

RIVER PLANTATION MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 17, 2020

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Julie Gilmer, Tim Goodman, Gerard Smith, Tom Vandever,
and Mark Robin

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Ramirez, District Manager
Paul Radich, District Counsel
River Plantation Residents

**FIRST ORDER: CONFIRM MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS HELD ON NOVEMBER 12TH and November 19th, 2020.**

After discussion and agreement to corrections regarding a spelling error noted by Mr. Vandever, Mr. Robin made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 12th Meeting Minutes. Mr. Vandever seconded the motion.

After discussion and agreement to corrections regarding (1) the inclusion of individuals' information 'is' to be disclosed in the packets and (2) the errant information on the Ninth Order (a copy from the Eighth Order) with respect to committee nominations, Mr. Goodman made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 19th Meeting Minutes. Mr. Vandever seconded the motion.

The motion to accept the Minutes with corrections as discussed and agreed passed unanimously.

SECOND ORDER: RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC.

- * Mr. McLeroy suggested that TWDB can possibly take over monitoring of Water Plant #1 saving \$39,000 electricity charges over five years.
- * Mrs. Judge requested that Directors' Packets be posted on the website before the day of the Board Meeting. In the ensuing discussion thereof, Mr. Radich advised, "generally we don't post draft minutes".
- * Mr. Sakocius again requested regular updates on Charleston.
- * Mr. Sakocius asked if grandfathering would jeopardize the approval from the state.
- * Mr. Sakocius requested that the Minutes be published before they are approved.

THIRD ORDER: DISCUSS/ ACTION DISTRICT WEBSITE POSTING.

Mr. Radich suggested that the Board authorize Richard Ramirez or Smith, Murdaugh Little & Bonham to interact with Off Cinco regarding website updates for current events, announcements, newsletters, policies and the creation of a bulletin board. Mr. Robin made a motion to have Smith, Murdaugh, Little & Bonham update and publish such information. Mr. Smith seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

FOURTH ORDER: DISCUSS/ACTION WTP #1 PUMP REPLACEMENT OR PLANT REMOVAL.

The Board discussed the annual costs for the different options: monitor-mode, repair, or plug. Mr. Goodman made a motion to place WTP #1 in monitor-mode. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith. The motion passed; with Mr. Vandever and Mr. Robin voting against.

FIFTH ORDER: DISCUSS/ACTION PROTECTIVE COATING HYDRO TANK #2.

Mr. Ramirez advised that after inspection there is corrosion inside the Hydro tank. Mr. Ramirez requested approval from the Board to get bids. Mr. Goodman made a motion to approve Mr. Ramirez to get bids to treat Hydro Tank #2. Mr. Robin seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

SIXTH ORDER: DISCUSS/ACTION CULVERT VARIANCE POLICY.

Mr. Radich recommended updating the Culvert Variance Policy. After discussion Mr. Vandever made a motion to approve the updated policy for culvert variances. Mr. Goodman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Item 13, Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation, was moved to Item 6A by Ms. Gilmer. Board exited into Executive Session at 8:17 pm.

Item 14, Reconvene Public Session and Action as Appropriate. Board reconvened at 9:04 pm. Mr. Vandever made a motion to allow the District Attorney to move forward with the preliminary framework of the Charleston settlement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goodman. The motion passed; 4 votes to 1, with Director Smith voting against.

**SEVENTH ORDER: DISCUSS/ACTION DISTRICT ENGINEER
PROPOSAL/QUALIFICATION REQUEST.**

After discussion, Mr. Goodman made a motion to authorize Smith, Murdaugh, Little & Bonham to proceed with the issuance of an RFP for District engineering. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robin. The motion passed unanimously.

**EIGHTH ORDER: DISCUSS/ACTION DISTRICT OPERATOR
PROPOSAL/QUALIFICATION REQUEST.**

After discussion, which included a statement by Mr. Robin expressing total confidence in Mr. Ramirez's ability, Mr. Goodman made a motion to authorize Smith, Murdaugh, Little & Bonham to proceed with the issuance of an RFP for District operator. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vandever. The motion passed unanimously.

NINTH ORDER: DISCUSS/ACTION DISTRICT BONDING AUTHORITY.

Mr. Goodman made a motion to place an item for a May Bond Election for Capital Improvement on next month's agenda. Mr. Vandever seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

TENTH ORDER: REVIEW FINANCIAL AND BOOKKEEPING MATTERS:

- a. Review of Bookkeeper's Report
- b. Review of Report from Tax Assessor- Collector.
- c. Review of Investments.
- d. Approve Payment of District Bills.

Mrs. Gilmer asked for clarification regarding a \$19,000 expense that appears to have been unbudgeted. Mr. Ramirez responded that the expense was an annual expense that was indeed budgeted in December and paid early.

Mr. Ramirez provided clarification with respect to payments to Stolz for the Wastewater Plant rehabilitation.

Mr. Vandever asked for clarification regarding the two different Entergy bills. Mr. Ramirez clarified that the bills were from two different billing cycles; one at the

Mr. Goodman made a motion to approve paying the bills as before. Mr. Robin seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

ELEVENTH ORDER: REVIEW ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a. Managers' Report.
- b. System Totals Report.

Ms. Gilmer made a remark regarding low returns on investments due to low interest rates. Mr. Ramirez confirmed that the Texas Class investments are ongoing.

Mr. Ramirez noted that nothing was out of the ordinary for plant operations.

Mr. Ramirez stated that WTP #2 is now back online following a final walkthrough.

Mr. Ramirez noted the modification for WTP #1 was completed and there are no major expenses foreseen in the future for WTPs as all pumps, blowers, transfers, and main tanks have been replaced or updated.

Mr. Ramirez stated that the new ACH Direct Draft Program is now available. There was no charge to the District other than \$350 to initially setup the software.

TWELVETH ORDER: DISTRICT ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Radich reported a mediation for the Charleston case last Friday. Results of the mediation are confidential. Mr. Radich reiterated that the Board voted to move forward within a preliminary framework for the permanent settlement.

FIFTEENTH ORDER: DISCUSS ANY PENDING BUISNESS.

Mr. Ramirez reported that the contract has been signed for the Jubal Early Drainage Project and the construction start date is set for 11-Jan.

**River Plantation MUD
Board Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2020
Page 5**

SIXTEENTH ORDER: SET DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING.

After discussion, the Board agreed to set the next month's meeting for January 28th at 6:30 pm via teleconference.

There being no further business, Mr. Goodman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Robin seconded the motion and it was agreed unanimously. Ms. Gilmer declared the meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm on 17-Dec.



Gerard Smith, Secretary