

**MINUTES  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD  
CITY OF EL PASO  
October 14, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Public Service Board was held via teleconference, Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

**PSB MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Kristina D. Mena, Chair  
Dr. Ivonne Santiago, Vice-Chair  
Terri Garcia, Secretary-Treasurer  
Dee Margo, Ex-Officio Member  
Christopher A. Antcliff, Member  
Henry Gallardo, Member  
Bryan Morris, Member

**PSB MEMBERS ABSENT**

**PSB EMPLOYEES PRESENT**

John E. Balliew, P.E., President and Chief Executive Officer  
Daniel Ortiz, General Counsel

**EPWATER EMPLOYEES PRESENT**

Alan Shubert, Vice President  
Marcela Navarrete, Vice President  
Juan S. Gonzalez, Assistant General Counsel  
Art Duran, Chief Financial Officer  
Lisa Rosendorf, Chief Communications and Government Affairs Officer  
Alfredo Solano, Chief Information Officer  
Zulema Jamis, Interim Executive Assistant  
Gilbert Trejo, Chief Technical Officer  
Israel Chavez, Senior Network Administrator  
Diana Ortega, Utility Purchasing & Contract Manager  
Rose Guevara, Senior Purchasing Agent  
Edgar Campos, Utility Information Systems Manager  
Alma De Anda, Utility Land & Water Rights Manager  
Angel Bustamante, Water Systems Division Manager  
Mary Portillo, Senior Office Assistant  
Martin Noriega, Utility Chief Operations Officer  
Jeff Tepsick, Utility Assistant Chief Financial Officer  
Felipe Lopez, Utility Chief Operations Officer  
Aide Fuentes, Wastewater Treatment Manager  
Paul Rivas, Utility Chief Operations Officer  
Jacqueline Aguilar, Contracts Development Coordinator  
Lidia Carranco, Fiscal Operations Manager  
Mark Bolduc, Utility Business & Customer Service Manager  
Jacqueline Scranton, Project Compliance Specialist  
Claudia Lara, Project Compliance Specialist  
Christina Rivas, Procurement Analyst

**GUESTS**

**MEDIA**

The Public Service Board meeting was called to order by Dr. Mena at 10:00 a.m. A quorum of its members was present after doing a roll call; Henry Gallardo joined the video conference at 10:10 a.m. and Mayor Margo joined at 10:49 a.m. After a moment of silence, those in attendance joined Dr. Mena, in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

### CONSENT AGENDA

#### **1. CONSIDERED THE MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2020.**

Staff requested to have this item deleted from the agenda and be moved to November's PSB Meeting.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board approved to delete this item from the agenda.

### REGULAR AGENDA

#### **2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING AWARDS:**

- 2020 American Water Works Association (AWWA) Partnership for Safe Water - Director's award to the Jonathan Rogers Water Treatment Plant and the Robertson/Umberhauer Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Gilbert Trejo, Chief Technical Officer began his presentation by recognizing the utilities for their long-term commitment to optimizing operations, achieving outstanding performance, and protecting the environment and public health.
- National Association of Clean Water Agent (NACWA) has announced 2019 Honorees that include a Platinum 5 Performance Award to the Fred Hervey Water Reclamation Plant and the NACWA Silver Peak Performance Award to the Roberto R. Bustamante Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Gilbert Trejo presented in recognizing wastewater plants for compliance with the Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.
- 2020 Outstanding Large Plant Award to the Kay Bailey Hutchison Desalination Plant. Mr. Gilbert Trejo presented the recognition of outstanding plant operations and maintenance and exemplary membrane treatment plant performance. Only one plant receives this award annually.

