

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Northeast Texas Municipal Water District  
Board of Directors  
April 26, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

The Board of Directors of the Northeast Texas Municipal Water District met in an open meeting on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was held at Northeast Texas Municipal Water District's Executive Office located at 4180 Farm Road 250, Hughes Springs, Texas 75656. Notice of the meeting was legally posted. A quorum was present. An opportunity was provided for public comments before any action was taken by the Board of Directors.

Present:     Jack Salmon, Jr.           - Avinger  
              Robyn Shelton           - Hughes Springs  
              Patrick Smith           - Pittsburg  
              Saundra Wexler       - Lone Star  
              Stan Wyatt           - Daingerfield  
              Joseph W. Weir, III   - Ore City  
              George Otstott       - Jefferson

Staff:       Walt Sears, Jr.  
              Dominik Sobieraj  
              Robyn Goodson  
              Osiris Brantley  
              Robert Speight

Guest:       Joncie Young           - KSA Engineers, Inc.

President Robyn Shelton called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Jack Salmon gave the invocation. Mrs. Shelton led the directors in the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag and the Texas flag. The seating arrangement was spacious enough for everyone in attendance to be more than 6 feet apart.

On a motion by Saundra Wexler and a second by Joseph W. Weir, III minutes of the March 22, 2021 meeting were approved. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Jack Salmon, Jr. made a motion to approve the monthly investment report, to approve financial reports on all current accounts and funds, and pay invoices for professional services. Saundra Wexler seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Patrick Smith made a motion to approve the March 2021 Southside financial report as presented and approve the quarterly reconciliation and adjusting entries as presented. George Otstott seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Water Production Operations Report was made by Dominik Sobieraj:

- Landon – UPPDATE:
  - Landon Tidmore has won his fight with covid – pneumonia and has been released to full duty as of Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>. He is going to work full week at Pittsburg plant before going back to rotation between Pittsburg and Tanner plants.
- Raw water quality is stabilizing, some turbidity issues due to constant release of water by Corps of Engineers of more than 1000cfs. We are entering more stable season and increasing raw water temperatures. Quality of produced water meets all local, state, and federal requirements.

## **PITTSBURG**

- Our new VFD pump has been installed and is working. During final testing we experienced a minor vibration on the motor for that pump. Smith pump is scheduled to perform field vibration/balance test and correct the problem within the next 2 weeks.
- We will be installing new ATI Chlorine and Ph analyzers this month.
- Updated Monitoring Plant for Pittsburg will be submitted to TCEQ within 30 days of completion of the upgrades.
- We will be doing a walk through for Cyber Security assessment sometimes in April or early May.
- Assessing physical security at Pittsburg plant – like cameras/ gate access/ raw water intake monitoring.

## **TANNER**

- Tanner Plant went back to full/normal schedule, as of right now 5 members of Tanner personnel are fully vaccinated, we are still observing CDC guidelines in dealing with covid exposure etc.
- We are working on replacing backup parts for broken PLC modules.
- We are getting quotes on removal of old “VENTURI” meters from Hughes Springs and Daingerfield lines at the Tanner Plant. Removal of those meters will allow space for smooth spool piece of pipe to be placed in the vaults which will allow for more accurate, interference-free placement of our sonic flow meters.
- We replaced broken lead cable of our sludge removal floating pump.
- Preparing a work order for Ladder Logic programming for DFS to implement some ALARM and Totalizer changes.
  - Replicating programming from South Side totalizers – for all meters (no reset).
  - Adding rate of change alarm to Alum and Causitic day tanks to allow operators to take action very quickly if there is a problem with chemical feed.
- Upgrading and repairing entry gate system at Tanner Plant.
  - Gates will be closed at all times with a call-out system in place.
  - Only authorized visitors will be able to enter Tanner Plant.
  - Assessing all physical security for the Tanner plant as well as office, intake and SSBPS.
- Friday April 16<sup>th</sup> Dominik will have a meeting with Sigi from KSA and DHA rep for Cyber Security assessment interview.
- We are reinstating our monthly Staff/Safety meetings at the Tanner Plant, first one on April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- We had our preliminary meeting with KSA about replacement of an old VFD pump at our Raw Water Intake.
- Finishing WINTER EVENT report/findings/conclusions.
- We are preparing for Employee “WINTER EVENT” appreciation BBQ (First week of May).
- GENERATOR:
  - We currently have a standby generator (Clifford Power rental) at the Raw Water Intake, and it is working.
  - After working closely with Osiris and Clifford Power on a detailed quote for a full repair we arrived at total cost of repair at about \$51,000 - our insurance should cover about \$45,000 of that estimate.
  - We are going to file for reimbursement of the rental cost as well (estimated additional \$12,000 - \$16,000).
  - Dominik is gathering bids for sale and removal of the old/broken unit.

Board of Directors Minutes

April 26, 2021

Page 3

- We accepted the bid on a new unit to Clifford Power, and the new generator should come off the assembly line first week of May with delivery to follow 7 to 10 business days after that.
- JW Electric will be mounting/installing a new unit for us.

Robert Speight reported to the Board of Directors, since 2016 our Clean Rivers Program (CRP) has been tracking phosphorus in our watershed. Discharging phosphorus must be done in compliance with TCEQ permits. These permits renew once every 5 years, and we are approaching permit renewal. There are a few communities that are over its phosphorus allotment (Lone Star, Daingerfield, and Omaha). The overage of phosphorus goes into Lake O' the Pines and requires more chemicals to treat it. Waivers were granted for overages occurring in years prior to 2019. Patrick Smith made a motion to table the topic of waiving the payment due from Lone Star, Daingerfield, and Omaha for their overage of phosphorus. Jack Salmon, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye except Stan Wyatt voting no.

Robert Speight gave an update on CRP stakeholder's meeting. Mr. Speight informed the Directors that the alligator snapping turtle is considered for listing under the Endangered Species Act. There are 29 alligator snapping turtle that have been poached from our basin and neighboring basins. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department wants to reintroduce these turtles and their offspring back into the basin of origin. Stephen F. Austin University will monitor these turtles for three and one-half months. The turtles will be monitored to see if they stay in the basin. Jack Salmon, Jr. made a motion to approve the relocation and monitoring plans involving the Alligator Snapping Turtles. George Otstott seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.


During the General Manager's report, Mr. Sears reported on the following:

- Mr. Sears gave an update on flood planning,
- Legislative session is coming to a conclusion in May. Changes in the law are coming in several topics such as, videoing board meetings, website updates and information readily available to the public,
- Upcoming conferences of RRVA and TWCA, and
- Mr. Sears gave an update on conversations about surplus water. The next meeting will be June 18, 2021. It was noted that North Texas M.W.D. hired Jenna Covington, P.E., as its Executive Director/General Manager.

On a motion by Stan Wyatt and a second by Jack Salmon, Jr. the next meeting of the Board of Directors was set for May 24, 2021. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Motion to adjourn was made Jack Salmon, Jr. with a second from George Otstott. Motion carried, all voting aye.

APPROVED:

  
Robyn Shelton, President

ATTEST:

  
Jack Salmon, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer