

**Regular Called Meeting
Riverbend Water Resources District
Board Meeting Minutes**

November 16, 2016

228 Texas Avenue, Suite A, New Boston, Texas 75570

M I N U T E S

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of Quorum and Certification of Notice

Pursuant to a notice posted on the District website on October 21, 2016, the Chair, Jim Green, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Directors Present:

Jim Green, President
Marshall Wood, Vice President
Fred Milton, Treasurer
Kelly Mitchell, Secretary
Sean Rommel, Past President

Directors Absent:

None.

Administration Present:

Elizabeth Fazio Hale, Executive Director/ CEO
David Glass, General Counsel
Eli Hunt, Systems Manager
Becky Melton, Financial Director/HR Manager

Public Present:

Doug Bowers, City Manager, City of Nash
Bart Brock, Staff, Representative Gary Van Deaver
Mike Burke, City Administrator, City of Wake Village
Mike Buttram, SRBA, Contract Staff and Self, Retired
George Frost, Self, Retired
Hal Harris, General Manager, Central Bowie County Water Supply Corporation
Jennifer Middleton, Staff Writer, Texarkana Gazette

II. Innovation

Fred Milton led the invocation.

III. Public Comments

George Frost provided comments on two topics: 1) supporting that Riverbend receive any future rights to Lake Wright Patman, and 2) calling to the attention of Riverbend a hazardous waste site on the Red River Army Depot lands that Riverbend should monitor and seek out more information.

Fred Milton commented that this was property located actually on the Red River Army Depot current lands and not on TexAmericas Center or outlying areas.

Sean Rommel asked that the Executive Director/ED look into and make a determination on whether it is appropriate to request a public hearing on the matter.

IV. Agenda Items for Individual Consideration

A. Discussion and possible action regarding October 12, 2016 Regular meeting minutes.

A motion was made by **Marshall Wood** and seconded by **Fred Milton** to approve the minutes for the October 12, 2016 Regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding September monthly investment reports and financial statements on all accounts (General and Wet Utilities) current accounts and funds.

Becky Melton provided an update on the September financials for the General Fund. The General Fund for FY 15-16 had a projected revenue of \$900. Due to conservative spending and tight management/oversight, the actual Net Income for the year under the General Fund was closer to \$70,000.

Becky Melton provided information on the September financials for the Wet Utilities Funds. Mrs. Melton noted that Riverbend received both July and August payments in September. Planning and Acquisition funds were transferred from BoK to SBoD for the Master Plan. CIP Funds have been reduced by approximately \$200,000 for two ongoing projects. September monthly operating expenses totaled approximately \$260,000

A motion was made by **Fred Milton** and seconded by **Marshall Wood** to approve the September investment report and financial statements for the General and Wet Utilities Funds. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. Discussion and possible action regarding Riverbend Strategic Plan 2016-2019.

Liz Fazio Hale provided information on the Strategic Planning 2016-2019 process for the Riverbend Water Resources District. On September 28, 2016 the Board of Directors held a Special Called meeting for approximately 3 hours to update its current Strategic Plan from 2013. Riverbend reviewed this document again at the October Regular Meeting and asked for further feedback from its Member Entities.

Only one additional response was received asking two questions: 1) whether Riverbend wanted to specifically identify SRBA as a future partner or efforts to coordinate with SRBA and 2) whether Texas Water Utilities Association could be added to the training section.

Liz Fazio Hale recommended not adding language specific to SRBA at this time.

Liz Fazio Hale recommended adding reference to Texas Water Utilities Association, along with Texas Rural Water Association, TCEQ, etc. under the training section.

A motion was made by **Kelly Mitchell** and seconded by **Fred Milton** to approve **RESO 20161116-01** authorizing the approval of the Riverbend Water Resources District Strategic Plan 2016-2019. The motion was approved unanimously.

D. Discussion and possible action regarding Stakeholder Technical Review Committee.

Liz Fazio Hale provided information on the formation of a stakeholder committee. She state that Riverbend has considered before creating a stakeholders committee to help facilitate feedback on the ongoing regional water issues. This has not been done primarily due to uncertainty of what tasks the committee would be given.

More recently a number of reports, including several from SRBA, have been distributed to Riverbend and other stakeholders. Our input has been requested but due to the number of reports at once and a combination of ongoing Riverbend projects, time has been limited.

