


MINUTES
 Regular Meeting
 Laguna Madre Water District
 Board of Directors
 Wednesday, July 8, 2020
 5:30 PM – 6:37 PM
 Board Room

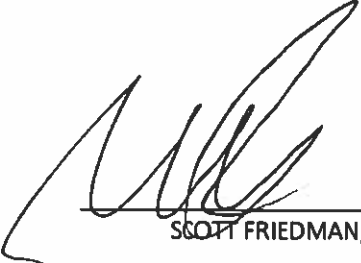
1	<p><u>QUORUM</u></p> <p>PRESENT: Chairman, Scott Friedman Vice-Chairman, Herb Houston Secretary, Alex Avalos Director, Jason Starkey Director, Adam Lalonde</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: right;">Virtual Meeting with Zoom Virtual Meeting with Zoom</p> <p>ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: General Manager, Carlos J. Galvan, Jr. Director of Operations, Robert Gomez District Engineer, Charles Ortiz Purchasing Agent, Enrique Samaniego Director of Finance, Eddie Salazar Attorney, Brian Hansen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Virtual Meeting with Zoom Virtual Meeting with Zoom</p> <p>Agenda items presented in the following order: 1,2,3,4, 6, 7, 5, 8, 9, 10,11,12,13,14, 15, 16</p>	
2	<p><u>INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u></p> <p>The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, and E. Salazar said the Invocation.</p>	
3	<p><u>INVITATION TO THE AUDIENCE FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS</u></p> <p>COMMENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victor Baldovinos, Port Isabel resident, noted he has the Water-Smart Application for his residential meter and received an alert of a leak. There was not only one leak but two. The App helped him save a lot of money and encouraged everyone to go to LMWD. ORG and get the App • A. Lalonde also agreed to note the App also notified him of a significant leak at his home, the overflow pump for his pool broke, and it was using over a 1,000 gallons of water in an hour 	
4	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING FROM JUNE 24TH, 2020. (C. GALVAN) ♦</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board approved the Regular Meeting Minutes as presented <p>Moved by A. AVALOS, seconded by A. LALONDE.</p> <p>Move to approve.</p>	<p>MOTION CARRIED</p>
5	<p><u>GENERAL MANAGER'S ♦</u></p>	

	<p>REPORT:</p> <p><u>COVID-19 UPDATES –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o C. Galvan, virtual meeting through zoom, noted he is in quarantine and waiting on test results o C. Galvan reported Staff is working on a schedule for the main office, will come back to the Board for approval on some paid time, possibly 10 hours. The schedule is for the Customer Service and Human Resources Department. The other departments are working fine and are separated. C. Galvan will ask the Attorney to review the plan and go over the schedule before requesting Board approval either at an Emergency Meeting or Special Meeting. o Mary Gamboa, Human Resources Manager, virtual meeting through zoom, noted the schedule change is to protect our Employees Health, COVID cases are increasing in the Main Office and other areas, and needing to separate employees as much as possible <p><u>NOVEMBER 2020 ELECTIONS UPDATE –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Reminder, Saturday, July 18, is the first day to file for a place on the Ballot for the Board of Directors Election. The District is closed on Saturdays but may turn in an application on Monday <p><u>TEXAS WATER 2020 – VIRTUAL LAUNCHING THE WEEK OF JULY 13TH</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Reminder Texas Water 2020 virtual launching starts next week <p><u>ASSOCIATION OF WATER BOARD OF DIRECTORS (AWBD) ANNUAL CONFERENCE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The AWBD Conference announced offering a virtual event due the COVID 19 	<p>GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT</p>
<p>6</p>	<p><u>DIRECTOR OF OPERATION'S REPORT</u> 💧</p> <p>REPORT:</p> <p><u>MONTHLY REPORT FOR JUNE -</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Distribution Comparison- 128 call outs less from this year compared to last year due to the meter replacement program. There are a few more water taps this year compared to 2019 o Collections Comparison- The number of calls was pretty even with ten fewer calls compared to last year. The Lift Stations are listed separately and no longer with the Collections Department Report o Pretreatment and Lift Stations – The new Department with a total of 34 service orders within the last ten days. F. Guzman, Pretreatment Manager, gave an update on the new department, followed by questions and answers at the meeting 	<p>DIRECTOR OF OPERATION'S REPORT</p>
<p>7</p>	<p><u>DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT</u> 💧</p> <p>REPORT:</p> <p><u>ANDY BOWIE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGE TO SOUTH PADRE ISLAND BIRDING CENTER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Draft Plan from Freese and Nichols for the testing and protocol, to get the permit to raise the copper limit, and to make it less restricted. Currently working on obtaining a variance on the renewal license, the process is costing around \$40,000 to \$45,000 	

