

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF  
TRINITY BAY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Tuesday, April 10, 2024  
9:00 O'clock A.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 Tuesday, April 10, 2024, with the following Directors present:

Victor Caraway	President
Gregg Turner	Vice-President
Lester Hankamer	Secretary
Rick Nicely	Director
Annette Rayburn	Director

Also present were Jerry Shadden, Crystal Threadgill, David Hoyt, Mike Will, and Amos Roy, District Employees; Brad Moon, of the Chambers County Sheriff Department, Gloria Way and Sharisa Nelson of the Seabreeze Beacon, Wade Thibodeaux of the Hometown Press and Susan Leblanc from Representative Leo-Wilson's.

**Agenda Item 1:**

President Caraway called the Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Agenda Item 2:**

The meeting was opened with a prayer by General Manager Shadden, who then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas flags.

**Agenda Item 3:**

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**Agenda Item 4:**

APPROVE MINUTES

Director Nicely, made a Motion to approve Minutes of a Regular Meeting held March 12, 2024. The motion was seconded by Director Rayburn and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 5:**

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Secretary Hankamer, made a Motion to approve the Financial Reports for March 31. The motion was seconded by Vice-President Turner and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 6:**

TAX REPORTS

Vice-President Turner, made a Motion to approve the Tax Reports for March 31, 2024. The motion was seconded by Secretary Hankamer and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 7:**

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Secretary Hankamer, made a Motion to approve Accounts Payable. The motion was seconded by Director Nicely and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 8:**

SAFETY MEETING LUNCHEON

General Manager Shadden – We are about 6 months into the year and all the employees have done an outstanding job. So, we would like to have a Safety Meeting Luncheon to show our appreciation. In the past, I made a deal with Tony's BBQ and we went and let everyone have a two-meat lunch and did a little presentation. We do not have to do anything; we just show up and eat and it was around \$450.00 for everyone.

Secretary Hankamer, made a Motion to approve a Safety Meeting Luncheon. The motion was seconded by Vice-President Turner and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 9:**

RENEW CROWDER GULF CONTRACT 1 YEAR

General Manager Shadden – We have had Crowder Gulf for about 5 years now and it is set up to where you can extend it for 3-years, with another 1-year and another 1-year and we are right at the end of



that. So, we would like to extend it for one more year. They are the ones that when Ike came in and the debris came across from Bolivar Peninsula, they came in with trucks and grapples and cleaned everything up, provided us with generators and anything else we needed. It is all in one package and we bid it ahead time and if we have a disaster, we are covered with FEMA because we bid it ahead of time and we have it on the shelf. All we do is call them and say there is a tropical storm and they declared an emergency and we need your services.

Vice-President Turner – This is not a bid right; it is a re-extension?

General Manager Shadden – Yes. It is a re-extension so if we have a disaster we are under contract and they come in and take care of it.

Vice-President Turner – And I think we are required to have that.

General Manager Shadden – Yes sir. And I want to say under Ike it was roughly \$10,000,000.00 worth of clean up.

Ours is a little bit different from others because we have a lot of drainage ditches so we have a marine clause in ours where they will go in with a plex a float or boats, etc. and they will clean the ditches out.

Director Nicely, made a Motion to approve renewing Crowder Gulf disaster cleanup contract for 1 year. The motion was seconded by Vice-President Turner and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 10:**

RENEW THOMPSON CONSULTING SERVICE LLC CONTRACT FOR 1 YEAR

General Manager Shadden – So, when you have Crowder Gulf come in, you also must have a monitoring service. Thompson Consulting comes in and their job is to monitor and document. Everything that is picked up, is GPS'd and photographed and then they follow the truck from the cleanup site to the dump site and they detail how they disposed of it, as this is required by FEMA. They do all the paperwork to make sure that everything we do is correct and that we get our money back when we file for a disaster.

Vice-President Turner, made a Motion to approve renewing the contract with Thompson Consulting Services, LLC for 1 year. The motion was seconded by Secretary Hankamer and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 11:**

SURPLUS PROPERTY TO HORN AUCTION

David Hoyt – We have a few pieces of equipment and a truck, a 329 that has been here since 2011 with a Fecon on it and a few other things we are wanting to send to Horn's. Mrs. Horn called me last Tuesday to see if we had anything going this time and I told her no, we did not have it on the Agenda. They are supposed to have another sell May 4 for us to be able to sell our surplus. Mr. Horn told me he finally figured out something, he said "I sell LNVA, DD6 and Port Arthur and nobody's equipment brings in what y'all's does and I figured out why". I said, "what's that" and he said "y'all wash everything".

