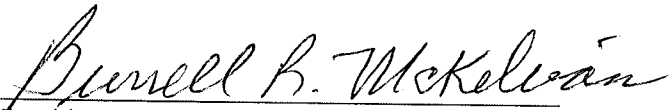


**FORT GRIFFIN SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT**

1180 C.R. 109

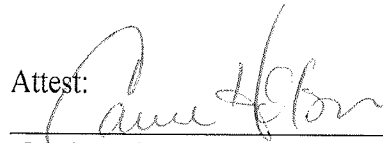
Albany, TX 76430

The FORT GRIFFIN SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT Board of Directors meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2023 at noon, at 609 Railroad Street, Albany, Texas was cancelled due to inclement weather conditions.



President Burrell McKelvain, Certifying Official  
Fort Griffin Special Utility District

Attest:



Carrie Holson, Office Administrator

## FORT GRIFFIN SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

1180 C.R. 109

Albany, TX 76430

FORT GRIFFIN SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT Board of Directors met in a Called meeting Thursday, February 9, 2023 at noon, at 609 Railroad Street, Albany, Texas.

President Burrell McKelvain presided.

McKelvain called the meeting to order at 12:50 pm. Board members present included Sid Collinsworth, Ben Hale, and Sug Roller and Robert Montgomery were present. Visitors Larry Shelton and Mike Bartok; Engineer Derek Turner; General Manager Mark Gardenhire; and Office Administrator Carrie Holson were also present.

Visitor Comments: Larry Shelton (who had requested be on the agenda prior to meeting) discussed his frustration with the board and the management of FGSUD. His concerns included: water rates too high for customers who have active meters with no monthly usage; cost of vehicles; manager trips to Washington to lobby; new construction projects; never saying “no” to spending; not keeping customers informed enough. President McKelvain informed the board that because Mr Shelton was on the agenda, they were open to engage in discussion regarding his concerns. Board members explained reasoning behind decisions that have been/are currently being made. They expressed appreciation for Mr Shelton and his concerns and added that the board meetings are always open to the public.

President McKelvain offered the floor Mr Bartock who expressed he had many of the same concerns as Mr Shelton. Bartok stated additionally, he felt the information should be more accessible to members. Board members reiterated that the meetings are always open to the public and the website includes much of the information mentioned. Hale reminded those present that it is always harder to see the whole picture of any organization from a distance. McKelvain concluded the board appreciates concern and member input is always welcomed.

Visitors excused themselves from the remainder of the meeting.

President McKelvain moved forward on the agenda to let Turner speak regarding the Rural Development Project. Turner stated Todd Powell with USDA had requested 75% funding from the national office for the project and was waiting for determination. However, contractors had agreed to hold bids until March 1<sup>st</sup> until it is known how much of the 75% request will be approved. Derek recommended approving the bids contingent upon funding. He stated the SUD would only need to rebid the raw water line portion of the project. He added that to cover the budget completely and allow contingent funds, Powell asked the motion from last month the amended from a request of additional funds not to exceed \$6.6 million to \$6.7 million. Hale made a motion to request \$6.7 million from USDA. Montgomery seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Hale asked for explanation of how the evaporation ponds/treatment will work and Turner explained process of water coming in and how its separated and the waste water evaporates naturally. Collinsworth asked from time-line on start of construction until able to produce water. Turner said he estimated one year. After further discussion regarding details of project, Montgomery made a motion to accept the bid from Brett Construction for the raw water line project contingent upon funding. Hale seconded the motion with McKelvain, Hale, Roller and Montgomery voting in-favor; Collinsworth opposed; motion carried.

Hale made a motion to accept the additional bids for the Water Treatment Plant Building Improvements, Evaporation Ponds, New Water Storage Standpipe, Water Distribution Improvements, and Hubbard Creek Reservoir Crossing from Double K Construction and Fabrication, Steelhead Services, Bulldog Steel, Whitewater Construction and Timco blasting and Painting, respectively, contingent upon funding. Collinsworth requested confirmation this did not give approval to proceed. Turner confirmed that approval to proceed with construction would not be given until amount of funding is determined; then at that time the board would vote and give notice to proceed. Montgomery seconded the motion on the floor; all voting for; motion carried unanimously.

That concluded the project updates, and Turner was excused from meeting.

Roller made a motion to Order the May 6, 2023 General Election for the purpose of electing three at-large board members. Motion seconded by Hale; the motion carried.

General Manager's Report: Gardenhire stated he obtained bids for buildings/covers for the tanks and Blackwell 1 & 2 ranging from \$28-61,500 and was still working on additional bids. He also looked at options to spray insulation on tanks but there were concerns regarding damages when the water expands tanks. Discussion also included getting more information on the possibility of keeping the water circulating in tanks.

