

**Regular Called Meeting  
Riverbend Water Resources District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 25, 2019**

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

**MINUTES**

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

Pursuant to a notice posted on the District website, the Chair, Fred Milton, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

**Directors Present:**

Fred Milton, President  
Sonja Hubbard, Vice President  
Tina Veal-Gooch, Treasurer  
Van Alexander, Secretary

**Directors Absent:**

Marshall Wood, Past President (arrived at 12:41 p.m.)

**Administration Present:**

Kyle Dooley, Executive Director/CEO  
Eli Hunt, Operations Manager  
Tara Houck, Chief Financial Officer  
Becky Melton, Executive Assistant/HR Manager

**Public Present:**

See attached list.

**II. Invocation & Pledge**

Fred Milton led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

**III. Public Comments**

Eric Samuels, resident of the city of Hooks, Texas, made public comments regarding the water and wastewater rate increases in Hooks, Texas. He stated that there has been an increase of 100% to his water bill in the last year. Mr. Samuels came to Riverbend to ask for assistance on who to contact regarding the rates as well as his concerns for the state of the water and wastewater in Hooks, Texas.

#### **IV. Consent Agenda Items**

Items IV.A. and IV.B. were considered under a Consent Agenda for one single motion of approval.

##### **A. Discussion and possible action regarding August 21, 2019 Regular Called Meeting and Strategic Planning Minutes.**

##### **B. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of RESO 20190925-01 adopting the 2018-2018 Member Entities True-Up for use in FY 2019-2020.**

A single motion was made by **Van Alexander** and seconded by **Sonja Hubbard** to approve the Consent Agenda Items as listed above. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **V. Regional Entity Reports**

##### **A. Discussion and possible action regarding activities with Sulphur River Basin Authority (SRBA).**

No report from SRBA.

No action taken.

##### **B. Discussion and possible action regarding activities with TexAmericas Center (TAC).**

No report from TAC.

No action taken.

##### **C. Discussion and possible action regarding activities with Ar-Tex REDI.**

Sonja Hubbard provided that Ar-Tex REDI's website, InstaGram, Facebook, and Twitter are all up and running. REDI is still working on site selection. There is a grand opening for Texarkana Aluminum scheduled for October 17, 2019.

No action taken.

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

##### **A. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a resolution appointing the officers of the Board of Directors for FY 2019-2020.**

Fred Milton listed the proposed slate for Board Officers for FY 2019-2020 as follows:

Sonja Hubbard, President  
Tina Veal-Gooch, Vice President  
Van Alexander, Treasurer

Marshall Wood, Secretary  
Fred Milton, Past President

A motion was made by **Sonja Hubbard** and seconded by **Van Alexander** to approve **RESO 20190925-02** affirming the 2019-2020 Elected Officers of the Board of Directors of Riverbend Water Resources District. The motion passed unanimously.

**B. Discussion and possible action regarding the Riverbend Calendar and Board Meeting Schedule for FY 2019-2020.**

No discussion on the Riverbend Calendar and Board Schedule.

A motion was made by **Sonja Hubbard** and seconded by **Tina Veal-Gooch** to approve the Riverbend Calendar and Board Meeting Schedule for FY 2019-2020. The motion passed unanimously.

**C. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a resolution adopting the Revised 2018-2019 Administrative Member Fund Budget and the Revised 2018-2019 Wet Utilities Fund Budget of Riverbend Water Resources District.**

Tara Houck provided information on minor final changes to the budgets. She stated that any adjustments made were transfers between classes. Changes were only made to line items that were over budget by 5%.

A motion was made by **Tina Veal Gooch** and seconded by **Van Alexander** to approve **RESO 20190925-03** adopting the Revised 2018-2019 Administrative Member Budget and the Revised Wet Utility Budget of Riverbend Water Resources District. The motion passed unanimously.

**D. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a resolution adopting the FY 2019-2020 Administrative Member Fund Budget and the FY 2019-2020 Wet Utilities Fund Budget and Labor Table of Riverbend Water Resources District.**

Tara Houck provided that there were no additional changes made to the proposed FY 2019-2020 budgets as they were presented for review at the meeting on August 21, 2019.

A motion was made by **Sonja Hubbard** and seconded by **Van Alexander** to approve **RESO 20190925-04** adopting the FY 2019-2020 Administrative Member Fund Budget, the FY 2019-2020 Wet Utilities Fund Budget and Labor Table of Riverbend Water Resources District. The motion passed unanimously.

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

No report. No action taken.