#### **3. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR ON-CALL SURVEYING SERVICES TO BROCK AND BUSTILLOS, INC.; COBB, FENDLEY AND ASSOCIATES, INC.; FRANK X. SPENCER AND ASSOCIATES, INC.; H2O TERRA, LLC; AND HUITT-ZOLLARS, INC. EACH IN A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF \$300,000, EACH CONTRACT WILL BE FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, AND AUTHORIZE THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.**

Mr. Gilbert Trejo, Chief Technical Officer provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). EPWater uses surveying firms for the preparation of metes and bounds, boundary, American Land Title Association (ALTA) and topographic surveys, as well as checking quality control of contractors' surveyors. This contract will allow staff to respond quickly when surveys or other documentation are needed to acquire property or easements. On-Call Surveying Services contracts will be used on a task order basis for surveying needs for water, wastewater, reclaimed, and stormwater projects, and other in-house projects for design and other land management related functions. Mr. Trejo addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board awarded professional services contracts for On-Call Surveying Services to Brock and Bustillos, Inc.; Cobb, Fendley and Associates, Inc.; Frank X. Spencer and Associates, Inc.; H2O Terra, LLC; and Huitt-Zollars, Inc. each in a maximum amount of \$300,000 over a term of two years, and authorize the use of commercial paper.

**4. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR SEPTIC TO PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER CONVERSION PROGRAM TO CEA ENGINEERING GROUP, INC. AND MORENO CARDENAS, INC. EACH IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$400,000 AND AUTHORIZE FUTURE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS TO BE ISSUED UNDER THIS CONTRACT FOR ADDITIONAL DESIGN, BID, AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$800,000 FOR EACH CONTRACT, PROVIDED THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). Numerous properties in the City of El Paso are currently still on septic systems. Conversion of the septic systems to public sewer systems is a priority for EPWater. The conversion program will address the following concerns: increased public health, protection of the water supply, and reliable wastewater disposal for property owners. Mr. Trejo addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Ms. Garcia, seconded by Dr. Santiago and unanimously carried, the Board awarded professional services contracts for Septic to Public Sanitary Sewer Conversion Program to CEA Engineering Group, Inc. and Moreno Cardenas, Inc. each in the estimated amount of \$400,000 and authorize future task orders or amendments to be issued under this contract for additional design, bid, and construction phase services in the estimated amount of \$800,000 for each contract, provided that funding is available in the approved budget for the task orders or amendments.

**5. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED TASK ORDER NUMBER 1, AMENDMENT NUMBER 2 DONIPHAN AND FRONTERA JUNCTION BOX REHABILITATION TO MM STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS, INC. FOR ADDITIONAL BID AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$131,601, AUTHORIZE FUTURE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS TO BE ISSUED UNDER THIS CONTRACT IN AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$50,000, PROVIDED THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The Doniphan and Frontera Junction Box Rehabilitation project is under construction. Task Order 1 for professional engineering services was approved by the board on December 12, 2018, in the amount of \$145,519 and included design, bid and construction phase services. The proposed Amendment Number 2 includes additional level of effort needed to evaluate the bids and expedite negotiation of the project cost and for construction phase services. Mr. Trejo addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board approved Task Order Number 1, Amendment Number 2 Doniphan and Frontera Junction Box Rehabilitation to MM Structural Engineers, Inc. for additional bid and construction phase services in the estimated amount of \$131,601, authorize future task orders or amendments to be issued under this contract in an estimated amount of \$50,000, provided that funding is available in the approved budget for the task orders or amendments.

**6. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED INCREASES ASSOCIATED WITH THE EMERGENCY REPAIR AND REHABILITATION TO THE FRONTERA FORCE MAINS TO THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT WITH JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP, INC. FOR ADDITIONAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,000, INCREASING THE TOTAL ESTIMATED ENGINEERING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES COST TO \$750,000; AUTHORIZE FUTURE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS TO BE ISSUED UNDER THIS CONTRACT FOR ADDITIONAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES IN AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$250,000 PROVIDED THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS; AN INCREASE TO THE EMERGENCY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH OSCAR RENDA CONTRACTING IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$7,971,482; INCREASING THE TOTAL ESTIMATED**