Gardenhire reported himself and Sug Roller would be going to Austin to the Capital as part of the TRWA annual meeting and that Tyler George and Carrie Holson would be attending the last two days of the convention. Gardenhire also discussed the directors report, noting loss was 10.7% and the state average for loss is 18%. Montgomery noted that is also on a 40+ year old system and thinks leak/break and need repairs.

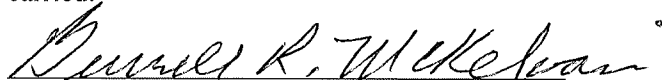
McKelvain redirected back to top of agenda items.

Review and approve meeting minutes: Following a review of the January 2023 meeting minutes Montgomery made a motion to approve the minutes. Roller seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously. Montgomery noted he recalled the auditors recommending several years ago that FGSUD needed to increase the cash flow and he felt like he had seen improvements in the past 2 years.

Review and approval of expenditures and financial reports: Following review of the financials, Montgomery made a motion to approve financial report and budget vs. actual. Hale seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Gardenhire informed the board the transmission on his truck had gone out and wanted to board to be aware of the upcoming expense for repairs.

There was no further business and Collinsworth made a motion to adjourn at 1:38 PM. Motion seconded by Hale; the motion carried.

  
President Burrell McKelvain, Certifying Official  
Fort Griffin Special Utility District

Attest:  
  
Carrie Holson, Office Administrator

# FORT GRIFFIN SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

1180 C.R. 109

Albany, TX 76430

FORT GRIFFIN SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT Board of Directors met in a Called meeting Thursday, February 23, 2023 at noon, at 609 Railroad Street, Albany, Texas.

President Burrell McKelvain presided. McKelvain called the meeting to order at 12:19 pm. Board members present included Sid Collinsworth, Ben Hale, and Sug Roller, Robert Montgomery and Sam Snyder. General Manager Mark Gardenhire, Office Administrator Carrie Holson and Engineer Derek Turner were also present.

Visitor Comments, limited to five minutes: No visitors present.

Derek Turner updated the board on the Rural Development Project, stating Todd Powell with USDA had informed been informed by the national office that the FGSUD project would have to follow the Buy American Act under new legislation. Turner stated the SUD could ask for an exemption, however it could take 12 weeks for determination, with no guarantee of exemption. Turner stated to move forward with the entire project the SUD would have to include the required wording all bid documents, which would result in having to be project re-bid.

Turner said he and Gardenhire had a conference call with Powell and the national office and it was determined the project could be broken into two parts- one part being for the Standpipe and Distribution Lines to be completed with money that has already been allocated; and the second part being for the additional projects following rebid and fund allocation. Turner suggest FGSUD move forward with the two contracts that have been awarded for the Standpipe and the Distribution Lines and to submit the request for the additional funding and rebid the other projects.

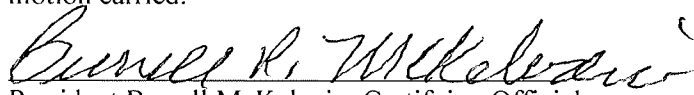
After intense discussion, and questions by board members, Snyder made a motion to proceed with the project as recommended by Turner to do the Standpipe and Distribution Lines and to rebid the remainder to be complete contingent of additional funding. Motion seconded by Montgomery. President McKelvain called for a vote by role-call- Sug Roller-for; Montgomery-for; Snyder-for; McKelvain-for; Collinsworth-for; Hale-for; motion carried unanimously.

Collinsworth stated he would be publishing the cost estimates in the paper for better transparency of the board. After discussion, it was suggested by Roller that the SUD write up something to share with customers updating them on what is going on.

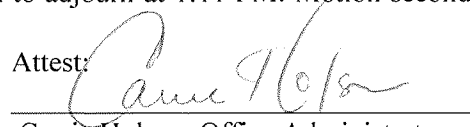
Snyder stated while in Austin he met with several leaders and visited with them regarding the need of funding for water boards and increased cost of the project due to things beyond board control.

Gardenhire explained that City of Moran is applying for a \$500,000 grant to get an additional connection from FGSUD on the south side of Moran. If funded, a portion of the FGSUD project would be completed as part of the Moran project, saving FGSUD around \$500,000. The City of Moran requested President McKelvain sign an Agreement of Operation stating if they are funded and can save FGSUD money, FGSUD would pay the matching funds of the grant (estimated \$10,000). Gardenhire stated no action was needed, but wanted to be sure the board supported the signing of the agreement. Board members agreed it would be great to partner with City of Moran.

There was no further business and Montgomery made a motion to adjourn at 1:11 PM. Motion seconded by Snyder; the motion carried.

  
President Burrell McKelvain, Certifying Official  
Fort Griffin Special Utility District

Attest:

  
Carrie Holson, Office Administrator