

NUECES WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

Minutes – Regular Meeting
April 14, 2020

Board Members Present:

Alice J. Black
Mike Benton
Sherry Zimmerman

Board Members Absent:

Donald Lundmark
Ruth Ann Smith

Staff Present:

Carola G. Serrato
Frances De Leon
Jo Ella Wagner

Guests Present:

Linda Youngblood

1. Call to Order.

Ms. Alice J. Black, President, called the Regular Meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. at the South Texas Water Authority Boardroom, 2302 East Sage Road, Kingsville, Texas. A quorum was present.

2. Citizen comments.

Ms. Black opened the floor for citizen comments. No comments from the public were made.

3. Election of officers.

Ms. Zimmerman made a motion to re-elect the current slate of officers by acclamation. Mr. Benton seconded. All voted in favor.

The slate of officers remains as follows:

President – Alice Black
Vice-President – Mike Benton
Secretary/Treasurer – Ruth Ann Smith

4. Approval of Minutes.

Mr. Benton made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2020 Regular Meeting as presented. Ms. Zimmerman seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

5. Treasurer's Report/Payment of Bills.

The following financial reports were presented for the Board's review and approval:

Treasurer's Report as of February 29, 2020

Account Activity for General Account for February 1, 2020 to February 29, 2020

Account Activity for Operations Account for February 1, 2020 to February 29, 2020

TEXPOOL Participant Statement for 02/01/2020 – 02/29/2020 for General Account

TEXPOOL Participant Statement for 02/01/2020 – 02/29/2020 for Security Deposit Account

TexSTAR General Account Statement for 02/01/2020 – 02/29/2020

The following bills were presented for payment:

STWA Invoice S20-042 February 2020 Water Usage, Water Cost and Handling Charge	\$40,657.93
STWA Invoice S20-043 February 2020 General and Administration	\$17,455.60
STWA Invoice S20-045 February 2020 Taps and Repairs	\$37,606.51
STWA Invoice S20-047 Reimbursement for supply purchases from various vendors	\$ 404.34
STWA Invoice S20-061 Payroll expense for Part-time Employee for January, February and March 2020	\$ 418.28
STWA Invoice S20-063 Payroll expense for Stand By Pay for January 1, 2020 through March 25, 2020	\$ 366.96
STWA Invoice S20-065 Reimburse for Fiber optic phone service (12/19/19 through 03/19/20) and High Touch Technology support (01/01/20 through 03/31/20)	\$ 990.10

Ms. Serrato mentioned that TxDOT's reimbursement for the work on the south end of the Driscoll Relief Route has been received. Ms. Zimmerman made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and payment of the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Benton. All voted in favor.

6. Appointment of Credentials Committee.

Ms. Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Mr. William Staff, Mr. Lundmark and Ms. Smith to the Credentials Committee. Mr. Benton seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

7. Tariff Amendment – Section G: Rates and Service Fees Item 6 – Standard and Non-Standard Availability Charges.

Ms. Serrato stated that as a result of AquaTexas' request for a contract to service Golden Acres with 100% of its needs, she began working on rates for charging for the service. NewGen Strategies reviewed the proposed rates and confirmed that those rates appeared to be fair. She presented a proposed amended Section G. Rates and Service Fees of the NWSC Tariff adding availability charges for a 1 ½" meter. She added that after the amended Tariff is adopted and the additional parallel line is constructed, everything will be in place for approval and execution of the water supply contract. Mr. Benton made a motion to adopt the Tariff Amendment. Ms. Zimmerman seconded and all voted in favor.

8. Proposed Project and Revised Water Supply Contract with AquaTexas to provide service to Golden Acres.

Ms. Serrato presented the proposed contract with AquaTexas for service to Golden Acres. She stated that legal counsel, Bill Flickinger, advises not to execute the contract until installation of the waterline, meter and flow regulator is completed.

9. Resolution 20-03. Resolution authorizing the President of the Nueces Water Supply Corporation to execute a 20-year Water Supply Contract with AquaTexas, Inc., DBA AquaTexas, a Texas Corporation in Nueces County, Texas.

Mr. Benton made a motion to adopt Resolution 20-03 contingent on AquaTexas completing the project to install the needed waterline, meter and flow regulator. Ms. Zimmerman seconded. All voted in favor.

10. License Agreement/Permanent Easement for Bishop East PS Property.

Ms. Serrato stated that the STWA and Bishop negotiating committees have not met and she will continue to work on arranging a meeting. She had nothing further to report.

11. All matters pertaining to NWSC waterline adjustments for TxDOT Relief Route in Driscoll, Texas.

Ms. Serrato reported that reimbursement for the south portion of the relief route has been received. She had nothing further to report.

12. New Banquete Pump Station and existing pumps in existing pump station.

Ms. Serrato reported that STWA declined making an offer for the existing pumps that will no longer be used by NWSC but will be needed by the Banquete Water District. Ms. Serrato described the arrangement of the facilities currently and after completion of the project. After discussion regarding sale of the pumps, Mr. Benton made a motion to give the pumps to STWA

under a Bill of Sale to remove liability from the Corporation. Ms. Zimmerman seconded and all voted in favor.

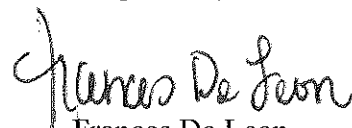
13. COVID-19 Response and Operation Changes.

Ms. Serrato stated that in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the office lobby and drive-thru window have been closed to the public as of March 23rd and check or money order payments are being accepted in the night drop box and by mail. As of March 30th, several office employees have started working from home. Disconnections were not performed due to the situation and since then, the PUC has issued an order prohibiting disconnection of utilities. Ms. Serrato added that the Corporation's collection rate is good at this time, but asked for the Board's authorization to start working on a payment plan for customers who are not able to make payments during this time. She suggested that payments could be spread over a six-month period and paid in addition payments for the current water bills. The Board agreed by consensus to authorize staff to work on a payment plan. Ms. Serrato said she would present the payment plan at the next meeting.

14. Adjournment.

With no further business to conduct, Ms. Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 a.m. Mr. Benton seconded and all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,


Frances De Leon
Assistant Secretary