

**Regular Called Meeting
Riverbend Water Resources District
Board Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2022**

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, the Chair, Tina Veal-Gooch, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Directors Present:

Tina Veal-Gooch, President
Fred Milton, Secretary
Steve Mayo, Treasurer

Directors Absent:

Van Alexander, Vice President
Sonja Hubbard, Past President

Administration Present:

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

Public Present:

Please see the attached list for additional guests.

II. Invocation & Pledge

Fred Milton led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

III. Public Comments

None.

IV. Special Agenda Items

- A. Presentation of the Regional Leadership Award to Marshall Wood for his leadership and dedication to Riverbend and to regional water development.

Tina Veal Gooch and Kyle Dooley presented Mr. Wood with the Regional Leadership Award. Mr. Wood has been part of the Riverbend board since 2009. His dedication to regional water development has been instrumental in the success of Riverbend and all that has been accomplished to date. Kyle Dooley thanked Mr. Wood for his invaluable advice and his availability to help and be involved where he is needed. Mr. Wood expressed his appreciation and honor to be recognized by the Riverbend Board.

V. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Discussion and possible action regarding May 25, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes.

The minutes did have two minor corrections to be made before approval. Tina Veal Gooch was listed as present, and she was absent. In addition, Steve Mayo was present to accept the appointment to the Riverbend Board.

A motion was made by **Fred Milton** and seconded by **Steve Mayo** to approve the Consent Agenda Item, with corrections as listed above. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Regional Entity Reports

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

Kelly Mitchell, SRBA board member, provided an SRBA update. A meeting was held yesterday in Mount Pleasant. They discussed interbasin transfers as mentioned in section 11 of the Texas Water Code. The SRBA board believes this issue will arise as we look at other reservoirs in the basin that may move water out of the basin.

No action taken.

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

No report. No action taken.

- C. Discussion and possible action regarding activities with Ar-Tex REDL.

No report. No action taken.

VII. Agenda Items for Individual Consideration

- A. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director/CEO to execute an interlocal agreement for employees' health benefits with TML Health Benefits Pool.

Kyle Dooley provided information on the renewal of the TML Coverage. Staff has received the proposed employee medical insurance plan from TML Health Benefits Pool, which would become effective on 10/1/22 for the new fiscal year. There are four new plan options

that are being offered by TML for consideration for this upcoming year or we can stay with the current plan. All plan options would be an increase when compared with the total cost from the previous year. Those options, and the current plan costs, are shown in the agenda packet. For all four options, the out-of-pocket cost and/or the deductible costs would go up. The premium cost also increases between 1.93%-9.89% depending on which option is selected. Staying with the current plan would increase the premium 13%, but it holds out-of-pocket and deductible costs at the same rate as this current year. After reviewing the options, staff recommends staying with the current plan for the upcoming year to keep the out of pocket and deductible costs the same for the employees next year. The current dental and vision plans will remain unchanged for this upcoming plan year.

A motion was made by **Steve Mayo** and seconded by **Fred Milton** for approval of **RESO 20220622-01** authorizing the Executive Director/CEO to execute an interlocal agreement for employees' health benefits with TML Health Benefits Pool. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director/CEO to enter into negotiations for the acquisition of land in connection with the construction of a regional water system.

Kyle Dooley provided information on a land purchase. Riverbend is currently working on the required properties that will need to be acquired to construct the regional water treatment facilities. We are coming to the point in the process that we may be able to start coming to agreements with property owners and have the need to sign contracts with them to get that property in hand. This item would grant the Executive Director the authority to sign agreements to acquire the property. It would also limit that authority as only up to the budgeted amount for the project, which is currently \$800,000.

A motion was made by **Fred Milton** and seconded by **Steve Mayo** to approve **RESO 20220622-02** authorizing the Executive Director/CEO to enter into negotiations for the acquisition of land in connection with the construction of a regional water system. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Riverbend Reports

- A. Board Members

No reports.

- B. Executive Director/CEO

Kyle Dooley provided the following updates:

Kim Keefer with Pape-Dawson provided the following update on the Regional Water System Project:

- Documentation that is required for selection of the design consultants for the next phase of work is complete. This includes preparing a TWDB-appropriate advertisement and

contract documents. Now, we will seek review from TWDB on them and then advertise, consistent with the ability to have the funds released from TWDB for design.