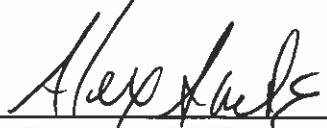
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A one-page resolution is in place that does not provide a lot of detail. Mr. Ortiz suggested needing a resolution with more detail. Discussion ensued, Attorney B. Hansen, virtual meeting through zoom, suggested meeting with the Center. <p><u>ANNEXATION / PLAT OF LAGUNA VISTA ECO PARK SUBDIVISION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The Eco Park is a three lot subdivision. The Eco Center is ten acres, and the town of Laguna Vista retains lot one with 12.9 acres. Laguna Vista currently owns the entire subdivision. The third lot is dedicated for a lift station o Working on finalizing the language for the signature block, it's a unique case since it is outside the District's boundaries and not knowing what kind of development is coming in the future. Discussion ensued. <p><u>ACCELERATED CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE FOR LIFT STATIONS 1 (802 MESQUITE, LAGUNA VISTA) AND 37 (OCELOT TRAIL GOLF COURSE)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mr. Ortiz gave an update on the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Project Lift Station Rehab - The Final Engineering Feasibility Report to the TWDB for review and approval was submitted. o Mr. Ortiz noted the agency coordination letters get sent out for environmental clearance. Plans are to start a newspaper advertisement by July 19 to award construction jobs for lift station 1 and 37. <p><u>BUREAU OF RECLAMATION – FY 2021 WATER SMART FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mr. Ortiz reported and requested approval to proceed with preparing a grant application for a project alternative for either a Port Isabel Water Reclamation Facility or a Seawater Desalination. Discussion ensued. o Deadline for application is September 17 ✓ Request: The Board requests more information and a possible Workshop 	<p>DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT</p>
8	<p><u>CONSIDER AND REMOVE FROM THE TABLE THE FOLLOWING ITEM TABLED AT THE REGULAR MEETING ON JUNE 24TH, 2020:</u></p> <p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL RESTORING SECTION 1.4.8- DISCONNECTION AND PENALTIES ON LATE FEES CORRESPONDING TO THE SERVICE POLICY FOR LAGUNA MADRE WATER DISTRICT DUE TO THE COVID-19. (E. SALAZAR)</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board agreed to remove the item from the table for review. <p>Moved by A. AVALOS, seconded by H. HOUSTON.</p> <p>Move to approve.</p>	<p>MOTION CARRIED</p>
9	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL RESTORING SECTION 1.4.8- DISCONNECTION AND PENALTIES ON LATE FEES CORRESPONDING TO THE SERVICE POLICY FOR LAGUNA MADRE WATER DISTRICT DUE TO THE COVID-19. (E. SALAZAR) ♠</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff recommends for the Service Policy for Disconnections due to non-payments be restored and continue to waive the late fees with a time frame. Customers with a payment arrangement will not get cut off. Discussion ensued 	<p>MOTION CARRIED</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Salazar noted it's a concern when a customer's outstanding balance gets too large, and the customer is not able to pay the balance off. There is also the risk of customers abandoning the account without paying • Discussion concerning customers who are negatively impacted and how the District plans to address that concern ✓ Request: Prepare a plan for customers who are negatively impacted and how the District plans to address that concern • Minnie Mata, Customer Service Manager, was present for questions and answers • The Board agreed to approve restoring the Service Policy portion for disconnections due to non-payments, and continue waiving the late fees for 30 days with a reevaluation <p>Moved by A. LALONDE, seconded by A. AVALOS.</p> <p>Motion: Restore and continue the Disconnects and reevaluate the late fees for a later day (30-day) time frame.</p>	
10	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR MAY 2020. (E. SALAZAR) ♣</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The May 2020 Financials got approved as presented <p>Moved by H. HOUSTON, seconded by A. AVALOS.</p> <p>Move to approve.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
11	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL PURCHASE OF A RAW WATER VERTICAL PUMP FOR WATER PLANT 1. (E. SAMANIEGO) ♣</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Samaniego noted the raw water pump is necessary for the operation of Water Plant 1 • It's replacing a non-functional pump • Recommendation – to purchase the raw vertical pump from Pumps of Houston for \$11,200.00 <p>Moved by H. HOUSTON, seconded by A. AVALOS.</p> <p>Move to approve.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
12	<p><u>CONSIDER AND REVIEW EXPENDITURES FROM JUNE 16, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2020. (C. GALVAN) ♣</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions or comments <p>Expenditures acknowledged by H. HOUSTON and A. AVALOS.</p>	ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF EXPENDITURES
13	<p><u>CONSIDER AND REMOVE FROM THE TABLE THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEM, UNDER SECTION 551.074, PERSONNEL MATTERS TABLED AT THE REGULAR MEETING ON JUNE 24TH, 2020:</u></p>	

	<p><u>DELIBERATION REGARDING THE EVALUATION OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES TO WIT: GENERAL MANAGER</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No discussion for this item, it remained as a tabled item. Deferred to the next Regular Meeting No action 	NO ACTION
14	<p><u>EXECUTIVE SESSION PERMITTED BY THE OPEN MEETING ACT, V. T. C. A., GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.001 ET. SEQ., UNDER SECTION 551.071, CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY; UNDER SECTION 551.074 PERSONNEL MATTER:</u></p> <p><u>DELIBERATION THE EVALUATION OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEE TO WIT: GENERAL MANAGER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No discussion for this item No action 	SEE ITEM #13 FOR MORE INFORMATION
15	<p><u>CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS, IF NECESSARY.</u></p> <p><u>DELIBERATION REGARDING THE EVALUATION OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEE TO WIT: GENERAL MANAGER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No discussion for this item No action 	EXECUTIVE SESSION RESULTS: SEE ITEM #13 FOR MORE INFORMATION
16	<p><u>ADJOURNMENT</u></p> <p>There being no further business, the CHAIRMAN adjourned the meeting at 6:37 PM.</p> <p>Moved by J. STARKEY, seconded by A. LALONDE.</p>	MEETING ADJOURNED @ 6:37 PM



 SCOTT FRIEDMAN, CHAIRMAN



 ALEX AVALÓS, SECRETARY

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 22ND DAY OF JULY 2020.