Vice-President Turner, made a Motion to declare items as surplus property and to be sold at Horn auction in May. The motion was seconded by Secretary Hankamer and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 12:**

REPLACE A 1 TON TRUCK FOR DRAINAGE FROM BUY BOARD AND FINANCED BY GOVERNMENT CAPITAL

General Manager Shadden – This agenda item has changed a little bit. I will need to get with Kate. We already budgeted money for this stuff but, our original John Deere tractor that we cut the wetlands, reservoirs and all our property with is a 2008 model and it has recently come down with some bad problems. We, David and Amos and his people fell like we would be better off to purchase a tractor at this time than to replace this 1-ton. 101 HP at the PTO is \$88,861.88 and I put \$200,000.00 in there for truck replacement and I put \$145,000.00 for equipment replacement. We have not bought any trucks in Drainage yet. I would like to wait until the end of the year to make sure we have the money if I buy it or not. But, at this time this is our main grass cutting tractor and we need another tractor.

Vice-President Turner, made a Motion to approve in lieu of a 1-ton truck we purchase a Tractor for the drainage department through Buy Board. The motion was seconded by Secretary Hankamer and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 13:**

REPLACE A 1 TON AND 2- ½ TON TRUCKS FOR WATER & SEWER FROM BUY BOARD AND FINANCED BY GOVERNMENT CAPITAL

General Manager Shadden – We replaced the 1-ton on the west side and this is the one on this side. We have put another motor in it and it has close to 300,000 miles on it and every day there is something wrong. The problem is, is that we do not have the extra money in the water side that we do the drainage. What we have done in the past when we bought the Peterbuilt, we financed through Government Capital, which is a lease purchase, that way of you can not make the payment note, they just take it back. The Board would approve this every year. So, I am looking at going to Government capital and financing it at 5.5% for three years, which is a one-time payment every year of about \$75,000.00.



Vice-President Turner, made a Motion to approve purchasing a 1-ton truck and 2 - ½ ton trucks for water and sewer from Buy Board and to be financed by Government Capital. The motion was seconded by Secretary Hankamer and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 14:**  
**REPLACE 5 DRAINAGE DITCH LEVEL CONTROLLERS**

General Manager Shadden – These are about \$10,000.00 a piece, we had hydro links in the past and all the instrumentation and stuff is outdated. We have about 15 of these things to service. This is why we hired an instrument tech guy. The idea was to have him come over here and put these things back in service. These have been out of service for 2 or 3 years. We have already upgraded the software so what we would like to do is upgrade 5 of the level controllers.

Secretary Hankamer, made a Motion to approve replacing 5 drainage ditch level controllers with rain gauges, upgrading the equipment at a cost of \$50,000.00. The motion was seconded by Vice-President Turner and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 15:**  
**BRIDGE FOR TERRY L. MCDANIEL**

General Manager Shadden – This would be the same as Doornbos. He is paying for the bridge and we are supplying the labor. This is a steel bridge, highway certified 60' x 15'.

Vice-President Turner, made a Motion to approve building a bridge for Terry L. McDaniel on FM 1663 and Hankamer Ditch at a cost of \$150,000.00. The motion was seconded by Secretary Hankamer and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 16:**  
**CONTRACT WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR 2 DUMPSTERS**

General Manager Shadden – We use Waste Management now and we do not have a contract with them. We pay \$945.00 month and by signing a 3-year contract it drops to \$500.00 month. So, this is just a way to save money.

Director Nicely, made a Motion to approve a contract with Waste Management for 2 dumpsters at a cost of \$500.00 a month. The motion was seconded by Secretary Hankamer and it passed by unanimous vote.

**II. DRAINAGE REPORT:**

Amos Roy reported on Drainage.

**SPINDLETOP BAYOU S. OF SH65:**

Komatsu Dozer – This machine is reworking the right of way of the drain.

Komatsu Fecon: This machine is cutting the right of way.

Long Reach 326' – This machine is cutting what the short reach cannot.

NOTE: Moved on the other side of Spindletop on 3-12-24. This crew was able to cover almost 3 miles due to the vegetation being very light up until they got upstream of Whinzer bridge.