## **VII. Riverbend Reports**

### **A. Board Members**

Fred Milton provided that Region D is setting up a committee to research any water needs outside the region; particularly in Region C. This discussion should start by the end of the year. This will ensure that the information will be ready to add to the State Water Plan by March 2020. The next Region D meeting will be held at the Mt. Pleasant Civic Center on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

### **B. Executive Director/CEO**

Kyle Dooley provided an update on the SRF Funds application for the water treatment plant. Riverbend received a letter this week from the Texas Water Development Board inviting us to submit a full application. The letter also stated that the \$200 Million in funds we have requested are all eligible project costs and that it will be a multi-year commitment. Items that are still needed before a complete application will be submitted, are an audit from one member entity and the water supply contracts must be signed. Member entities are now reviewing those contracts. Mr. Dooley has met with legal representation from several entities to discuss details of the contracts. Once those small details are ironed out, everyone will be ready to move forward.

Riverbend is continuing to work with Dawn Pilcher with LJA Engineers on the water rights project. The next step is passing a joint resolution with the City of Texarkana, Texas that supports an application for new water rights over and above the 180,000 acre feet that the City of Texarkana already holds. Based on existing contracts with the State of Texas, and the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), TCEQ has said that the City of Texarkana, Texas would need to be the entity that actually applies for the additional water rights on behalf of Riverbend and the other member entities. The City of Texarkana, holds the contract for the water rights for the existing 180,000 acre feet. Texarkana also holds the contract with the Corps for the storage rights for that water up to the Ultimate Rule Curve. This water rights application will be for the water from the current level up to the Ultimate Rule Curve.

With regards to becoming a member of Riverbend, Central Bowie County Water Supply Corporation is reviewing the interlocal agreement and lining out details of that service contract. We expect it to be signed soon.

There has been good news from the Corps regarding the contributed funds agreement for the cultural resources study. Initially R. D. James, the Assistant Secretary of the Army, had planned to reject our request to move forward with the cultural resource study through the contributed funds agreement. Representatives at Corps headquarters had a face-to-face meeting with Mr. James. During that meeting he agreed to push the notification to Congress that is required before contributed funds agreement can be executed. There are still indefinite timelines on how this long process will play out but, it is possible that three or four months from now a contract for the contributed funds agreement could be executed. This will allow Riverbend to begin the study on what mitigation will be required due to cultural issues around Wright Patman Lake. The study itself could cost close to \$2.2 million and the mitigation could be upwards of \$13.5 million.

Dr. Richard Lewis has returned the summary of Riverbend's Strategic Plan to Mr. Dooley. That document is being finalized and is scheduled for approval in October.

The Texas Water Conservation Association Fall Conference will be in San Antonio October 16, 2019 through October 18, 2019. Kyle Dooley, Van Alexander, and Marshall Wood are attending this conference.

No action taken.

#### **VIII. Executive Session**

The board stood at ease beginning at 12:52 p.m.

The board reconvened in Executive Session at 1:00 p.m with quorum pursuant to sections 551.071 and 551.072 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

The board came out of Executive Session at 1:40 p.m.

#### **IX. Next Riverbend Meetings**

Riverbend Regular Meeting, Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. at Riverbend Offices, 228 A Texas Avenue, New Boston, Texas 75570.

#### **XI. Adjournment**

With no additional business to be discussed, a motion was made by **Tina Veal-Gooch** and seconded by **Sonja Hubbard** to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of Riverbend Water Resources District Board of Directors meeting, September 25, 2019 were read and approved on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019.

  
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**Sonja Hubbard, President**

Attest:

  
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**Kyle Dooley, Executive Director/ CEO**

Riverbend Water Resources District  
 Board Meeting  
 September 25, 2019  
 12:00 p.m.

No.	Name	Organization	Title	Phone	Email
1	Eric Samuels	Hocks Resident	RESIDENT	903 577-1945	cricket@owindstream.net
2	Looney Bunch	KSA	Director	903 236 7700	lbeck@ksaeng.com
3	Sharon Elkine	Rep. VanDeLamm	Dist. Dir.		
4	Matt Garcia	Paige - Dawson	V.P.	2147732380	MattGarcia@paperclaw.com
5	Hal Harris	Central Bowie City wsc	GM	903 428 5601	
6	Lowell Walker	De Kalb	Mayor		lowellwalker@dekalbga.com
7	Jimmy Clark	Mark	Mayor Pro Tem		
8	Shun (Shand)	#	Hocks Resident		
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