

**Regular Called Meeting  
Riverbend Water Resources District  
Board Meeting Minutes and 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Open House  
June 27, 2018  
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 June 20, 2018, the Chair, Marshall Wood, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m.

**Directors Present:**

Marshall Wood, President  
Fred Milton, Vice President  
Sean Rommel, Secretary  
Sonja Hubbard, Treasurer  
Jim Green, Past President

**Directors Absent:**

None

**Administration Present:**

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

**Public Present:**

See attached list.

**II. Invocation**

Sean Rommel led the invocation.

**III. Public Comments**

Marshall Wood acknowledged all of the elected officials and recognized Riverbend employees for their significant contributions to the Wet Utilities Operation.

No public comments.

#### **IV. Agenda Items for Individual Consideration**

##### **A. Discussion and possible action regarding May 23, 2018 Regular Meeting minutes and June 4, 2018 Special Called Meeting minutes.**

A motion was made by **Sonja Hubbard** and seconded by **Sean Rommel** to approve the minutes for the May 23, 2018 Regular Meeting, as well as the minutes for the June 4, 2018 Special Called Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

##### **B. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director/CEO, Elizabeth Fazio Hale, to enter into negotiations and execute a contract for the performance of engineering services on a Feasibility Study for the City of Hooks, Texas' Waste Water Treatment Facility.**

Eli Hunt, Systems Manager provided information on the proposals related to a Feasibility Study on the City of Hooks, Texas' Waste Water Treatment Facility with respect to three options: 1) rehabilitating current facility; 2) demolition of current facility and building a new one; 3) demolition of current facility and transport to Ron Collins Facility. As a result of the RFQ process, Riverbend received five proposals from MTG Engineers & Surveyors, Strokes & Associates, Inc, KSA, Garver, and Kimley-Horn. A committee of Eli Hunt, Austin Robnett, Mike Burke, and Liz Fazio Hale evaluated the proposals and the top three received the following scores: MTG Engineers & Surveyors received a score of 87; Stokes & Associates, Inc. received a score of 86.75; and KSA received a score of 78.5.

A motion was made by **Sonja Hubbard** and seconded by **Sean Rommel** to approve **RESO20180627-01**, as amended, authorizing the Executive Director/CEO, Elizabeth Fazio Hale, to enter into negotiations and execute a contract for the performance of engineering services on a Feasibility Study for the City of Hooks' Wastewater Treatment Facility with MTG Engineering & Surveying, and so on and so forth, after review by the District's general counsel. The motion passed unanimously.

##### **C. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of an in-house staff accounting position.**

Liz Fazio Hale, Executive Director/CEO, provided information on the potential for issuing a significant amount of bonds to implement the Recommended Path Forward on the Regional Water Master Plan. With the possible issuance, it is time to consider hiring an in-house accountant. This individual must have accounting background and specific GAAP experience. It is recommended to post for this position and leave it open until August. This will give the Executive Director and Finance Director time to work through the funding component. Right now, we are recommending a 60% Wet and 40% Admin split on the pay. This could go the other way, as well. If we receive qualified applicants, interviews will be conducted in September timeframe. The Executive Director/CEO will keep the Board of Directors informed; her job

description allows her to ability to post and hire this position without further action by the board.

No action taken.

**D. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the RFQ for legal services specifically for water law at the Texas and Federal levels.**

Liz Fazio Hale, Executive Director/CEO, provided information that with the Regional Water Maste Plan coming to a close in July 2018 and solidification of cost estimates and water rate proposals, it is time to begin rethinking the interlocal agreements and existing water contracts. It will be necessary to hire a water law expert in Texas to review these documents and offer opinions on “bulletproofing” them. We have learned from existing contracts in our region, as well as across the state (NTWMD and PUC) that more detail is better. What detail that could be offered is yet to be seen and we need to explore the options. Also, the delay on implementing the 1968 ultimate rule curve (URC) contract with the federal government may cause some legal action to need to be taken on that end. This RFQ is intended to recruit the necessary proposals to see what our options are for hiring this person(s) on an as-needed basis.

