

SOUTH TEXAS WATER AUTHORITY  
Regular Board of Directors Meeting  
May 24, 2022  
Minutes

Board Members Present:

Jose Graveley  
Patsy Rodgers  
Rudy Galvan, Jr.  
Imelda Garza  
Kathleen Lowman  
Joe Morales  
Angela Pena

Board Members Absent:

Brandon Barrera  
Frances Garcia

Staff Present:

John Marez  
Jo Ella Wagner  
Nigel Gomez  
Patrick Sendejo

Guests Present:

None

1. Call to Order.

Mr. Jose Graveley, Board Vice-President, called the Regular Meeting of the STWA Board of Directors to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. Citizen Comments.

Mr. Graveley opened the floor to citizen's comments. No comments were made.

3. New Board members' oaths of office.

Ms. Wagner administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Morales who was re-appointed to his current position on the Board by the Nueces County Commissioner's Court.

4. Approval of Minutes.

Mr. Galvan made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented. Ms. Rodgers seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Treasurer's Report/Payment of Bills.

The following reports were presented for the Board's consideration:

STWA Investment Report for Quarter ended March 31, 2022  
Treasurer's Report for period ending January 31, 2022  
Revenue Fund Income Statement for period ending January 31, 2022  
Tax Fund Income Statement for period ending January 31, 2022  
Special Services Income Statement for January 31, 2022

STWA Revenue Fund Balance Sheet – January 31, 2022  
STWA Revenue Fund Trial Balance for January, 2022  
STWA Debt Service Fund Income Statement for period ending January 31, 2022  
STWA Debt Service Fund Balance Sheet – January 31, 2022  
STWA Debt Service Fund Trial Balance – January 31, 2022  
STWA Capital Projects Fund Income Statement for period ending January 31, 2022  
STWA Capital Projects Fund Balance Sheet – January 31, 2022  
STWA Capital Projects Fund Trial Balance – January 31, 2022  
Treasurer’s Report for period ending February 28, 2022  
Revenue Fund Income Statement for period ending February 28, 2022  
Tax Fund Income Statement for period ending February 28, 2022  
Special Services Income Statement for February 28, 2022  
STWA Revenue Fund Balance Sheet – February 28, 2022  
STWA Revenue Fund Trial Balance for February 28, 2022  
STWA Debt Service Fund Income Statement for period ending February 28, 2022  
STWA Debt Service Fund Balance Sheet – February 28, 2022  
STWA Debt Service Fund Trial Balance – February 28, 2022  
STWA Capital Projects Fund Income Statement for period ending February 28, 2022  
STWA Capital Projects Fund Balance Sheet – February 28, 2022  
STWA Capital Projects Fund Trial Balance – February 28, 2022  
FY 2022 Cathodic Protection Expenses Breakdown  
2012 Bond Election Report  
Anticipated vs. Actual Water Rate Charged and Net Revenue

No bills were presented for approval. Ms. Lowman made a motion to approve the January and February 2022 Treasurer’s Reports and Quarterly Report as presented, Mr. Galvan seconded and all voted in favor.

6. Operation and Maintenance Reports.

The O&M and Cathodic Protection Reports were presented to the Board. Nigel Gomez pointed out that a significant amount of time is being spent on new service taps for the corporations. He added that as one is completed, more are added to the work schedule.

7. Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Amendments.

FY 2022 Budget Amendments were not presented.

8. Resolution 22-02. Resolution appointing Jo Ella Wagner, Assistant Executive Director, to serve as Chief Tax Assessor for South Texas Water Authority.

Ms. Lowman made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-02. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rodgers and passed unanimously.

9. Resolution 22-03. Resolution appointing Kevin Kieschnick, Nueces County Tax Assessor/Collector, to serve as the South Texas Water Authority Tax Collector in Nueces County.

Ms. Lowman made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-03. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rodgers and passed unanimously.

10. Resolution 22-04. Resolution appointing Maria Victoria Valadez, Kleberg County Tax Assessor/Collector, to serve as the South Texas Water Authority Tax Collector in Kleberg County.

Ms. Lowman made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-04. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rodgers and passed unanimously.

11. Resolution 22-05. Resolution establishing tax exemptions for residence homesteads, for property owners who are 65 years of age or older, for persons who are disabled, and for disabled veterans.

Ms. Lowman made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-02. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rodgers and passed unanimously.

12. Preliminary Nueces and Kleberg County Appraisal District Values.

Mr. Marez presented the preliminary values for Nueces and Kleberg Counties and reported that this year's preliminary values reflect an increase compared to last year's certified values. He also noted that the values are preliminary and are being provided for informational purposes. Certified values should be delivered by July 25th. No action was taken on the presented information.

13. Authorization to enter into the Department of Labor Participating Employer Acceptance Agreement for the TRWA Apprenticeship Program.

Mr. Marez presented a Participating Employer Acceptance Agreement and information on the Texas Rural Water Association's Apprenticeship Program. The first cohort will begin in June. The two-year, 4,400-hour program is designed for employees with less than one year of work experience and provides on the job and technical training for these employees. They are able to earn Class D and Class C water operator and CSI licenses during the course of the program and should be eligible to apply for a Class B license upon six months of completing the program. Mr. Morales voiced concerns about these trained employees leaving for jobs with other employers after receiving the training and certifications and suggested getting an agreement in place in order to retain participants. Mr. Marez agreed and stated that he can seek assistance from Mr. Flickinger for designing an agreement. Ms. Pena made a motion to enter into the TRWA's Apprenticeship Program. Ms. Lowman seconded. All voted in favor.

14. FY 2023 Budget Priorities.

Mr. Marez requested the Board's input on items to include in the FY 2023 budget. He stated that staff will most likely be requesting increases for training for both staff and board members, additional personnel and vehicles. He noted that increases for fuel expenses over last year will be needed due to the rising cost of fuel. The Board discussed increasing the hours of the accounting assistant intern and the possibility of hiring additional field personnel. Mr. Marez asked that any other suggestions be brought to his or Ms. Wagner's attention so they can be included in the proposed budget.

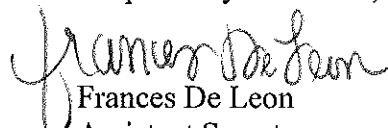
15. Administration Report.

Mr. Marez reported that water levels continue decreasing and that he will keep the Board updated on future changes.

16. Adjournment.

With no further business to discuss, Ms. Lowman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Ms. Rodgers seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Frances De Leon  
Assistant Secretary