# MINUTES WILLOW FORK DRAINAGE DISTRICT

## October 10, 2019

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Willow Fork Drainage District (the "District") met in regular session, open to the public, on October 10, 2019, at the Willow Fork Country Club, 21055 Westheimer Parkway, Katy, Texas, inside the boundaries of the District, and the roll was called of the members of the Board:

Richard Ward President
Dan Smith Vice President
John Poulter Secretary

Wendy Duncan Assistant Vice President Joe Robinson Assistant Secretary

and all of the above were present, thus constituting a quorum.

Also present at the meeting were Commissioner Andy Meyers, Mark Vogler County Engineer; Diane Dobbs, Adam Wright, and Chris Elam, staff members of Commissioner Meyers; Robert Stowe, member of the public; Neil Stillman, Friends of the Park; Julie Williams, Rathmann & Associates; Yvonne Arceneaux, Events Director; Katie May of Inframark Water & Infrastructure Services ("Inframark"); Neil Stillman, Friends of the Park; Jerry Schroeder, Dawn Mouton, and T. J. Cloud of Champions Hydro-Lawn ("Champions"); Mr. Craig Kalkomey of LJA Engineering; Karen Kottke of AECOM; Fran Matuska of F. Matuska, Inc.; and Stephen M. Robinson, Harry Thompson, and Patti Hopper of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP ("ABHR").

### APPROVE MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the previous drainage meeting. Director Poulter moved to approve the minutes. Director Duncan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT RESIDENTS

Commissioner Meyers presented a letter from Representative Rick Miller regarding legislation introduced in the last legislative session regarding strategic partnership agreements and requested Board to support the legislation in 2021. Mr. Robinson stated there is no item on the agenda to discuss or take action on this item. Director Ward requested the Commissioner to provide a copy of the proposed legislation prior to requesting support.

Discussion ensued regarding maintenance of the Willow Fork Channel. Commissioner Meyers stated the District's construction in the 1980's within the County's Willow Fork of Buffalo Bayou is causing erosion of the Willow Fork Channel. Commissioner Meyers stated the District's construction in the 1980's caused erosion, so the District agreed to pay for desilting in the 1990's or early 2000's. Mr. Robinson stated that was not an accurate statement, and the District assisted the County with their desiltation because the County was unwilling to pay for the desilting. He stated the County approved the construction plans, accepted maintenance, and assumed ownership of the Willow Fork Channel in 1985. Director Smith stated poor maintenance of the Willow Fork by Fort Bend County is the primary cause of channel sluffing and silting. Commissioner Meyers again asserted that the District is causing problems regarding silt and sluffing upstream. Director Smith and Mr. Robinson stated the District's channels are maintained meticulously in contrast to the County's maintenance of the Willow Fork. Director Smith strongly recommended the County maintain their channels and stabilize the slopes.

Mr. Stowe stated he attended a meeting of Harris County Flood Control and discussed desilting of the confluence of Willow Fork and the Diversion Channel. Director Stowe stated he reported the grass clippings being blown down the storm sewers to the homeowner association.

## 2019 TAX RATE

The Board conducted a public hearing regarding the 2019 tax rate. Since no one from the public was present who wished to address the Board, the public hearing was closed. Mr. Robinson reviewed an Order Levying Taxes, levying \$0.185 per \$100 assessed valuation comprised of \$0.09 for debt service and \$0.095 for maintenance and operations with \$0.06 designated for drainage maintenance and \$0.035 designated for parks and recreational facilities maintenance. He also reviewed an Amended Information Form. After review and discussion, Director Smith moved to adopt the Order Levying Taxes and to amend the Information Form. Director Poulter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## HURRICANE HARVEY MATTERS, INCLUDING FEMA CLAIM

Ms. May updated the Board regarding the FEMA claim and reviewed a list of projects being submitted for FEMA reimbursement. A list of the FEMA projects is attached. Director Smith then moved to approve the report. Director Duncan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### MAINTENANCE OF STORM SEWER LINES

Ms. May reviewed the storm sewer maintenance report, a copy of which is attached. Ms. May updated the Board regarding future cleaning and maintenance of the storm sewer lines.

### **BOOKKEEPER'S REPORT**

Ms. Matuska reviewed the bookkeeper's report, a copy of which is attached. After review and discussion, Director Smith moved to approve the bookkeeper's report and payment of the bills. Director Duncan seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

## TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Matuska presented the County tax collection report.

## OPERATOR'S REPORT, INCLUDING AUTHORIZING DITCH MAINTENANCE,

Mr. Schroeder reviewed the operator's report, a copy of which is attached, and reviewed pictures of the ditches and channels, as well as the trails. After review and discussion, Director Duncan moved to approve the report. Director Smith seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Mr. Kalkomey reviewed the engineer's report, a copy of which is attached.
- Mr. Kalkomey presented for execution the contracts for desilting the Diversion Channel from the Cinco South Wastewater Treatment Plant to Buffalo Bayou. He presented an Army Corps of Engineers right of entry agreement for execution.
- Mr. Kalkomey stated a meeting is scheduled for October 21 with ABHR to discuss possible projects with the Corps of Engineers. He stated LJA will continue work with TBG and ABHR regarding the conceptual layouts and possible enhancement features.
- Mr. Kalkomey stated Fort Bend County's contractor is still working, and LJA continues to work with Fort Bend County and the contractor regarding pedestrian safety concerns near Exploration Park.
- Mr. Kalkomey stated LJA is continuing work with Inframark to develop a capital improvement plan addressing outfall and storm line repairs, replacements, and maintenance.

Discussion ensued regarding drainage issues in Saddlebrook Crossing. Mr. Vogler stated additional emergency overflows may help if the District has capacity. Mr. Vogler stated the County will look to the District to determine if the channels can handle additional flows. Mr. Vogler stated the County is not comfortable asking the District to take additional flows pending receipt of the Atlas 14 requirements unless the District engineer confirms the District can handle additional flows. The Board confirmed they would consider not objecting to extreme event overflows if the County approves and the District's engineer approves.

Mr. Kalkomey stated LJA and TBG are working to review the bid received for the mid-block crossings and review the Falcon Landing crossing near the District's proposed crossing.

Ms. Kottke updated the Board regarding MS-4 matters. She stated no action was necessary today.

Director Duncan moved to approve the engineer's report, execution of the right of entry agreement, and the action items. Director Smith seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## PARK MATTERS, INCLUDING PARKS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Arceneaux updated the Board regarding current and future events at Central Green.

## COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Director Ward discussed communication matters, including photos for future communications and postcards.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board did not convene in Executive Session.

#### OPEN SESSION

This item was not necessary.

## **CURRENT EVENTS AND ACTION ITEMS**

Director Robinson updated the Board regarding current events, including the new laws impacting property taxation and the District.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, Board of Directors

(SEAL)

