

**Regular Called Meeting  
Riverbend Water Resources District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 22, 2025**

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, Tina Veal Gooch, Vice President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

**Directors Present:**

Tina Veal-Gooch, Vice President  
Steve Mayo, Secretary  
Van Alexander, Treasurer

**Directors Absent:**

Sonja Hubbard, President  
Lynn Davis, Past President

**Administration Present:**

Eli Hunt, Director of Operations  
Becky Melton, HR Manager/Executive Assistant

**Public Present:**

Please see the attached list for additional guests.

**II. Invocation & Pledge**

Van Alexander led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

**III. Public Comments**

None.

**IV. Consent Agenda Items**

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

A. Discussion and possible action regarding September 24, 2025 Regular Called Meeting minutes.

- B. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of RESO 20251022-01 authorizing the Executive Director/CEO to enter into an agreement with Wilf Henderson, PC for annual audit services for FY 2025.

A motion was made by Van Alexander and seconded by Steve Mayo to approve the Consent Agenda Item as listed above. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. Regional Entity Reports**

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

No report. No action taken.

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

Scott Norton, Executive Director/CEO provided an update. TAC is under contract with a few prospects. Negotiations are ongoing. Additionally, there are three letters of intent to be signed. One of which is the largest tract of land purchased to date for TAC. That tract is on the TAC-East property. Mr. Norton thanked the Riverbend staff for working with them and especially for a quick responses to TAC's requests for rates and available volume, etc. No action taken.

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

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 negotiate and enter into an agreement with Bowie-Cass Electric Cooperative (BCEC) with regard to BCEC providing electric service to Riverbend at the location of the Raw Water Pump Station in Redwater, Texas.

Eli Hunt provided information on the need to provide adequate electric service to the new raw water pump station as part of the Regional Water Treatment Project. If approved, this agreement would lay out the contribution in aid of construction (CIAC) that Riverbend would pay to Bowie Cass Electric Cooperative to construct the needed facilities and upgrade some current facilities to provide power to the raw water pump station. The overall total for the CIAC is estimated at \$6.05M. The actual final cost will be trued up at the end of construction and either refunded or additional funds owed. This estimated total covers engineering, construction, and materials. Funding is available as part of the Regional Water Treatment Project.

A motion was made by Steve Mayo and seconded by Van Alexander to approve RESO 20251022-02 authorizing the Executive Director/CEO to negotiate and enter into an agreement with Bowie-Cass Electric Cooperative (BCEC) with regard to BCEC providing electric service to Riverbend at the location of the Raw Water Pump Station in Redwater, Texas. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director/CEO, on behalf of the North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group (Region D), to submit a grant application to Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and execute a contract with TWDB for initial funding of the 7th cycle of Regional Water Planning (2031 Regional Water Plan).

Eli Hunt provided that At the October 1, 2025 Region D Water Planning Group meeting, Riverbend was approved to continue to serve as the administrative agency for Region D as we start the 7th cycle of regional water planning. The Region D board also took action to authorize Riverbend to submit a grant application to TWDB and execute a contract with TWDB for initial funding for the 7th cycle of planning. This will happen sometime after the first of the year. Since the contract with TWDB would be directly with Riverbend, the same item that was approved by Region D would also need to be approved by Riverbend's board before we could move forward.

A motion was made by Van Alexander and seconded by Steve Mayo to approve RESO 20251022-03 authorizing the Executive Director/CEO, on behalf of the North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group (Region D), to submit a grant application to Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and execute a contract with TWDB for initial funding of the 7th cycle of Regional Water Planning (2031 Regional Water Plan).The motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. Riverbend Reports**

- A. Board Members

No reports.

- B. Executive Director/CEO

Eli Hunt provided the following updates:

Regional Water System Project: Mike Bennett with Pape Dawson provided the following update:

Environmental Coordination

- The Finding of No Significant Impact and Special Environmental Conditions was received from TWDB.

Design Progress

- The Texas Water Development Board completed all processes to progress the program from planning into design.

- 60% Designs from all firms have been received, reviewed, and comments to address have been identified.

#### Land Acquisition

- Two private properties have been procured.
- Several property owners have obtained legal representation from Kyle Davis.
- Exhibits for TexAmericas locating the site of the Water Treatment Plant and Potable Water Transmission are being created.

#### USACE Outgrant Process

- The outgrant package (lease agreement) is under development, with biweekly meetings underway involving USACE real estate specialists and the lake office.
- Slight design changes are being made to the Raw Water Pump Station to accommodate USACE requests inside the flowage easement.
- The final outgrant package will be submitted upon procurement of property in the flowage easement
- Mitigation meetings continue with the lake office, regional personnel, and real estate personnel.

#### Geotechnical Investigations

- Geotechnical reports are 95% complete.

#### Power Coordination

- Bowie-Cass Electric Co-op's subcontractor, Power Engineering, started the design of the substation.
- Exploration on alternative power delivery is being conducted.

Eli Hunt added that the final few member cities that needed to complete their 2024 by September 30<sup>th</sup> did so and the SRF funding application was submitted for review. TWDB asked a few more clarifying questions. The expectation is to have approval of that funding application at the next TWDB meeting to be held in December. Riverbend also extended the contract with Garver out to November 1, 2026. It is a no-cost change order to extend the length of the contract for the design of the plant.

Industrial Wastewater Facility: Garver provided the conceptual engineering report to Kyle and Eli. They are working with Garver on the scope of work to complete the TCEQ permitting and the final design for the plant.

Waggoner Creek Facility: The Cities of Leary, Nash, Wake Village, and Texarkana, Texas are still reviewing the contracts for final approval. NewGen will be enlisted to evaluate data and create a rate structure to repay the debt for that project.

The sampling contract with Red River Army Depot has been renewed for another year. Kyle Dooley signed it in early October. The annual cost did decrease from \$169,000 down to \$144,000.

No action taken.

## **IX. Executive Session**

The board did not move into Executive Session.

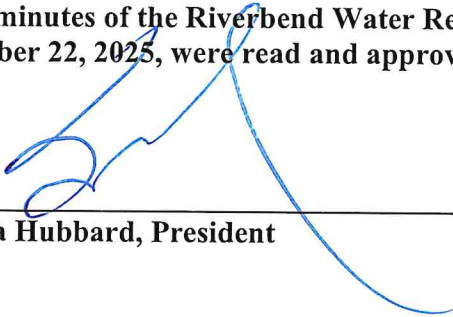
**X. Next Riverbend Meetings**

Riverbend Regular Meeting, Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. at Riverbend Offices, 228 A Texas Avenue, New Boston, Texas 75570.

**XI. Adjournment**

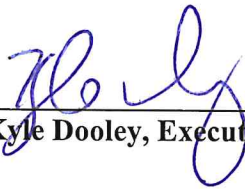
With no additional business to be discussed, a motion was made by Steve Mayo and seconded by Van Alexander to adjourn the meeting at 12:26 p.m.

**The minutes of the Riverbend Water Resources District Board of Directors meeting, held on October 22, 2025, were read and approved on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025.**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Sonja Hubbard, President

Attest:



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Kyle Dooley, Executive Director/ CEO

