MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Laguna Madre Water District Board of Directors
November 8, 2017
5:30 PM -7:02 PM
Board Room

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the **LAGUNA MADRE WATER DISTRICT** was held at the Administration Office of the District at 105 Port Road, Port Isabel, Texas on the **8**TH day of November **2017**, at the hour of **5:30 P.M.**, pursuant to written notice as prescribed by law.

ITEM #1 QUORUM

The **SECRETARY** called the meeting to order and determined the Notice of the Meeting had been duly posted in accordance with the law and the following present constituted a quorum:

PRESENT: Secretary, Doyle Wells

Director, Herb Houston Director, Alex Avalos

ABSENT: Chairman, Scott D. Friedman

Vice Chairman, Rick A. Wells

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: General Manager, Carlos J. Galvan, Jr.

Director of Operations, Robert Gomez

District Engineer, Charles Ortiz Director of Finance, Sanjuana Garcia Purchasing Agent, Enrique Samaniego

Attorney, Eduardo Ortiz

The agenda items discussed in the following order: 1,2,3,9,4,5,6,7,8,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18

ITEM #2 <u>INVOCATION AND PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE</u>

The meeting began with the Pledge Allegiance and an Opening Prayer.

ITEM #3 INVITATION TO THE AUDIENCE FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

The District's Bond Election was on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, for Proposition A totaling \$16,435,00 in bonds to fund projects to provide improvements, facilities, land, plants, equipment; and appliances intended to expand and improve the systems and properties inside the District. The District Bond Election did not pass, and **A. AVALOS** noted, even though the Bond did not go through still pleased with the number of voters who voted for it, it shows there is interest out there and very proud of the people who did support it.

ITEM #4 CONSIDER AND APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 25, 2017. (C. GALVAN)

This item was taken out of order and discussed after item #9.

The **BOARD** agreed to approve subject to changes. The following items from October 25, 2017, need corrections:

Item 1 – Correction, Director of Operations, Robert Gomez

Item 7 – Correction add, Rate change through December 31, 2017.

Item 11 – Correction, Contractor (not contract).

H. HOUSTON made a motion to approve, seconded by A. AVALOS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ITEM #5 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 22, 2017
- SCHEDULE A WORKSHOP
- There was a discussion to cancel or reschedule the second Board of Directors regularly scheduled meeting in November. It was determined to cancel the meeting of November 22, 2017, and possibly schedule a special meeting, if needed.
- There was a discussion on scheduling a future Workshop Meeting to discuss Job Descriptions. It was agreed to possibly schedule a Workshop Meeting before a regularly scheduled meeting in December.

ITEM #6 <u>DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT</u>

- CAPITAL PROJECTS STATUS
- NOVEMBER 2017 ELECTION RESULTS
- Discussion and questions ensued regarding the summary spreadsheet on the spending of the Capital Projects Status Tax Bonds and Rate Revenue & Notes Report. A possible Workshop to prioritize projects based on available funds. Also, a recommendation to discuss as an agenda item with possible action at a regularly scheduled meeting.
- November 2017 Election Results 873 Total Votes, Unofficial Results 371 in favor and 497 against, discussion ensued.

ITEM #7 DIRECTOR OF OPERATION'S REPORT

REPORT OF WATER PUMPED INTO SPI GOLF COURSE LAKES

Report on the redirection of Wastewater from Lift Station 3 in Laguna Heights is being bypassed and sent directly to Lift Station 2, then to Lift Station 1, after to the Laguna Vista
Sewer Treatment Plant. It's then processed and becomes Effluent water that goes into the
reuse system, and pumped into the South Padre Island Golf Course Lake. The Golf Course
lake is cleaner and starting to maintain a higher level of water.

ITEM #8 CONSIDER AND DISCUSS THE TASTE AND ODOR CONTROL OF THE POTABLE WATER (C. GALVAN)

Discussion and questions ensued regarding eliminating odor and control, and the treatment process on potable water. Treatment is monthly. Staff is attaining information on aerators to aerate the water to help prevent algae growth at the reservoirs. Also mentioned, working on getting a cost estimate to possibly install a reverse osmosis system after the existing microfiltration system that will help improve the taste.

A point was given, to work on information to give out to District customers, to be proactive and necessary to add value to our water.

This item was for discussion only, no action taken.

ITEM #9 CONSIDER AND DISCUSS ENTERING INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITIES OF PORT ISABEL AND LAGUNA VISTA FOR BILLING THEIR GARBAGE SERVICE FEES (C. GALVAN)

This item was taken out of order and discussed after Item #3 on the agenda.

Discussion and questions ensued regarding the District billing system to include Garbage Collection Service fees for Laguna Vista and Port Isabel Customers. Mr. Rolando Vela, City Manager for the Town of Laguna Vista and Mr. Jared Hockema, City Manager for the City of Port Isabel, were present at the meeting. Both cities are requesting for the Board of Directors to consider entering into an agreement to take over the garbage service fees by performing the billing preparations and billing statements to customers through the LMWD's billing process/procedures. Cities mentioned an administrative fee would be included for the services. Laguna Vista currently manages their garbage service fees quarterly through Republic Services and are experiencing checks and balances problems. Port Isabel manages their garbage service fees monthly through Allied Waste. Port Isabel and Laguna Vista would like to ensure that every residence to have garbage service by having garbage service fee billed through LMWD (all accounts with active water service). Discussion and questions ensued. A concerned was raised on enforcing collection on non-payment of garbage fees, and it was noted, LMWD will not disconnect water service (or be held liable) if the Customer does not pay garbage fee.