**TRIBUTARIES OF SPINDLETOP:**

Cat Fecon- This machine is working in the area of FM 1410 and McBride-Deville Extension.

Komatsu Grinder – This machine followed the Cat Fecon dipping up until it was moved to Carter Rd to start on a drain ditch on 4-1-24.

Cat 308 – Currently testing the new cutter we recently took delivery of.

**GORDY MARSH BAYOU:**

Komatsu Mower Long Reach – This machine is removing the water hyacinth from the ditch.

**EAST FORK OF DOUBLE BAYOU (Jenkins Weir Project):**

Dragline, Long Reach Cat, Short Reach Cat & D3 – WE brought the large rip rap material in on 4-1-24 and ultimately finished the weir itself on that day. We still need to backfill the diversion ditch and pull the piling that is holding the water off the project.

NOTE: As a 1st Quarter summary the operators that are clearing drainage ditches have covered approximately 8 miles of ditch. This is only counting one side of the drains. In most cases both sided of the outfall have been cleaned.

**SPRAY CREWS:**

1. The spray crews have starte3d spraying around the TBCD facilities.
2. When they are unable to spray, they will mow or help with setting pipes and/or fence work as needed.

**I. UTILITIES REPORT:**

Mike Will reported on Water and Wastewater.

1. The remaining issues we are having at the new Hankamer WWTP.
  - a. Water leaks around clarifier weirs
  - b. Several water leaks on exterior piping
  - c. Chlorine roto meter is nor the correct size, it will be replaced

LJA Engineering is aware of these issues and is in communication with the contractor to get these issues resolved ASAP.

2. The sewer main blockage at 9<sup>th</sup> and Cedar has been repaired. Upon excavation we found that the 8" pipe separated. We replaced a 40-foot section of the pipe.
3. The TCEQ performed inspections at both water plants, the violations are:

**Winnie Water Plant:**

- a. Updated the CT Study. This has been completed and submitted to the TCEQ for approval.

**West Water Plant:**

- a. Replace three of the four ground storage tanks.
  - b. Failure to enclose the water treatment plant with an intruder-resistant fence.
4. The pipe bursting job across Fairview Cemetery Road has been completed.

Complete water and sewer installations:  
We installed 6 complete grinder stations  
We installed 740' of 1 1/2" discharge line  
We installed 10 water meters  
We installed 4 water meters in subdivisions  
We relocated 1 grinder station  
We installed 2 sewer gravity taps  
We installed 2,375 feet of water line

**IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

GOVERNMENT CODE 551, SUBCHAPTER D

SECTION 551.071 - CONSULTATION WITH DISTRICT'S ATTORNEY REGARDING POSSIBLE LITIGATION

SECTION 551.072 - DELIBERATION ABOUT REAL PROPERTY

SECTION 551.074 - MATTERS OF PERSONNEL

SECTION 551.075 - CONFERENCE WITH EMPLOYEE

SECTION 551.076 - TO DELIBERATE THE DEPLOYMENT OR SPECIFIC OCCASIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY PERSONNEL OR DEVICES

If, during the course of the meeting covered by this Notice, the Board should determine that a closed or executive session of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any agenda item included in this Notice, then such closed or executive meeting or session, as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, will be held by the Board at the date, hour, and place given in this Notice concerning any and all subjects for any and all purposes permitted by §551.071-551.084 of the Texas Government Code and the Texas Open Meetings Act, including, but not limited to, §551.071—for the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law.

**V. ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

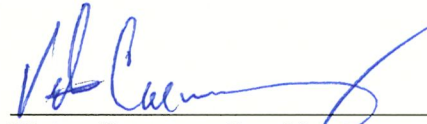
**VII. ADJOURN.**

Secretary Hankamer made a Motion to Adjourn. The motion was seconded by Director Nicely and it passed by unanimous vote.



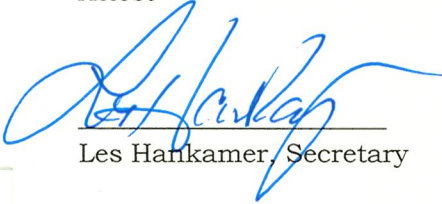
Meeting Adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

READ AND APPROVED:



Victor Caraway, President

Attest



Les Hankamer, Secretary

Date: 5-15-2024