MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FERN BLUFF MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

September 24, 2024

The Board of Directors ("**Board**") of Fern Bluff Municipal Utility District ("**District**") convened in a regular meeting that was open to the public at 6:00 p.m., on the above-referenced date, at the Fern Bluff Municipal Utility District Community Center, 7320 Wyoming Springs Drive, Round Rock, Texas 78681, pursuant to notice posted in accordance with law.

Director Sabatino called the meeting to order and called the roll of the Board, to wit: **George Sabatino**, President; **Marc Smith**, Vice President; **Jessica Stempko**, Secretary; **Kevin Barnes**, Treasurer; and **Richard Horton**, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. With all Directors present, a quorum was established.

Also, in attendance or joining during the meeting, were Janey Miller, the District's General Manager; Hector Alanis, the District's Operations Manager; Jeremiah Alcantar, the District's Assistant Operations Manager; Brian Schmidt, of Texas Lawn and Garden ("**TLG**"), the District's landscaper; and Zachariah T. Evans, of the Law Office of Zachariah T. Evans, the District's Attorney.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board then accepted citizen comments from those present who wished to address the Board.

Mr. Schmidt then reported on the status of the District's ongoing landscaping maintenance. Mrs. Miller reported that TLG trimmed the Brightwater Tree after it was damaged by the winter storms of 2023, in order to protect its vitality. She reported that TLG will continue to take any reasonable measures necessary to protect the tree long term; however, the safety of the community that plays near the tree is the District's ultimate concern. Mr. Schmidt went on to report that TLG has laid fertilizer in preparation for the fall planting cycle. He also stated that, over the next month, TLG will apply pre-emergent fertilizer in appropriate areas throughout the District's parks. Mr. Schmidt also reported that TLG has analyzed irrigation needs throughout the District and will have recommendations on that matter in the near future.

Mrs. Miller then reviewed with the Board a proposal from Whirlix for the installation of landscape structures and playground equipment at Cheatham Park. Director Sabatino noted the proposal included a five-percent discount due to the District having utilized BuyBoard's pre-approved procurement process. Mrs. Miller noted the District would be required to put down a down payment of 60 percent of the proposed cost. After discussion, Director Horton moved to approve the proposal in the amount of $134,694.00; Director Smith seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

The Board then considered approval of the monthly consent agenda, including payment of bills and invoices, payment of transfers for operation expenses, pay requests, change orders, and customer charge write-offs, as applicable, but excluding the minutes of the Board's August meeting. After discussion, Director Smith moved to approve the consent agenda; Director Stempko seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Miller then summarized the General Manager's report, a copy of which is included in the Board Packet. Among other matters, Mrs. Miller reviewed with the Board a proposal from three local car dealerships for the District's purchase of a truck to replace one from the District's aging vehicle fleet. Mr. Alaniz recommended the Board approve the purchase of the Chevrolet Colorado, as it was the most affordable among the three presented, at $35,081.00. After discussion, Director Barnes moved to approve the purchase; Director Horton seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

Also under the General Manager's report, Mr. Alaniz discussed a proposal for gateway software for an electronic, automated metering-reading trial. After discussion, Director Horton moved to approve up to $30,000.00 for the acquisition and installation of a gateway electronics system, to be purchased through the BuyBoard Cooperative; Director Smith seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

On behalf of the Communications Committee, Director Smith and Mrs. Miller indicated that they have several topics that will be covered in the forthcoming District newsletter for the month of October.

The Board then set their next regular meeting for October 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. The Board also determined to move their regular meetings to November 19, 2024, and December 10, 2024, tentatively and subject to cancelation if the Board determines no need to meet, to account for the holiday season.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned.

_____

Jessica Stempko, Secretary
Board of Directors
Fern Bluff Municipal Utility District