

**Special Called Meeting
Riverbend Water Resources District
Work Session Minutes**

August 18, 2021

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 on August 18, 2021, the Chair, Tina Veal Gooch, Vice President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Directors Present:

Tina Veal-Gooch, Vice President
Marshall Wood, Secretary
Van Alexander, Treasurer
Fred Milton, Past President

Directors Absent:

Sonja Hubbard, President

Administration Present:

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

Public Present:

See attached list.

II. Invocation & Pledge

Van Alexander led the invocation.

Tina Veal Gooch led Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Agenda Items for Individual Consideration

A. Presentation and discussion of Member Cities' True-Up for use in FY 2021-2022.

Mr. Dooley reminded the board that the True-Up document and the Riverbend budgets are typically approved at the September Board meeting. However, the Board has the

opportunity to review them at the August Board meeting to provide time for the member entities to review the documents as well.

J.D. Phillips of Texarkana Water Utilities (TWU), provided that, due to the ransomware attack on the TWU server at the end of 2020, the true-up documents will be delayed. The cyber-attack wiped out all financials, spreadsheets, and wordprocessing documents needed to calculate a new wholesale water rate for use in fiscal year 2021-2022. Trisha Briggs, Finance Director for TWU, estimates that the audit will be complete within four to five weeks which will allow them to complete the true-up process. Therefore, TWU does not currently have a wholesale water rate to offer for approval for fiscal year 2021-2022.

Mr. Phillips then provided information specific to completed, ongoing, and future projects for TWU.

Kyle Dooley offered that because there is not a document to review and a rate to approve, a decision must be made on how to proceed to fiscal year 2021-2022. One option is to wait to change the rate until this time next year. Another option is to leave the rate as it sits at \$0.9302/1000 gallons and delay the change in the rate until TWU gets the audited financials in a few weeks that will allow them to calculate the new rate. The member entities would then come back together to discuss the rate calculation and adjust budgets accordingly. Mr. Dooley then opened up the floor for discussion on how the members would like to proceed for the upcoming fiscal year.

Marc Reiter suggested that a slight increase now will allow for more accurate budget planning for the member entities. Marshall Wood inferred from J.D.'s presentation that chemicals increasing in cost will require at least a small increase in the water rate. Sheryl Collom agreed that it would be better to increase a small amount now and adjust when the actual rate is calculated.

There was also discussion regarding having the True-Up document prepared for discussion in July of each year as opposed to August. The consensus among the parties present was that a \$0.03 increase to the current rate would allow the member entities to better prepare budgets for fiscal year 2021-2022. In addition, as soon as TWU has audited numbers available and can produce the water production rate, a special meeting will be called to discuss and approve that new rate.

Tara Houck, CFO for Riverbend, then presented the budget for the Regional Water Systems Facilities Fund. Mr. Dooley explained that this document, in relation to the debt service on the new raw water intake and water treatment facility, would be part of the True-Up process in the future.

No action taken.

IV. Riverbend Reports

A. Board Members

No reports.

B. Executive Director/CEO

No report.

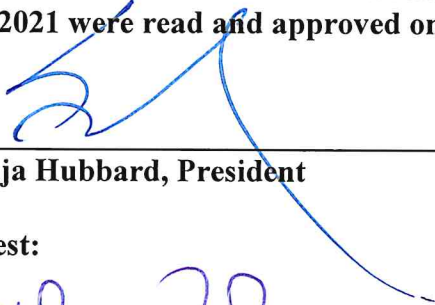
V. **Next Riverbend Meetings & Activities:**

Riverbend Regular Meeting, Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. at Riverbend Offices.

VI. **Adjournment**

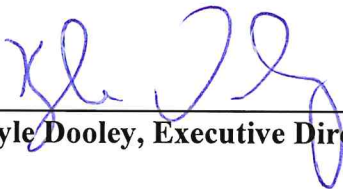
With no additional business to be discussed, a motion was made by **Fred Milton** and seconded by **Van Alexander** to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

The minutes of Riverbend Water Resources District Board of Directors meeting, August 18, 2021 were read and approved on the 25th day of August, 2021.



Sonja Hubbard, President

Attest:



Kyle Dooley, Executive Director/ CEO

Board Meeting Attendees - August 18, 2021

Name	Organization
Sheryl Collum	Wake Village
Ricky Wilson	Oak Grove WSC
Hall Harris	Central Bowie WSC
David Orr	Texarkana, TX
George English	Annona
Greg Bischoff	Texarkana Gazette
Sue Anderson	