

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF  
TRINITY BAY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Tuesday, November 23, 2021  
1:00 O'clock P.M.

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF CHAMBERS

The Board of Directors of Trinity Bay Conservation District met at the offices of the District in Stowell, Texas on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, with the following Directors present:

Scott Kahla	President
Jeff Jenkins	Director
Les Hankamer	Secretary
Gregg Turner	Director

Also present were James Gibson, Barbara Sigut, Danny Pringle, Mike Will, David Hoyt, Kate Leverette of Germer and members of the press and community.

**Agenda Item 1:**

President Kahla called the Meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

**Agenda Item 2:**

The meeting was opened with a prayer by James Gibson.  
James Gibson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas flags.

**Agenda Item 3:**

There was no public comment.

**Agenda Item 4:**

Director Jenkins moved to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2021, Regular meeting and the October 21, 2021, Special meeting. Director Hankamer seconded, and the motion carried.

**Agenda Item 5:**

Barbara Sigut presented the district's financial reports, accounts payables and tax reports. Director Turner moved and Director Hankamer seconded to accept the reports and the motion carried.

**Agenda Item 6:**

Director Turner moved and Director Hankamer seconded to accept the Jefferson County and Chambers County certified tax rolls. The motion carried.

**Agenda Item 7:**

Director Turner moved to table the retiree insurance issue until further requested information can be provided. Director Hankamer seconded and the motion to table carried.

**Agenda Item 8:**

James Gibson presented the Board with the proposed 2022 Board meeting schedule and asked that the meetings only be changed when absolutely necessary to accommodate payment of bills and for scheduling purposes of the community, press and staff. Director Turner moved to adopt

the Board meeting schedule with the option to change a date if necessary. Director Hankamer seconded, and the motion carried.

**Agenda Item 9:**

James Gibson presented the Board with the proposed 2022 Holiday schedule and explained that this is in keeping with the days we have had in the past and keeping in line with the County, etc. He also noted that Juneteenth was now a Federal Holiday and as such had been added to our schedule. Director Hankamer moved, and Director Turner seconded to adopt the 2022 Holiday schedule. The motion carried.

**Agenda Item 10:**

The date for the Annual Service Awards lunch was proposed as December 21, 2021, and Mr. Gibson stated that in the past the Board had given \$200 gift cards to the staff. Director Hankamer moved, and Director Turner seconded to approve the date for the lunch and to provide gift cards for the staff as usual. The motion carried.

**Agenda Item 11:**

James Gibson discussed that workers compensation insurance pays employees 70% of their pay when out on workers compensation and that a precedence has been set to pay the other 30% to the employee. Kate Leverette discussed that usually employees must use their personal time to cover the other 30%. Discussion was held and Director Hankamer moved to table the item pending more information. Director Turner seconded and the motion to table carried.

**Agenda Item 12:**

Danny Pringle gave an update on work being done in the district by the drainage employees. Director Turner said that he spoke to a landowner that commended the work the drainage department had done in his area and stated that the last big rain did not cause the usual flooding issues he has. Director Turner stated he was happy to hear that the work being done was working to help people. Ms. McPherson asked a question about the lilies and how the drainage issues were working. James and David discussed the Mustang Cat invoices and credits over the past few months and David reported that Mustang owes us credits amounting to \$18,500.

**Agenda Item 13:**

David Hoyt explained the situation with the pipe and how quickly it is rotting. He and Danny Pringle explained that Mr. Wilcox was asking the Board to pay for one train car and he would pay for the other and that would be the final work needing to be done on his property. Discussion was held about the responsibility of the cost and the best interest of the district. After discussion it was moved by Director Turner and seconded by Director Hankamer that the District pays for one pipe and the landowner pays for the other and that the District would install the pipe for the landowner. The motion carried.

Wade Thibodeaux made a public comment on the fact that the district provides assistance to landowners for drainage but still provides no assistance to people with extensions of sewer lines.

**Agenda Item 14:**

James Gibson and Kate Leverette discussed the FIF grant program and stated that all the paperwork has been completed and filed. Ms. Leverette stated that there was additional engineering required before the application can be completed and that this piece of engineering would cost the District about \$30,000 and would not be covered or reimbursed by the grant/loan and the cost would probably not be reimbursed. The LJA representative said the requirements for the grant/loan may not be met after the additional form is completed. It was stated that the District could do the work ourselves without the engineering fees and could be done in roughly four weeks. After lengthy discussion Director Hankamer moved and Director Turner seconded, not to proceed with the application for the FIF grant program. The motion carried by unanimous decision.



**Agenda Item 15:**

James Gibson asked the LJA representatives to discuss the Mayhaw project and possible actions on this project. He state that there are no current grant funds available for this project. He discussed possibly completing plans for the diversion only. After discussion on various issues and possible plans no action was taken by the board.

**Agenda Item 16:**

Mike Will discussed the leaking tank at the water plant and that the project should be completed by the end of January hopefully. The cost of the new sewer plant was discussed and that the county had funds available to cover the overage on the grant. He also discussed the need to upgrade the electrical service to the new plant site. President Kahla discussed a constituent that complained about the District on Facebook and Mike went out and found she had a leaking toilet that was causing her high bill and that no retraction was posted but he commended Mike on a job well done. Mike also discussed a local hotel that complained about the meter and it was discovered that his meter was severely under reading. He asked the public to please call with complaints so they can be addressed. James Gibson discussed that the capacity fee was almost complete and discussed new developments in the area. He also discussed that the City of Anahuac sewer plant may be able to take more of our sewage on the shared plant.

**Executive Session**

The Board adjourned to Executive session at 2:39 p.m. to discuss the General Manager’s contract. The board returned to regular session at 3:08 p.m.

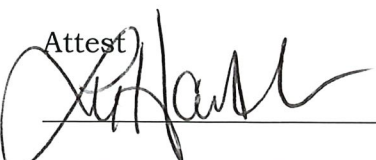
**Agenda Item 17:**

Director Hankamer moved not to extend the contract of General Manager James Gibson and Director Turner seconded. Directors Hankamer, Turner and Kahla voted in favor and Director Jenkins declined to vote. The motion carried.

Director Hankamer moved to Adjourn, and Director Turner seconded. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 pm by President Kahla.

READ AND APPROVED:

  
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Scott Kahla  
President

Attest  
  
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Les Hankamer, Secretary