

**SOMERVELL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

September 11, 2023

Members Present: Lee Magee, Karen Richardson, Kevin Morgan, Larry Fleming, Nemo Britton

Members Absent: Maurice English, Ben Mieth

Also present: Kevin Taylor, Kim Daniels, John Flippen and James Barnard

Vice President Britton called meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2023 TAX RATE

No Comments

PUBLIC COMMENTS

James Barnard requested the Board reconsider running water lines down to the end of his daughters road.

CONSENT AGENDA

The General Manager presented the minutes of July 10th for board members approval. A motion was made by Lee Magee and seconded by Kevin Morgan to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Resolution: The Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented. (Res. #23-26)

2023 TAX RATE

The General Manager presented the proposed 2023 tax rate for approval by board members. The breakdown between the M&O and I&S rate is M&O .068 and I&S .061. A motion to approve the proposed tax rate of .129 for the 2023 tax year was made by Larry Fleming and seconded by Karen Richardson. Motion carried.

Resolution: The Board approved the 2023 Tax Rate as presented. (Res. #23-27)

SCWD WATER RATE INCREASE

The Somervell County Water District began selling water in the fall of 2011 starting with no residential customers. Our initial water rate of \$2.00 per thousand was intentionally set low to attract customers to our original 60 miles of new distribution system and to encourage groundwater users to utilize surface water. Over the last 13 years we have averaged a little over 100 customers per year and started 2023 with over 1150 customers. We are on pace right now to double that average and have close to 700 residential lots in various stages of development. The District increased its retail rates 50 cents per thousand in 2021 to begin getting in line with area rates.

District staff has proposed raising retail rates another 25 cents per thousand in an effort to keep up with inflation and attempt to recover 100% of production costs which were \$3.19 per thousand in fiscal year 2022. This is the same increase already approved this year by the SCWD Board of Directors for the City of Glen Rose wholesale rate.

A motion was made by Karen Richardson and seconded by Lee Magee. Motion carried.

Resolution: The Board approved the new .25 increase rate schedule for retail water rates effective October 1, 2023. (Res. #23-28)

COUNTY-WIDE WATER STUDY

District staff has discussed hiring an engineering firm to work on a county-wide surface and groundwater study to quantify the amount of existing water availability currently held and available for future growth. A motion was made by Larry Fleming and seconded by Kevin Morgan. Motion carried.

Resolution: The Board authorized the General Manager to solicit a proposal from Enprotec Hibbs & Todd to perform a water availability study for Somervell County. (Res. #23-29)

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

Kevin Taylor presented the following items to the board:

Reservoir Level Update
2023 Bond Issuance Update
THM Testing Update
Water Line Extension Update
Bank Account Report
Water Usage Report
Park Attendance Report
Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Statements
Quarterly Financial Report

No further business was brought to the table. Motion was made by Larry Fleming and seconded by Lee Magee to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:41am.



Kim Daniels, Assistant Secretary

Approved this 13th day of November 2023



Ben Smith
President, Somervell County Water District