

SOUTH TEXAS WATER AUTHORITY
Regular Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2024
Minutes

Board Members Present:

Jose Graveley
Frances Garcia
Imelda Garza
Rudy Galvan, Jr.
Kathleen Lowman
Joe Morales
Art Rodriguez

Board Members Absent:

Patsy Rodgers
Angela Pena

Staff Present:

John Marez
Frances De Leon
Jo Ella Wagner
Patrick Sendejo

Guests Present:

Rogelio Rodriguez, Water Finance Exchange
Sergio Luna, I.C.E
Margaret Kelly, John Womack & Co., P.C.
Louis Longoria, John Womack & Co., P.C.

1. Call to Order.

Mr. Jose Graveley, Board President, called the Regular Meeting of the STWA Board of Directors to order at 5:34 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. Citizen Comments.

Mr. Graveley opened the floor to citizen's comments. No comments were made.

3. Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Audit.

Ms. Margaret Kelley, John Womack & Co., P.C. reviewed the Fiscal Year 2023 Audit with the Board and reported that all records were in order and the Authority's financial position continued to strengthen. She added that there was nothing negative to report and thanked staff for their work.

4. **Resolution 24-01.** Resolution accepting the Fiscal Year 2023 Audit prepared by John Womack & Co., P.C. of Kingsville, Texas.

Mr. Galvan made a motion to approve Resolution 24-01. Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

5. Consideration and approval of a resolution by the Board of Directors of the South Texas Water Authority requesting financial assistance from the Texas Water Development Board; authorizing the filing of an application for assistance; and making certain findings in connection therewith (**Resolution 24-02**).

6. Consideration and approval of a Financial Advisory Services Contract pursuant to a request for proposal.
7. Consideration and approval of a Bond Counsel Services Contract pursuant to a request for proposal.
8. Consideration and approval of an Engineering Services Contract pursuant to a request for proposal.

Mr. Marez presented an Application Affidavit, Certificate for Resolution, and Resolution 24-02 listing Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc as Financial Advisor, ICE Engineers at Engineer, Winstead PC as Bond Counsel and Water Finance Exchange as Administrator. He stated that as part of the process for Texas Water Development Board Funding, selection of firms to carry out the Financial Advisory, Bond Counsel, Engineering and Administrative Services is needed. He added that the selected firms were reviewed by the STWA Selection Committee/Executive Committee and he requested approval of Resolution 24-02 as the final step in preparing for TWDB funding. Mr. Graveley made a motion to approve Resolution 24-02 and the selected firms. Mr. Rodriguez seconded. All voted in favor.

9. Approval of Minutes.

Ms. Garcia made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented. Mr. Rodriguez seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

10. Payment of Bills.

The following invoices were presented for Board approval:

• Stewart & Stevenson	\$ 10,000.00
• Kevin Kieschnick	\$ 2,941.60
• Kevin Kieschnick	\$ 2,645.97
• Kleberg County	\$ 25,641.00

Mr. Galvan made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Ms. Garcia seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Operation and Maintenance Reports.

Mr. Sendejo reported that the two Field Technician positions have been filled. He added that Hector Barbosa has been hired as the Cathodic Protection Technician and he holds a NACE certification and has extensive CP experience. Mr. Marez stated that Mr. Barbosa has provided ideas for saving money by performing much of the CP work in-house and has discussed providing training to other staff members.

12. Bids for purchase of two Fiscal Year 2024 pickup trucks.

Mr. Marez stated that after making a minor change to the bid specifications, bid packets were again sent out and one bid was received. He presented a bid from Sames Ford for two 2023 Ford F150 4x2 Supercrew trucks priced at \$42,986 each. He noted that the newest truck was purchased for \$59,780.00.

13. Resolution 24-03. Resolution awarding the bid for the purchase of two pickup trucks.

Mr. Galvan moved to adopt Resolution 24-03 awarding the bid for two trucks to Sames Ford in the amount of \$42,986 each. Mr. Rodriguez seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

14. Approval of Annexation of Certain Lands to the South Texas Water Authority.

- a. Victor Lee Castro and Jennifer Lee Salinas – 0.666 acre, more or less, tract of land also being known as Tract 9, Cyndie Park Unit 1, Nueces County, Texas.
- b. Maria De Jesus Estrada – Southwesterly one-half of Tract 17, all of Tract 18 and 19, and the Northeasterly one-half of Tract 20, Cyndie Park Unit 2, Nueces County, Texas

The Public Hearing on the Annexation Petitions for Victor Lee Castro and Jennifer Lee Salinas in Cyndie Park Unit 1 and Maria De Jesus Estrada in Cyndie Park Unit 2 was conducted prior to this meeting.

15. Resolution 24-04. Resolution approving Annexation of Certain Lands to the South Texas Water Authority. (Victor Lee Castro and Jennifer Lee Salinas).

16. Resolution 24-05. Resolution approving Annexation of Certain Lands to the South Texas Water Authority. (Maria De Jesus Estrada).

Mr. Graveley made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-04 and Resolution 24-05. The motion was seconded by Mr. Galvan and passed unanimously.

17. Texas excavation Safety System Annual Meeting and Ballots for Election of Directors and Bylaws Amendment.

Mr. Marez presented the Texas Excavation Safety System (TESS) official ballot to cast STWA's votes for the TESS Board of Directors and Bylaws Amendment. Ms. Lowman made a motion to vote in favor of the Bylaws Amendment, Ms. Garza seconded and all voted in favor. Ms. Garza made a motion to cast STWA's 10 votes for Molly Carriere, Ms. Lowman seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

18. Administration Report.

Mr. Marez stated that due to recent rain levels the City of Corpus Christi has not moved forward with implementing Drought Contingency Stage 2 but continues to monitor conditions. He also reported that he will be meeting with Seven Seas soon to explore an alternate water source. Mr. Graveley voiced his concerns about lacking a second source of water and Mr. Marez agreed to include discussion of this topic on the next agenda.

19. Adjournment.

Mr. Galvan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m. Ms. Garza seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frances De Leon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Frances De Leon
Assistant Secretary