

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Northeast Texas Municipal Water District
Board of Directors
July 24, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

The Board of Directors of the Northeast Texas Municipal Water District met in an open meeting on Monday, July 24, 2023, 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
	Stan Wyatt	-	Daingerfield
	George Otstott	-	Jefferson
	Sandra Wexler	-	Lone Star
	Jimmy E. Cox	-	Ore City
	Patrick Smith	-	Pittsburg
Staff:	Wayne Owen	-	NETMWD
	Dominik Sobieraj	-	NETMWD
	Osiris Brantley	-	NETMWD
	Robert Speight	-	NETMWD
Virtual	Brian Sledge	-	General Counsel
Guest	David Simpson		

President George Otstott called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Jack Salmon gave the invocation. Mr. Otstott led the directors in the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag. David Simpson made a public comment.

On a motion by Sandra Wexler and a second by Stan Wyatt, minutes of the June 26, 2023, meeting were approved. Motion carried, all voting aye.

George Otstott gave the oaths of office to returning director, Sandra Wexler. The oath of office was signed, notarized, and received by the district for filing.

A motion to approve the Director's Bonds in the amount of \$10,000 was made by Jimmy Cox. Jack Salmon seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Sandra Wexler made a motion to adopt a resolution calling for Director's compensation to remain at \$150 per day and decline the increased per diem authorized by the Texas Legislature. Jimmy Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

On a motion by Jimmy Cox and a second by Stan Wyatt, acceptance of the audit engagement letter with Arnold, Walker Arnold & Co., P.C. was approved. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Jack Salmon made a motion to approve the monthly investment report, approve financial reports on all current accounts and funds, approve the three-month review for LOPSS expenses and authorization to make adjusting entries for April, May, and June 2023, and pay invoices for professional services. Jimmy Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

An update to all job descriptions in the Employee Policy Manual was presented to the Board, along with allowing two employees in a division to take vacation at the same time by supervisor authorization, and the addition of the day after Thanksgiving as a paid holiday. Sandra Wexler made a motion to approve the proposed updates to the Employee Policy Manual. Stan Wyatt seconded the motion. Motion carried all voting aye.

Dominik Sobieraj presented the 2023-2024 Capital Improvement propositions. Stan Wyatt made a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Budget list. Jimmy Cox seconded the motion. Motion carried all voting aye. The NETMWD 2023-2024 budget was put on hold until the August 2023 Board meeting. Patrik Smith made a motion to release the draft budget to member cities. Jack Salmon seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Water Production Operations Report was made by Dominik Sobieraj:

Raw water quality is moderate. We had to go up on Alum dosage to counter water quality issues. Current dosage range (70mg/l – 80mg/l)

PITTSBURG

- Generator is in place (official full start-up scheduled for July 5th)
 - Startup was successful.
- Working on chlorine/ammonia feed system (Capital Imp)
- Communicating with the City of Pittsburg about water quality issues
- New Utility Director Chad Pearson

TANNER

- Working on adjusting sludge dump plug valves
 - Installing gear boxes
 - Fabricating new pedestals
- Trenches have been filled – JW preparing to do final hook up of a new 480v line.
 - All south area of the sludge hill is now available for drying beds.
- Received 4 (60x200) sludge bags.
- Working on CIP list/Budget for FY 2023/2024
- Drained and cleaned basin #3 (all 4 basins are now good to go for summer run)
- The broken spool piece in the p-Trap has been replaced.

The District's General Counsel, Brian Sledge, in response to a public comment received and a recent newspaper article, noted that the manner in which the District provides notice of its meetings and the practices and procedures it utilizes in calling open or closed sessions of the Board are fully compliant with the Texas Open Meetings Act and consistent with the practices and procedures utilized by most other local governmental entities of which he is aware. Mr. Sledge noted that public transparency and compliance with open government laws are top priorities of the District, and that it was unfortunate that anything to the contrary would be portrayed to others. Mr. Sledge had nothing further to report concerning pertinent legal issues and developments impacting the District that had not already been shared with the Board.

On a motion by Patrick Smith, and a second by Sandra Wexler, the approval for the standard joint-funding agreement with USGS for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, was made. Motion carried all voting aye.

The 2023 Basin Highlights Report for the Cypress Creek Basin was postponed for the August 2023 Board meeting.

During the General Manager's report, Mr. Owen spoke about the experiences with six out of the seven member cities concerning the potential proposed rate increase.

On a motion by Sandra Wexler and a second by Stan Wyatt, the next meeting of the Board of Directors was set for August 28, 2023. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jack Salmon with a second from Jimmy Cox. Motion carried, all voting aye.

APPROVED:



George Otstott, President

ATTEST:

