

MINUTES
 Regular Meeting
 Laguna Madre Water District
 Board of Directors
 Wednesday, August 26, 2020
 5:30 PM – 6:41 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> <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 Information Tech Specialist, Orlando Huerta Attorney, Brian Hansen</p>	
2	<p><u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION</u></p> <p>The Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation was said during the Workshop at 4:30 PM.</p>	
3	<p><u>INVITATION TO THE AUDIENCE FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS</u></p> <p>COMMENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o No response from the Audience or Zoom 	
4	<p><u>PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CHAIRMAN opened the Hearing • The proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate .039918 for the Fiscal Year 2020 • No one in the Audience responded <p>A motion by H. HOUSTON to close the Hearing, seconded by A. LALONDE.</p>	
5	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE .039918 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 (RESOLUTION NO. 180-08-20). (E. SALAZAR)</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board approved the Ad Valorem Tax Rate .039918 for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 through a Resolution (Resolution No. 180-08-20) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board approved the Ad Valorem Tax Rate and the Resolution by a rollcall vote, and results are listed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NOES, NOT IN FAVOR: None ○ AYES, IN FAVOR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ H. HOUSTON ➤ A. LALONDE ➤ S. FRIEDMAN ➤ J. STARKEY ➤ A. AVALOS <p>Moved by H. HOUSTON, seconded by A. LALONDE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p> <p>Move to approve.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
6	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING AND THE REGULAR MEETING FROM AUGUST 12, 2020. (C. GALVAN) 💧</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board approved the Workshop and Regular Meeting Minutes as presented <p>Moved by A. AVALOS, seconded by H. HOUSTON.</p> <p>Move to approve.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
7	<p><u>GENERAL MANAGER'S 💧</u></p> <p>REPORT:</p> <p><u>COVID-19 UPDATES –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ C. Galvan went over the COVID-19 Data Comparison Chart as of August 18, 2020 ○ Employees continue the following protocol, temperature checked and washing of hands every morning and afternoon when entering the building, and avoiding close contact <p><u>ELECTIONS 2020 UPDATE-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ C. Galvan noted there is a total of 6 Candidates for the Board of Directors membership Election. Seven candidates submitted applications, but then one candidate withdrew 30 minutes before the deadline on August 17 ○ Monday, August 24, 2020, at 2 PM, held the Drawing for Place on Ballot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Place 2: Scott D. Friedman ➤ Place 3: Herb Houston, Jr. William (Bill) Donahue ➤ Place 4: Greg Ruiz Alex Avalos Dave Boughter <p><u>SOUTH PADRE ISLAND EASEMENTS-</u></p>	GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o An incident occurred on South Padre Island, and it involved the City, Public Works, and Code Enforcers because of a water leak between easements that got taken over by homeowners. There was a swimming pool on each side. The Fence got taken apart to get the mini excavator in to fix the leak o C. Galvan noted, after speaking with the City Manager about the issues on the easements, the City Manager mentioned changes needed to the City Ordinance applying not to allow Owners to take over easements. C. Galvan asked the City for a copy when enforced. Discussion ensued o The Chairman noted for B. Hansen, Attorney to look into the issues and get involved, if necessary 	
8	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL THE REVISED CONTRACT WITH CAMERON COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT FOR THE ADDITIONAL EARLY VOTING POLLING LOCATIONS IN LAGUNA VISTA AND SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2020, GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTION FOR LAGUNA MADRE WATER DISTRICT (C. GALVAN) 🇺🇸</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and questions ensued regarding the language on the Contract for the Polling Locations. H. Houston noted there's a conflict in how it states for the polling locations on the front page (showing only one polling site) • C. Galvan assured it would get corrected. Attorney, B. Hansen will review the Contract • The Board approved the Contract subject to clarification on the Contract showing all the correct Polling locations <p>Moved by J. STARKEY, seconded by A. AVALOS.</p> <p>Move to approve pending the adjustments brought to attention by Board Member H. Houston</p>	MOTION CARRIED
9	<p><u>A PRESENTATION BY GRANT ACCESS ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE DISTRICT</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This item got deferred to the next Regular Meeting on September 9, 2020 • Moved by A. AVALOS, seconded by J. STARKEY to table. 	TABLED
10	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL PRE-REHABILITATION INSPECTION AND EVALUATION FOR EST 2 AND 3 ON SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, AND TANK 5 IN LAGUNA HEIGHTS, TEXAS. (C. GALVAN) 🇺🇸</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board approved the item as presented <p>Moved by A. AVALOS, seconded by J. STARKEY.</p> <p>Move to approve</p>	MOTION CARRIED
11	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL 12 MONTHS SUPPLY OF CHEMICALS FOR WATER PLANT, WASTEWATER PLANT, COLLECTIONS, AND LIFT STATION DEPARTMENTS. (E. SAMANIEGO) 🇺🇸</u></p>	

	<p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Samaniego noted the Request for Proposals is for the Chemicals used daily by the Departments listed above. Comparison from last year, it's a 0.45% increase overall • Staff recommends awarding the lowest bidders on the bid tabulation per chemical <p>Moved by A. AVALOS, seconded by H. HOUSTON.</p> <p>Move to approve</p>	<p>MOTION CARRIED</p>
<p>12</p>	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL THE PURCHASE OF LMWD EMPLOYEE UNIFORMS. (E. SAMANIEGO) 💧</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Purchase of Employee Uniforms was approved as presented <p>Moved by J. STARKEY, seconded by A. AVALOS.</p> <p>Move to approve</p>	<p>MOTION CARRIED</p>
<p>13</p>	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL GROUP HEALTH, LIFE, DENTAL, AND VISION INSURANCE. (E. SAMANIEGO) 💧</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valley Risk Consulting, Roger Garza, Senior Consultant, gave a presentation on the Request for Proposals for the Group Health, Life, Dental and Vision, followed by questions and answers • E. Samaniego noted the Insurance Committee met this morning with Mr. Roger Garza before our regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Mr. Roger Garza gave a detailed analysis of the seven proposals • Mr. Roger Garza noted the rate decreased. The rate decreased by 13% in premiums for medical, dental, and vision. It's about \$140,000 in potential savings • Employees costs went up in deductibles, copays, and medications • Mr. Roger Garza noted a possible offer to consider is a flexible spending account for employees to fund some of the deductibles and copays. A likely \$1,000 fixed flexible account for each employee in the form of a credit card for medical expenses only (used for Deductibles, Health, Medications, Vision, and Dental). • H. Houston recommended a \$1,000 per employee • E. Salazar noted the Insurance Committee and Staff recommend for possible approval the following policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Blue Cross Blue Shield for the Group Health Insurance ○ Metlife for the Dental Insurance ○ UNUM for the Vision Insurance ○ Metlife for the Group Term Life and AD&D ○ \$1,000 flexible spending account per employee for the year • The Board agreed to approve the proposed Group Health, Life, Dental, Vision Insurance with a \$1,000 Flexible Fixed account per employee for the year <p>Moved by H. HOUSTON, seconded by J. STARKEY.</p>	<p>MOTION CARRIED</p>

	Move to approve	
14	<p><u>CONSIDER AND DISCUSS FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL REPAIR OF VTP – VERTICAL STAGE PUMP FOR THE WATER PLANT DEPARTMENT. (E. SAMANIEGO) 💧</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E. Samaniego noted the river pump is leaking water through the packing and hoping to prevent more extensive repairs. At this time, two out of three pumps are working. Discussion ensued regarding the efficiency of the pumps and possible plans to replace the existing ones Staff recommends Board approval for the restoration of the river pump to RGV Industrial Machine Shop & Pumps, LLC for \$18,665 <p>Moved by H. HOUSTON, seconded by A. LALONDE.</p> <p>Move to approve</p>	MOTION CARRIED
15	<p><u>CONSIDER AND REVIEW EXPENDITURES FROM AUGUST 1 – AUGUST 15, 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
16	<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 24, 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"> The Board agreed to remove the item from the table and discuss in Executive Session <p>Moved by A. LALONDE, seconded by J. STARKEY.</p> <p>Move to remove from the table.</p>	MOTION CARRIED
17	<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> <p>A. LALONDE made a motion for the BOARD to go into the executive Session at 6:06 PM, seconded by J. STARKEY.</p> <p>A. LALONDE made a motion for the BOARD to get out of the executive Session at 6:40 PM, seconded by J. STARKEY.</p>	MOTION CARRIED IN SESSION @ 6:06 PM MOTION CARRIED OUT OF SESSION @ 6:40 PM

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> <p>MOTION: TO ACCEPT EVALUATION REVIEWED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS.</p> <p>Moved by J. STARKEY, seconded by A. LALONDE.</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>RESULTS:</p> <p>PROCEED AS DIRECTED BY THE ATTORNEY</p>
16	<p><u>ADJOURNMENT</u></p> <p>There being no further business, the CHAIRMAN adjourned the meeting at 6:41 PM.</p>	<p>MEETING ADJOURNED @ 6:41 PM</p>



 ALEX AVALOS, SECRETARY



 HERB HOUSTON, VICE CHAIRMAN



MINUTES APPROVED THIS 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020.