No action taken.

**E. Discussion and possible action regarding Lake Wright Patman and various regional water issues, including activities in the Arkansas and Texas Legislatures.**

Liz Fazio Hale provided information on Corps activities. WRDA is working in Committee on the Senate side and has passed in the House. Any change that we are successful in implementing the Senate will need to go to conference. We are still working diligently to get legislation into the Senate-side for the purpose of guiding and instructing the Corps with certain aspects of our contract.

Travis Ransom, Mayor of City of Atlanta, Texas, asked for more information on the Corps; operation at the ultimate rule curve level. Liz Fazio Hale confirmed that she has seen data suggesting that, for purposes of the lower seasonal curve, the Corps has been operating Wright Patman Lake at the lower end of the URC and not the Interim Rule Curve (IRC) and that they have been doing so for approximatley 20 years. Mrs. Hale also confirmed that she believed that additional state water rights could be available under the URC.

No action taken.

**F. Discussion and possible action regarding activities the Sulphur River Basin Authority (SRBA).**

Kelly Mitchell, Board member for SRBA, provided information on activities at SRBA. He confirmed that a funding agreement with Riverbend was approved for the purpose of conducting a Volumetric and Sedimentation Study at Wright Patman Lake.

He also reported on a mitigation meeting held in Ft. Worth in June. This meeting included mitigation efforts for reallocation at Wright Patman Lake only.

No action taken.

**G. Discussion and possible action regarding activities with TexAmericas Center.**

Scott Norton, Executive Director/CEO for TexAmericas Center(TAC), provided information on activities at TAC. Mr. Norton stated that Bowie County has been awarded a grant for funding to conduct a Feasibility Study for the Expansion of Interstate 69. Those funds will be matched by TAC and the City of Texarkana, Texas. TAC also has seen a spike in prospects over the last few months. Mr. Norton stated that interest is directly related to the positive relationship between TAC, Riverbend, and the surrounding cities.

No action taken.

**H. Discussion and possible action regarding activities with regional economic initiatives.**

Sonja Hubbard, Board Member for ArTex Regional Economic Development Incorporated (REDI) provided information on activities with REDI. The entity had to officially change their name to ARTEX REDI because REDI was already used.

They have hired a search company to help them find an Executive Director/CEO.

They have a rally scheduled for September 4, 2018 with both Texas Governor Greg Abbot and Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson.

No action taken.

**I. Discussion and possible action regarding July meetings.**

Joint Meeting, Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at Texarkana, Tx Convention Center.

Riverbend Work Session, Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Riverbend Offices.

Riverbend Work Session, Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at New Boston Community Center.

Riverbend Town Hall and Regular Meeting, Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Texarkana Convention Center.

## V. Reports

### A. Board Members

No reports.

### B. Executive Director/CEO

Liz Fazio Hale provided information on the following ongoing projects:

- i. STAR (“Stakeholder Technical Analysis Review Committee”) - *met June 25 to discuss Sulphur Basin Feasibility Report from 2014.*
- ii. Regional Water Master Plan Project with Susan Roth and Consulting - *Kick-off was July 2016 and we will end with a final presentation exactly two years later July 2018.*
- iii. Regional Water Rates Study - *Ongoing, Pending finish in July/August*
- iv. Water Availability Modeling Update to Sulphur Basin - *Ongoing, projected to be finished Dec 2018.*
- v. Pump Station and Ground Storage Tanks Project - *Nearing Completion July 2018.*
- vi. GIS Mapping - *Work commenced in May 2018 Phase I completion projected for September 2018. Phase II completion aimed for December 2018.*
- vii. Industrial Pre-Treatment Feasibility Study - *Hopeful to start July 1 Completion estimated in March 2019.*
- viii. Hooks Waste Treatment Feasibility Study - *Hopeful start July 1. Completion estimated in March 2019.*
- ix. Volumetric and Sedimentation - *Hopeful start July 1, estimated completion of bathymetric data collection in September 2018 and study completion in December 2018.*
- x. Drying Beds - *Design completed. Hopeful construction start of July 1 and completion by December 2018 (double check with Eli).*
- xi. Army Invoicing and Payments - *We are reregistered, and invoices have been submitted and accepted.*
- xii. Future CIP Projects for a Facility Charge #3 - *Unknown but would like to pair with TWDB bonds for RWMP February 2019 if possible.*
- xiii. Member Entity Services
- xiv. Other Maintenance and Services Projects - *Hooks and Maud*
- xv. Future Riverbend Studies - Preliminary Design on Intake and Raw Water Line, etc. - *We will need to issue bonds to support this effort. Hopefully (Spring 2019) with preliminary design in Spring 2020.*