- Work continues on coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Preparation of the official submittal back to TWDB on both the environmental document and the EFR is ongoing. The biggest sticking point was defining the project in such a way that it met both TWDB's requirements and incorporate the Corps needs as well. This is one of the steps to get the design monies released from TWDB. Once we are confident that TWDB is in sync with the document, we can advertise for the design consultants.

Intake Permitting: One thing that has been delaying the submitting of the EID and the EFR to TWDB is a ruling from the Corps on whether they would allow Riverbend to pull the permitting portion of the intake construction away from the Ultimate Rule Curve studies. Dawson and Associates had a meeting with USACE on Friday. The USACE representatives did not see any issues, in theory, with the construction of the intake prior to the implementation of the Ultimate Rule Curve. That decision comes with the caveat that Riverbend will operate at the Interim Rule Curve that is currently in place until the Ultimate Rule Curve is implemented. That allows Riverbend to get lined out on what the Corps expects on the application for the intake. That language will need to be in the EID and the EFR so it can be turned to TWDB that will indicate we are clear with the Corps to move forward with the project so TWDB can approve our documents and release project funds. At this point, the RFQ process can move forward because funds should be released at about the same time that a design team is chosen.

Ultimate Rule Curve: We should have draft programmatic agreement and environmental assessment documents complete by August or September. The discussion has been centered around how the level of the lake at the top and the bottom of the Ultimate Rule Curve would affect what needs to be studied both environmentally and culturally. Decisions made on that front will drive what the cost will be including the cost of mitigation. Studying the bottom of the elevation is what is causing concern. The lake has not historically been operated below 223. Lowering the lake below 223 brings the concern that wetlands, hardwood bottomlands, and cultural artifacts could be exposed and then would have to be studied during the NEPA process. Those findings could drive up the cost to implement the Ultimate Rule Curve.

Member Services: A contract template for member services is in development with Kristen Fancher for use with members that may need water or wastewater services. A draft agreement is ready for review by the City of Maud. A meeting with the City of Leary is scheduled for Monday, June 27th.

True-Up: Meeting will be July 13, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Riverbend offices. Typically, this meeting is held in August however, membership asked if it could be earlier to help with budget planning. The True-Up document will be ready and sent out to the member entities around July 8, 2022. Riverbend will also present a budget report on the Regional Water System Facilities Fund at the True-Up meeting on the 13th. The True-Up rate will be presented for approval at the following Riverbend Board meeting in late July.

Region D: Meeting will be held June 29, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Region 8 Educational Service Center in Pittsburg, Texas.

No action taken.

VIII. Executive Session

The board stood at ease at 12:40 p.m.

The board reconvened in Executive Session at 12:45 p.m. with quorum pursuant to sections 551.072 of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

The board came out of Executive Session at 1:15 p.m.

The board reconvened with quorum at 1:20 p.m.

IX. Next Riverbend Meetings

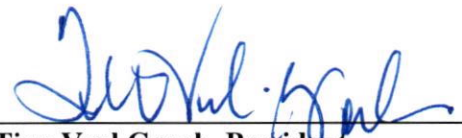
Riverbend True-up Workshop, July 13, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Riverbend Offices, 228 A Texas Avenue, New Boston, Texas 75570.

Riverbend Regular Meeting, July 27, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. at Riverbend Offices, 228 A Texas Avenue, New Boston, Texas 75570.

X. Adjournment

With no additional business to be discussed, a motion was made by **Steve Mayo** and seconded by **Fred Milton** to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the Riverbend Water Resources District Board of Directors meeting, held on June 22, 2022, were read and approved on the 27th day of July, 2022.



Tina Veal Gooch, President

Attest:



Kyle Dooley, Executive Director/ CEO

Board Meeting Attendees - June 22, 2022

Name	Organization
Sue Anderson	City of New Boston
David Perkins	Kimley Horn
Matt Garcia	Pape-Dawson
Phil Cook	CP&Y
Kelly Mitchell	SRBA
David Briggs	CDM Smith
Stephanie Bache	Black & Veach
Sharon Elkins	Rep. Gary Van Deaver
Hal Harris	CBWSC
Sheryl Collom	City of Wake Villate
Raj Methia	Jacobs
David Stanely	CP&Y
Lanny Buck	KSA
Robert Vinet	KSA
Bobby Howell	Bowie County Judge
Alberto Flores	LAN