## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE LONG BEACH WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT JULY 16, 2020

The regular meeting of the Long Beach Water Management District was convened on Thursday, July 16, 2020, at the law offices of Dukes, Dukes, Keating & Faneca, P.A., 2909 13<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gulfport, Mississippi.

On roll call, the following Commissioners were found to be present as follows:

David W. Marshall Brett Mallette Mary Ladner

Also present was Mike Guel and Jonathan Guel of the Accounting firm of Wright, Ward, Hatten and Guel, as well as Ben Benvenutti with Covington Engineering and general counsel, Bobby R. Long and Haley N. Broom with the law firm of Dukes, Dukes, Keating & Faneca, P.A., see copy of the public sign-in sheet attached hereto as **Exhibit** "1".

A quorum of Commissioners was found to be present.

Commissioner Mallette entered the Notice of Meeting which was posted prior to the meeting. A copy of this notice is attached hereto as **Exhibit "2"**.

Upon Motion duly made by Commissioner Ladner, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, and unanimously carried, the Minutes for June 18, 2020 Regular meeting were approved. A copy of the Minutes is attached hereto as **Exhibit "3"**.

Upon Motion duly made by Commissioner Ladner, seconded by Commissioner Marshall and unanimously carried, the Docket of Claims for July 16, 2020, was approved. A copy of the Docket of Claims is attached hereto as **Exhibit "4"**.

Upon Motion duly made by Commissioner Ladner, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, and unanimously carried, the Resolution for Attorneys Fees for the period of June 16, 2020 through July 14, 2020, in the amount of \$7,367.80 was approved. See Resolution attached hereto as **Exhibit "5"**.

Mike Guel and Jonathan Guel with the accounting firm of Wright, Ward, Hatten & Guel were present to discuss the draft audit reports prepared at the request of the Long Beach Water Management District for Fiscal Years 2017, 2018 and 2019. A discussion was held wherein Mike and Jonathan discussed the cash breakdown, revenues, annual budgets, and statement of activities for each fiscal year. Commissioner Mallette requested clarification as to when the actual fiscal year begins and ends for the

LBWMD and Mike Guel explained that the LBWMD fiscal year was established to coincide with the Harrison County, State and Federal fiscal years, being October 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>. It was requested that Wright, Ward, Hatten & Guel submit a proposal to prepare an audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

The Commissioners further instructed Bobby Long to make arrangements to have the finalized Audit reports for the LBWMD posted to a Financial and Audit Information page on the website for the District so this information would be available for public review.

A discussion was held regarding Canal No. 1 Design Project. Ben Benvenutti with Covington provided a status update stating that there were no issues with the environmental work completed on Canal No. 1 and that the work performed has been accepted. He further stated that he was of the opinion that the USACE would take action on the permit application, possibly in August. Further discussion included updates from Ben as to canal design issues involving Kux Road area. Ben presented three (3) separate design alternatives to address the design issues involving the Canal and the Desporte Dance Studio, which is situated very close to the canal and has been of great concern during the design phase. After careful consideration, the Commissioners agreed with the option to expand to the north of the roadway of Kux Road, which would be the most cost effective and would provide for better flow capacity of the canal, overall. This option would not require rip-rap enforcement, would follow the 2 to 1 side slope bank design, would utilize natural bank, and even with the necessary acquisition costs, it would come in with a forecasted project budget of around \$275,000.00. See drafted design documents provided by Covington attached hereto as Exhibit "6".

A brief discussion was held regarding the status update of the Canal No. 1 easement project. Bobby Long provided updates stating that there are several survey updates in progress and that lawsuits had been filed for three (3) separate parcels initiating litigation to obtain easements for same. No further action was taken.

A brief discussion was held regarding the 3 improvement projects for Canal 2/3 and Canal No. 1 on behalf of the City of Long Beach and the LBWMD. Ben Benvenutti with Covington provided an update as to the status of the work that had been completed stating that they had finished at Commission Road and they were beginning work on Espy and close to Daughtery with removal of sediment. Ben further stated that Andy with Pickering Engineering informed him that they would be removing the material that had been deposited along the banks into areas showing signs of erosion, once the material had a chance to dry out. No further action was taken. See photos attached hereto as **Exhibit "7"**.

A discussion was held regarding the USACE Project for Canal 2/3. Ben Benvenutti with Covington provided an update as to the status indicating that representatives from the USACE had inquired as to whether the LBWMD would be willing to have the grass cut for the section of Canal 2/3 from Daughtery Road to 28<sup>th</sup>

Street and Espy Avenue to 28<sup>th</sup> Street to make the canal more visible. Ben stated that he had obtained quotes from the City of Long Beach and Utility Partners, LLC to perform the grass cutting. Upon Motion made by Commissioner Ladner, seconded by Commissioner Marshall and unanimously carried, the Commissioners authorized and approved the grass to be cut for the amounts and areas provided for in the proposal received from Joe Culpepper. Said proposal is attached hereto as **Exhibit "8"**.

A discussion was held regarding the Keithco Gas Station wherein Ben Benvenutti stated that he had been in contact with Joe Culpepper with the City of Long Beach and that he was informed that a permit had been issued to Keithco based on the approved design plans to build a gas station. The Commissioners of the LBWMD requested that Ben follow up with the City of Long Beach to ensure that the permit design is in compliance with prior agreements between the LBWMD and Keithco with respect to site drainage, maintenance accessibility and maintenance responsibilities. No further action was taken.

A discussion was held regarding the Updated Assessment Roll. Bobby Long provided a page from the Updated Assessment Roll which showed the revised format. The Commissioners agreed to the revision to the rate and format. No further action was taken.

Finally, Ben Benvenutti brought up an matter which was not identified on the Agenda for the meeting regarding a proposed Hurricane Evacuation Road that was being considered by the cities of Pass Christian and Long Beach, MS. Ben provided a drawing which showed the conceptual roadway. No action was taken.

The next meeting of the Long Beach Water Management District was scheduled to be held on August 20, 2020.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, and upon Motion duly made by Commissioner Marshall, seconded by Commissioner Ladner, and unanimously carried, the meeting of the Long Beach Water Management District was adjourned.

Brett Mallette

David W. Marshall

Mary Ladner

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