**VI. Executive Session**

The Board did not move into Executive Session.

**VII. Next Riverbend Meetings & Activities:**

Joint Meeting, Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at Texarkana, Tx Convention Center.

Riverbend Work Session, Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Riverbend Offices.

Riverbend Work Session, Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at New Boston Community Center.

Riverbend Town Hall and Regular Meeting, Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Tx Convention Center.

Riverbend Work Session and True-Up Meeting, Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Riverbend Offices.

Riverbend Regular Meeting, Wednesday, August 29 at 12:00 p.m. at Riverbend Offices.

**VII. Adjournment**

With no additional business to be discussed, a motion was made by **Sean Rommel** and seconded by **Fred Milton** to adjourn the meeting at 1:08 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

The minutes of Riverbend Water Resources District Board of Directors meeting, June 27, 2018 were read and approved on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.



\_\_\_\_\_  
**Marshall Wood, President**

**Attest:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**Elizabeth Fazio Hale, Executive Director/ CEO**

Riverbend Water sources District  
 Board Meeting  
 June 27, 2018  
 12:00 p.m.

No.	Name	Organization	Title	Phone	Email
1	David Cocksell	City of Atlanta	City Manager	903 796 2192	dcocksell@atlantaflex.com
2	TRAVIS RANSON	CITY OF ATLANTA	MAJOR	903 244 6655	TRANSON@FABINS.COM
3	Hollis Wood	Tribune	Advertising Director	903-628-5801	HWood@bonniecountynow.com
4	Heather Russell Wilson	Tribune	Reporter	903-628-5801	hrussell@bonniecountynow.com
5	Judge Carlow	Provie Co	Judge		
6	Carly Harris	Miller Co	Judge		
7	Sheryl Cotton	Marketting			
8	<del>Heather</del>	<del>USA</del>			
9	Mike Bohram				
10	BILL PARKER	WSTX	CONJUMAN	9035301844	Bill.Parker@CITYOFWAKEVILLE.COM
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

Riverbend War Resources District  
 Board Meeting  
 June 27, 2018  
 12:00 p.m.

No.	Name	Organization	Title	Phone	Email
1	Jennifer Middleton	TXC Frazer of Fe			
2	Janice Liles	MTG			
3	Isabel Lamm	Production	Mayor		
4	Kayla Wood	MTG	Eng.		
5	Kelly Mitchell	SRRA			
6	Arden Ekman	Rep. Van Dusen			
7	Heide Huthorn	SKRA			
8	Doug Bowers	City of WASH			
9	Robert Busch	'' ''			
10	CINDY GWINN	Graphic Packaging Coated Paperboard Mill			
11	Sheryl Collum	City of WV			
12	Cathy Hardin-Harrison	Miller Co. AR			
13	Judge Carlow	Bowie Co.			
14	Ernie Cleary	STAR Board			
15	Scott Norson	Tex America Center			
16	STEVE + ENGLISH	CITY ANIMOND	MPGOR		
17	ALEX ACKLEY	City of Avery	Mayor		
18	Lanny Bush	KSA			
19					
20					