hightower responded yes it will be in the end, but the District will fund the project until we get reimbursed.

Motion: Sam Kier moved to accept the proposal from Neptune in the amount of \$672,720 for the Cellular Network System. Seconded: Butch Carmack. Vote: Three (3) in favor, motion carries.

- 11.) Discussion and possible action regarding approval for purchase of an Activated Carbon Unit at Station 2 for treatment of disinfection byproducts (TTHMs) in District water supply

Paul Hightower stated this will not be an action item tonight because we need to publish a Request for Proposal which will be done next week. We may have to have a Special meeting before the Regular meeting in June.

Director Carmack stated he would like to have the test results and all the information published so that the community knows exactly what is taken place.

Tyler Walsh stated he was skeptical about the activated carbon and I was shocked to see the results. All the results were below minimal levels. I enjoyed working with Paul and his professionalism.

Paul Hightower stated he was discussing the samples with Director Carmack on running a second set of samples.

Director Carmack stated the reason he wants to test the tank is because the tank numbers were higher than the well samples so there maybe something happening with the tank.

Mr. Hightower stated there may be some galvanic reaction so we may need to get the tank coated and once we decide to go with the activated carbon system, we will send out letters to everyone because the water will be very soft.

- 12.) Board suggestions on future agenda items
None.
- 13.) Adjourn

Motion: Butch Carmack moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded: Sam Kier. Vote: Three (3) in favor, motion carries.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:13 P.M.

Mary Beth O'Hanlon
Board Director

MSK
May June 17, 2021
Date