


MINUTES
 Regular Meeting
 Laguna Madre Water District
 Board of Directors
 Wednesday, February 7, 2024
 5:30 PM – 6:25 PM
 Board Room
 105 Port Rd. Port Isabel, TX 78578

1	<p>The following present constituted a quorum:</p> <p><u>PRESENT</u></p> <p>Adam Lalonde, Vice-Chairman Jason Starkey, Secretary William "Bill" Donahue, Director Dave Boughter, Director</p> <p><u>ABSENT</u></p> <p>Scott Friedman, Chairman</p> <p><u>LMWD STAFF</u></p> <p>Carlos J. Galvan, Jr., General Manager Robert Gomez, Director of Operations Charles Ortiz, District Engineer Eduardo Salazar, Director of Finance Enrique Samaniego, Purchasing Agent Brandon Edge, Information Tech Specialist Santiago Ochoa, IV, Superintendent of Wastewater Noe Cantu, Superintendent of Water Mary Gamboa, Human Resources Manager Brian Hansen, Attorney</p>	 VIRTUALLY THROUGH ZOOM	
2	<p><u>Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.</u></p> <p>The <u>Vice-Chairman</u> began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, and C. Otiz said the Opening Prayer.</p>		
3	<p><u>Invitation to the Audience for Public Comments</u></p> <p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions or comments from the audience. • J. Starkey reported on calls about concerns regarding loud noises again coming from the Laguna Vista Wastewater Plant and asked the Wastewater Department to follow up on the incident. 		PUBLIC COMMENTS

4	<p><u>Consider and discuss the possible approval of the Minutes from the Regular Meeting on January 10, 2024. (C. Galvan) 💧</u></p> <p>Discussion: The Board approved the Minutes as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The motion carried unanimously:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOVED BY J. STARKEY, SECONDED BY D. BOUGHTER.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOTION: MOVE TO APPROVE.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
5	<p><u>General Manager's Report</u> 💧</p> <p>Mr. Galvan reported on:</p> <p><u>Reservoir Levels</u> - C. Galvan handed out printed copies at the meeting of the Brownsville Area Reservoirs monitored water supply. A copy is attached to the minutes. C. Galvan noted that the water supply is steady at 21.7%. The District's Drought Management remains in Stage 3.</p> <p><u>Kyle Frazier – Support Letter</u> - The Board reviewed a sample copy of the support letter for the Officials - Senator La Mantia and Representative Lopez to use on behalf of the District—any results will be presented at the next Board Meeting.</p> <p><u>2nd Board Meeting in February</u> – Reminder the Board Meetings go back to a regular schedule on the second and fourth Wednesdays monthly. The next meeting is on February 28, 2024.</p>	GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
6	<p><u>Consider and discuss the possible approval of Board Travel to attend the Texas Water 2024 Conference on April 9, 2024, through April 12, 2024, in Fort Worth, Texas. (C. Galvan) 💧</u></p> <p>Discussion: D. Boughter and S. Friedman will attend the conference this year.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The motion carried unanimously:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOVED BY D. BOUGHTER, SECONDED BY J. STARKEY.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOTION: MOVE TO APPROVE BOARD TRAVEL.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
7	<p><u>Director of Operation's Report</u> 💧</p> <p>Mr. Gomez reported on:</p> <p><u>Monthly Report</u> – January's comparison to December illustrated a decrease for the Distribution Department. The Collection Department went up. The Pre-Treatment and Lift Stations Department had a slight decline. Mr. Gomez gave a breakdown of each department.</p>	DIRECTOR OF OPERATION'S REPORT