It was agreed to move forward, for Staff to meet with both cities to discuss further and for staff to gather information on how it could function adding the garbage service fees to a customer's water bill. The Board also recommended for Staff to get will Legal Counsel.

This item was for discussion only, no action taken.

ITEM #10 CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF WATER TOWER LEASE AGREEMENT
WITH VERIZON WIRELESS FOR THE ANTENNA AT ANDY BOWIE (C. GALVAN)

There was a discussion and several motions regarding the Verizon Wireless rent escalation term noting Verizon Wireless will not increase beyond 2% per term. Discussion and questions ensued.

The Board agreed to not accept the Contract for the reason based on an existing long-standing agreement with AT&T that has a 3% increase and therefore will not give less of an amount. It was noted, a 1% increase (to the 2%) equals \$180.00 per year. The Board directed Mr. Galvan to convey the message to Verizon.

D. WELLS made a motion to direct Mr. Galvan to respond as discussed, seconded by **H. HOUSTON**. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**. **ITEM DENIED**.

ITEM #11 CONSIDER AND APPROVE ABANDONMENT OF EASEMENT ON LOT 1A BETWEEN WEST

AMBERIACK STREET AND WEST WHITING STREET ON LAGUNA BLVD., SOUTH PADRE

ISLAND. (R. GOMEZ)

There was a discussion, and it was agreed to amend the motion to approve the abandonment of easement on Lot 1A between West Amberjack Street and West Whiting Street on Laguna Blvd., SPI subject to receiving proper documentation on the metes and bounds description and with attorneys review.

A. AVALOS made a motion to approve the abandonment of easement, seconded by **H. HOUSTON. D. WELLS** opposed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ITEM #12 CONSIDER AND APPROVE TO REJECT THE EXISTING CONTRACT OF SODIUM CHLORITE

WITH INTERNATIONAL DIOXIDE INC. AND APPROVE THE SECOND LOWEST BIDDER EVOQUA

WATER TECHNOLOGIES LLC (BID # CH-17-08-01/08). (E. SAMANIEGO)

There was a discussion, and it was agreed to reject International Dioxide Inc. and award the second lowest bidder.

H. HOUSTON made a motion to approve Contract for Sodium Chlorite to Evoqua Water Technologies LLC, seconded by **A. AVALOS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEM #13 CONSIDER AND APPROVE 2 -YEARS CONTRACT FOR ASPHALT AND PAVING REPAIRS WITH G
&T PAVING (BID # APR-17-08-03/04). (E. SAMANIEGO)

At Regular Meeting of September 27, 2017, there was a discussion on the bid results and agreed to approve the rejection of the bid and extend one year to the existing contract for Asphalt and Paving Repairs with GT Paving Company. G & T Paving is requesting a contract extension for two years instead of one year.

H. HOUSTON made a motion to approve 2-year contract extension, seconded by A. AVALOS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ITEM #14 CONSIDER AND APPROVE AMBIOTEC ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC. TO PERFORM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FOR GROUNDWATER MONITORING AT PORT ISABEL MONOFILL. (C. ORTIZ)

There was a discussion, and it was agreed to deny Ambiotec Environmental Consultants, Inc. to perform Environmental Services for Groundwater monitoring at Port Isabel Monofill.

The Board recommended on Task 1, Resolve Groundwater Compliance Issues – to be completed by PSI, and Task 2, Ground Monitoring – issue RFQ's.

A. AVALOS made a motion to deny item #14 and for staff move forward as directed, seconded by **H. HOUSTON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** <u>ITEM DENIED.</u>

ITEM #15 CONSIDER AND REVIEW EXPENDITURES FOR OCTOBER 16-31, 2017. (S. GARCIA)

There was a discussion on certain items listed on the expenditures. The Board agreed to approve.

H. HOUSTON made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by A. AVALOS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ITEM #16

EXECUTIVE SESSION PERMITTED BY THE OPEN MEETING ACT, V.T.C.A., GOVERNMENT

CODE SECTION 551.001 ET. SEQ., UNDER SECTION 551.071, CONSULTATION WITH

ATTORNEY; SECTION 551.074 (A) (1), AUTHORIZING CERTAIN DELIBERATIONS ABOUT

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT TO BE HELD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

A.	DISCUSSION ON LEGAL MATTERS WITH COUNSEL CONCERNING 6900 PADRE
	BLVD./7200 PADRE BLVD.

- B. TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION,
 REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES TO
 WIT: DISTRICT ENGINEER
- C. TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION,

 REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES TO

 WIT: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

H. HOUSTON made a motion not to go into executive session, and it was agreed to cancel Executive Session items, seconded by **A. AVALOS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEM #17 CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEM, IF NECESSARY.

This item did not get discussed, and nothing reported, no action taken.

ITEM #18 ADJOURNMENT

The SECRETARY adjourned the meeting at 7:02 PM.

DOYLE WELLS, SECRETARY	

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 13th DAY OF DECEMBER 2017.