

**CITY OF HARLINGEN WATERWORKS SYSTEM**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday May 25, 2022**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Utility Board of Trustees was conducted on the 25th day of May 2022 at 5:00 P.M. in the Harlingen Waterworks System's Board Room located on the second floor at 134 East Van Buren Avenue, in the City of Harlingen, Texas.

City Commissioners Present: Frank Morales

Board Members Present: Michael Murphy, Chairman  
Chris Bartnesky, Vice Chair  
Curtis Bonner, Trustee  
Enrique Del Angel, Trustee  
Norma Sepulveda, Mayor, Ex-Officio

Staff Present: Tim Skoglund, General Manager  
Gene McCullough, System Attorney  
Darrell Gunn, System Consultant (via videoconference)  
Robert Canterbury, System Consultant  
Jon Hedegard, Director of Wastewater Services  
David Sanchez, Director of Water Services  
Jose L Rodriguez, Director of Information Technology  
Joyce Lamon, Customer Service Director  
Elizabeth Soto, Director of Human Resources  
Ron De La Garza, Director of Finance & Revenue  
Gabriel Trevino, Assistant Utility Engineer

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: OPEN MEETING AND WELCOME**

Michael Murphy, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:02 P.M. and asked if the agenda had been posted in accordance with the law; Nilda Sanchez responded affirmatively.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: COMMUNICATION / INPUT FROM CUSTOMERS AND RESIDENTS OF HARLINGEN**

Desi Martinez, Citizen of Harlingen, expressed his concern regarding asbestos waterlines within the water system. He explained that 60% to 70% of current water lines were still asbestos piping and needed replacement. With the 10-million-dollar Covid money (ARPA) scheduled for disbursement to the Waterworks, he stated his desire to see those monies spent on updating the water and wastewater systems. He recommended that system information be provided to the public for evaluation, direction, and prioritization of improvements to Waterworks' infrastructure.

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**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Board Meeting of April 27, 2022**

Curtis Bonner, Trustee, noted a misspelling on page 3 of the word “proposed”. Tim Skoglund acknowledged the error and stated that the correction would be made.

A motion to approve the Board Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of April 27, 2022, was made.

Motion: Curtis Bonner  
Second: Chris Bartnesky

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**a) Report on Delinquent accounts in excess of \$500 per account.**

Joyce Lamon gave an overview of the delinquent accounts that were pending. Discussion by the Board ensued.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: FINANCIALS**

**a) Monthly Financial report for month ending April 30, 2022**

Ron De La Garza gave an overview of the financial reports for April 30, 2022. Discussion by the Board ensued.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: RESOLUTIONS**

**a) R2122-28: Awarding a contract for Engineering Services for Design of Improvements to Lift Station No. 76 and its Force Main.**

Tim Skoglund reported that pumping improvements for the lift station were budgeted but that difficult design challenges remained. The Lift Station 76 and Lift Station 75 were constructed with the intent of conveying wastewater from the City of Primera and the Town of Combes to Harlingen’s wastewater treatment plant under a wholesale contract. However, additional flows associated with growth in western Harlingen have been directed to the lift station system along with other re-routed flows, resulting in lift station overload during wet weather events.

Mr. Skoglund reported that increasing Lift Station 76’s capacity using larger pumps to push more flow through the existing 16-inch force main would be a solution to resolve the overloading and provide additional capacity for future growth. The increased pressure in the force main resulting from the upgraded pumping would, however, generate greater forces at bends in the force main than the existing thrust blocks are able to withstand.

Mr. Skoglund recommended engaging an engineering consultant with expertise in challenging pumping applications for design of thrust restraint and pumping upgrades to ensure uninterrupted operation of this critical lift station through the upgrade process.

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CP&Y had been identified as the most qualified firm based its response to a request for qualifications. Discussion by the Board ensued.

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2122-28 – awarding a contract to CP&Y for Engineering Services for Design of Improvements to Lift Station No. 76 and its Force Main.

Motion: Curtis Bonner  
Second: Enrique Del Angel

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).

**b) R2122-29: Approving an extension of consulting agreement with Darrell Gunn, P.E.**

Tim Skoglund noted Darrell Gunn continued to be a valuable resource as consultant and that Mr. Gunn had expressed willingness to continue in that role for an additional year. Discussion by the Board ensued.

A motion was made to approve Resolution No. R2122-29 – approving an extension of consulting agreement with Darrell Gunn, P.E.

Motion: Curtis Bonner  
Second: Chris Bartnesky

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).

**c) R2122-30: Awarding a contract for On-Call Operations support for water treatment, conveyance, and water quality.**

Tim Skoglund informed the Board that essential information was still pending recommended this item be tabled until a later meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: MANAGER’S REPORTS**

Mr. Skoglund highlighted portions of the Manager’s Report documents in the meeting packet. The Board asked questions and discussed the information that was presented.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: ADJOURN**

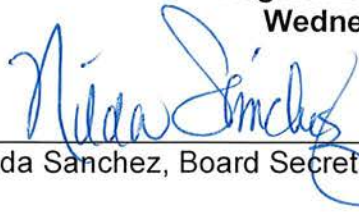
There being no further business to discuss, Chairman, Murphy, called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 P.M.

Motion: Chris Bartnesky  
Second: Enrique Del Angel

Motion to approve was carried by a vote of the Board (4-0).

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Attest:

  
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Nilda Sanchez, Board Secretary