8	<p><u>District Engineer's Report</u> 💧</p> <p>Mr. Ortiz reported on:</p> <p><u>Port Isabel Seawater Desalination Treatment Facility</u> – The Board reviewed the obligations of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas and a Gap Chart to view the schedule that considers all the possible funding sources.</p> <p><u>Public Participation for Capital Projects</u> – Printed copies of the Cost Estimate Summary from Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group were handed to review the recommended water management strategies for the District, followed by questions and answers. A copy is attached to the minutes.</p>	DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT
9	<p><u>Consider and discuss the possible approval of Budget Amendment to the 2023-2024 Budget for Emergency Sewer Repairs. (C. Ortiz)</u> 💧</p> <p>Discussion: District Engineer C Ortiz presented the amendment, which would balance the budget due to the emergency repairs in the wastewater system. The Board approved as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The motion carried unanimously:</u> MOVED BY J. STARKEY, SECONDED BY D. BOUGHTER. MOTION: MOVE TO APPROVE.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
10	<p><u>Consider and discuss the possible approval of the Purchase of a Steam Scrubber Glassware Washer for the Lab Department. (E. Samaniego)</u> 💧</p> <p>Discussion: Purchasing Agent E. Samaniego explained this purchase is part of the budget for the Lab Department and recommends approval. The Board approved the purchase and awarded the purchase to USA Bluebook for \$11,095.48.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The motion carried unanimously:</u> MOVED BY J. STARKEY, SECONDED BY D. BOUGHTER. MOTION: MOVE TO APPROVE.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
11	<p><u>Consider and discuss the possible approval of the Purchase of a Vertical Turbine Pump for Water Plant 2. (E. Samaniego)</u> 💧</p> <p>Discussion: Purchasing Agent E. Samaniego reported that TCEQ requires two working pumps in case of failure and a budgeted item. The Board approved the purchase and awarded Lewis Electric Motors, Inc. the purchase for \$19,692.25.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The motion carried unanimously:</u> MOVED BY D. BOUGHTER, SECONDED BY J. STARKEY. MOTION: MOVE TO APPROVE.</p>	MOTION CARRIED

12	<p><u>Consider and discuss the possible approval of the purchase of VFD for a Blower at Isla Blanca STP for the Wastewater Plant Department. (E. Samaniego) 💧</u></p> <p>Discussion: Purchasing Agent E. Samaniego pointed out that this item is part of this year's budget - the VFD controls the blower and extends its life. The Board agreed to the purchase from Bush Supply Company for \$14,258.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The motion carried unanimously:</u> MOVED BY D. BOUGHTER, SECONDED BY J. STARKEY.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOTION: MOVE TO APPROVE.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
13	<p><u>Consider and review Expenditures from January 1, 2024, to January 31, 2024. (C. Galvan) 💧</u></p> <p>Discussion: The Board accepted the expenditures as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The expenditures acknowledged by:</u> D. BOUGHTER, W. DONAHUE, J. STARKEY, and A. LALONDE.</p>	ACKNOWLEDGED
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:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion and possible action regarding Utility Coordination and potential conflict between the SPI Storm Drainage Project along Laguna Blvd and LMWD's existing waterline.</u></p> <p>A. Lalonde, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of Laguna Madre Water District, hereby did the following:</p> <p>That an Executive Session was on the agenda for said meeting duly posted at the office of the District;</p> <p>Which authorizes the holding of such closed or Executive Session:</p> <p>Upon a motion by <u>Director J. Starkey</u> and seconded by <u>Director D. Boughter</u>, the Board convened into Executive Session at 5:55 PM, and upon motion by <u>Director J. Starkey</u> and seconded by <u>Director D. Boughter</u>, Executive Session ended at 6:23 PM.</p> <p>The only matters described in the Executive Session were discussed by the Board of Directors, who took action below;</p>	EXECUTIVE SESSION

15	<p><u>Consideration and action on EXECUTIVE SESSION item, if necessary.</u></p> <p><u>Discussion and possible action regarding Utility Coordination and potential conflict between the SPI Storm Drainage Project along Laguna Blvd and LMWD's existing waterline.</u></p> <p>As discussed in the executive session, the Vice Chairman entertained the motion to proceed.</p> <p><u>The motion carried unanimously:</u></p> <p>MOVED BY J. STARKEY, SECONDED BY D. BOUGHTER.</p> <p>MOTION: PROCEED AS DIRECTED.</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>RESULTS</p>
16	<p><u>Adjournment</u></p> <p>There was no further business; the meeting was adjourned.</p>	<p>MEETING ADJOURNED</p> <p>@</p> <p>6:25 PM</p>


 ADAM LALONDE, VICE-CHAIRMAN




 WILLIAM DONAHUE, DIRECTOR



MINUTES APPROVED THIS 28TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024.