

# BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY QUARTERLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIONS July 30, 2018

The Brazos River Authority's Board of Directors held their quarterly meeting Monday, July 30, 2018. The Board took the following action:

# **TCDRS RETIREMENT PLAN**

The Board approved that the Texas County and District Retirement System plan provisions remain the same for the 2019 plan year and further resolved that the TCDRS employer contribution rate will be 7.13 percent for the 2019 plan year.

# **COMMODITY CONTRACT APPROVAL**

The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to enter into contracts for purchases of chemicals and sludge hauling services in amounts exceeding the \$500,000 limitation established by BRA policy, but to be within the limited line-item authorization granted by the Board in the budget for these items.

# LAKE WHITNEY REALLOCATION STUDY

The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to submit a letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers stating that the BRA will serve as the local sponsor for a reallocation study at Lake Whitney. The authorization will also (subject to successful negotiation of contract, scope of work and project management plan documents) fund the total cost of the study in an amount not to exceed \$3 million.

### FRESHWATER MUSSELS PERMITTING

The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to enter into a contract with Bio-West, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$950,000 for endangered species permitting for freshwater mussels, developing all necessary documents and assisting the BRA with implementation of permit provisions.

#### WASTEWATER LAB OUTSOURCING

The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to enter into a contract with Aqua-Tech Laboratories, Inc. with established rates for wastewater laboratory services in an amount not to exceed \$490,165.

#### TEMPORARY WATER RESALE

The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to amend the 1999 Upper Leon River Municipal Water District Water Supply Agreement to allow the temporary resale of water reserved for the City of Stephenville under that agreement to the North Leon River Irrigation Corporation for irrigation use.

#### **ZEBRA MUSSEL CONTROL EVALUATION**

The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to negotiate and execute an interlocal agreement with the City of Round Rock, the City of Georgetown, and the Brushy Creek

Municipal Utility District to evaluate zebra mussel control strategies for water diversion and treatment infrastructure at Lake Georgetown and the Williamson County Raw Water Line and associated intake structure at Lake Stillhouse Hollow. The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Walker Partners for an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for engineering and technical services required for the evaluation of zebra mussel control strategies, which will be funded by the City of Round Rock, the City of Georgetown, and the Brushy Creek Municipal Utility District.

#### **BRAZOS G AMENDMENT**

The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO, as administrative agent for the Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group, to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Regional Water Planning Agreement with the Texas Water Development Board for \$667,002 in additional funding to complete the fifth cycle of regional water planning. The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO, as administrative agent for the Brazos G, to negotiate and execute an amendment to the professional services agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. for \$667,002 in additional funding to complete tasks identified in the Regional Water Planning Agreement scope of work.

#### **CENTRAL OFFICE RENOVATIONS**

The Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to review bids and execute a contract for the construction of the Central Office Renovations Project in an amount not to exceed \$3.05 million. In recognition that the primary contract for construction of the project might not utilize the entire \$3.05 million, the Board authorized the General Manager/CEO to use any remaining funds to address unforeseen issues that may arise during the project. The Board declared the following items associated with the renovations project surplus to the needs of the Brazos River Authority: the existing HVAC equipment, carpet, and any other building materials, communications supplies, and electrical supplies removed to facilitate construction, and authorized disposition of surplus personal property to the project contractor.

# **WATERMASTER FEES**

The Board of Directors adopted a methodology for calculating the rate to determine the annual Watermaster fee charged to BRA customers with long-term, non-system rate water supply contracts. The annual Watermaster fee rate shall be calculated by dividing the total annual Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Brazos Watermaster Assessment Fee charged to the BRA by the total number of acre-feet the BRA has committed under long-term supply contracts. Customers with long-term, non-system rate water supply contracts, to the extent such contracts allow for the assessment or pass-through of additional fees, shall be charged an annual Watermaster fee that is calculated by multiplying the total number of acre-feet of long-term non-system rate water such customer has under contract by the Watermaster fee rate.

# STRATEGIC PLAN

The Board adopted the Strategic Plan, Mission Statement, and Guiding Principles, affirming that "The Brazos River Authority exists to develop, manage, and protect the water resources of the Brazos River basin." The strategic plan focuses on quality people – the right people for the right job; integrity and respect; commitment to service and stewardship; and innovation and continuous improvement. The primary goals of the strategic plan include: development of water resources, including both surface and groundwater; management of water resources as a service to BRA customers and to support beneficial use by citizens of the Brazos River basin; protection of water resources, and where possible improvement of water quality and habitat, to support responsible and efficient use of the Brazos River basin's natural resources; proactively engaging in strategic planning and effective resource management; establishing

communications and public relations to support the BRA's mission and service to the Brazos River basin communities; developing and retaining employees to support the BRA's strategic vision, enhancing diversity in the workforce, and preparing the BRA to accomplish its mission.

# ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN AND MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Board approved the Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Operating Plan and the Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan and authorized the General Manager/CEO to make expenditures and enter into contracts for expenditures as listed in the budget. The General Manager/CEO was authorized to make adjustments to individual line amounts to the budget, provided the total amounts do not exceed each operating division as follows:

Water Supply \$46,725,522

<u>Cost Reimbursable \$12,039,722</u>

Total Operating Budget: \$58,765,244

Water Supply \$26,564,000
Cost Reimbursable: \$500,000
Total Capital Budget \$27,064,000

The Board adopted a rate of \$76.50 per acre-foot of water annually for Fiscal Year 2019, for both the System Water Rate and the Interruptible Water Rate, and a rate of \$53.55 per acre-foot of water annually for the Agricultural Water Rate.

For contract holders who choose to make quarterly or monthly rather than annual payments, the Board approved and adopted a methodology to include both a \$20 service fee and a multiplier to allow the BRA to recover interest lost on the unpaid balance.