Liz Fazio Hale suggested the creation of a technical committee of 3-5 stakeholders who would be representative of 1) water 2) environment 3) industry and 4) economic development.

This technical committee would serve to help review studies, reports, and publications concerning regional water issues, make suggestions on how to improve the reviewed studies, reports and publications; suggest studies that could be undertook by Riverbend to enhance the regional data on water, etc.

A motion was made by Sean Rommel and seconded by Marshall Wood to approve **RESO 20161116-02** authorizing the Executive Director/CEO, Elizabeth Fazio Hale, to establish a Stakeholder Technical Analysis Review Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. Reports

A. Board of Directors

Jim Green reported he and Liz Fazio Hale recently attended a Red Lick City Council meeting at the invitation of Elderman Bob Akin. The meeting went very well and Red Lick expressed interest in becoming a member of Riverbend. Mr. Green and Mrs. Fazio Hale stated that they would both follow-up with Red Lick to determine how to best accommodate this partnership through an interlocal agreement.

B. Executive Director/ CEO

Liz Fazio Hale provided information on the following ongoing Riverbend projects:

- i. Potential New Member (Red Lick, Bowie Central, possibly Clarksville) and Customers (REG)
- ii. TAC East Purchase
 - Waiting on John Whitson to schedule a follow-up meeting to the last meeting where we discussed the following issues:
 - 1) *No redo of any contract that involves Army;*
 - 2) *Quantity of water;*
 - 3) *Price of water (should Riverbend be included in true-up);*
 - 4) *Meter ownership, whoever owns should be responsible for repairs; and*
 - 5) *Resale of water - needs to allow Riverbend to be a wholesale water provider.*
- iii. Update on Regional Water Issues, including SRBA activities.
 - Sedimentation and Volumetric Study and Proposed Interlocal Agreement for \$2500 Admin Fee
 - Riverbend's role in Ultimate Rule Curve and Reallocation
- iv. Joint Meeting with SRBA and City of Texarkana- to be held Tuesday, January 10, 2017

It is important to note that sufficient discussion was had by the Board of Directors about Item V.B.iii., concerning SRBA's offer to provide a \$2500 administrative fee for the establishment of an Interlocal Agreement between Riverbend and SRBA for the purposes of seeking funding for and conducting a volumetric study of Lake Wright Patman.

Jim Green inquired whether this was actually something that we were interested in pursuing and whether it was actually necessary to partner with SRBA or could Riverbend do this on their own.

Kelly Mitchell questioned what did \$2500 have to do with anything and commented that if Riverbend was doing all of the work, then what real role was there for SRBA.

Sean Rommel commented that he believed that it was important to make a distinction between working together, continuing to have open communications and formally partnering. Mr.

Rommel stated that there remains an unanswered question with regards to whether SRBA was going to support future rights in Lake Wright Patman going to Riverbend. Although Riverbend understands that water rights are determined by the state, it is important to know whether SRBA intends to seek those rights or step-back and support Riverbend as the local control entity seeking the application of those water rights. He emphasized that open dialogue is always important but that until this question was answered by SRBA, Riverbend would be hard-pressed to formally engage in any agreements with SRBA as that would pose a conflict of interest.

Marshall Wood commented that he was pleasantly optimistic about the direction of SRBA under new leadership but increasingly concerned whether anything has really changed with the institution itself. He also stated that there is still an ultimate question about who SRBA will support as the permit holder for future water rights in Lake Wright Patman.

Fred Milton commented that he saw many efforts to cloud the issue, avoiding or not promptly addressing the specific question. He stated that this was perceived as “fluff.”

VI. Next Regular Meeting

No December Regular Meeting. Next Regular Meeting was Wednesday, January 11, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

With no additional business to be discussed, a motion was made by **Marshall Wood** and seconded by **Fred Milton** to adjourn the meeting at 12:57 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

The previous corrected minutes of Riverbend Water Resources District Board of Directors meeting, November 16, 2016 were read and approved on the 11 day of January, 2017.



Marshall Wood, Vice President

Attest:


Elizabeth Fazio Hale, Executive Director/ CEO



Riverbend Water Resources District
November 16, 2016

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

Name: George Frost

Representing:



Self



Entity/Organization Region D-

Address: 408 WARD ST.

Mand, TX 75567

Phone: 903-585-5562 cell 903-276-8513

Email: Gfrost003@aol.com

Agenda Item or Topic to be Discussed:

Senior Water Right

- Corp study of unpermitted Dem
Areas