**CONSTRUCTION COST TO \$17,471,482; AND AUTHORIZE THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The Frontera Lift Station force mains are critical to the operation of the wastewater collection system as they convey flow from the entire westside, 3.5 miles, to the John T. Hickerson Water Reclamation Facility. The Frontera Lift Station pumps a total of 10 million gallons of wastewater per day through two force mains with pipe diameters ranging from 30, 36, and 42-inch. On March 2, 2020, the 30-inch and 42-inch pressurized wastewater mains experienced failure leading to a rupture, discharging thousands of gallons of wastewater onto the area of Sunland Park between IH-10 and Doniphan Drive. On March 11, 2020, the PSB authorized EPWater to enter into emergency contracts with consultant, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., and contractor, Oscar Renda Contracting, for the urgent public necessity to design, repair, rehabilitate, and replace the Frontera force mains. During the early stages of construction activities, the construction team has encountered various unforeseen conditions which have triggered variances to the proposed construction sequencing. These changes in conditions have required modifications to the proposed alignments and installation procedure in order to complete the repairs and in turn, caused an increase in the level of effort required by the construction team. In addition, since the March 2nd break, the force mains have experienced three additional breaks and one at the Sunland Park lift station, which discharges into the Frontera force mains. Oscar Renda repaired these four additional breaks. Mr. Trejo addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Dr. Santiago, seconded by Ms. Garcia and unanimously carried, the Board approved increases associated with the Emergency Repair and Rehabilitation to the Frontera Force Mains to the professional engineering services contract with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. for additional design and construction phase services in the amount of \$250,000, increasing the total estimated engineering design and construction phase services cost to \$750,000; authorize future task orders or amendments to be issued under this contract for additional design and construction phase services in an estimated amount of \$250,000 provided that funding is available in the approved budget for the task orders or amendments; an increase to the emergency construction contract with Oscar Renda Contracting in the estimated amount of \$7,971,482; increasing the total estimated construction cost to \$17,471,482; and authorize the use of commercial paper.

**7. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NUMBER 41-20, ROBERTO R. BUSTAMANTE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT RETURN FLOWS DIVERSION TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, CUBIC WATER, L.L.C., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$764,699.85 AND AUTHORIZE THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The original influent lift station at the Roberto R. Bustamante Wastewater Treatment Plant constructed in 1991 was designed to collect residential septage waste and plant return flows. In 2002, the existing headworks lift station was constructed and these flows were redirected and pumped to a new wet well. In 2019, EPWater discontinued receiving septage dumping at this plant leaving the plant return flows as the only flow stream pumped at the original lift station. The original lift station is maintenance intensive and in need of repairs. This contract is for rerouting the existing Plant return flows away from the existing Return Flows Lift Station and diverting these to a gravity flow via a rerouted drain system. This project will consist of: demolition of the existing system; installation of 150 linear feet of 18-inch sanitary sewer pipe; dewatering; installation on new manholes; installation of a 72-inch metering manhole, including a flow meter; and demolition of an existing meter station. After this project, the original 1991 lift station will be abandoned and demolished as part of the new headworks lift station project currently in design. Mr. Trejo addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Gallardo, seconded by Dr. Santiago and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Bid Number 41-20, Roberto R. Bustamante Wastewater Treatment Plant Return Flows Diversion to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Cubic Water, L.L.C., in the amount of \$764,699.85 and authorize the use of commercial paper.

**8. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NUMBER 12-20, FRANKLIN EAST 1 TANK TO VISTA DEL NORTE DEVELOPMENT 24-INCH WATER LINE EXTENSION, TO THE LOWEST**

**RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, CMD ENDEAVORS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,073,990 AND AUTHORIZE THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). EPWater is expanding the water infrastructure system in Northeast El Paso along US Highway 54 to meet water demands for population growth. EPWater needs to extend the Franklin East 24-inch water line from the new Franklin East 1 Number 4 Elevated Water Storage Tank to serve the new Vista Del Norte Estates subdivision. This project consists of the installation of approximately 4,535 linear feet of 24-inch water main, and the installation of 860 linear feet of 12-inch polyvinyl chloride water main. Mr. Trejo addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Dr. Santiago, seconded by Ms. Garcia and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Bid Number 12-20, Franklin East 1 Tank to Vista Del Norte Development 24-Inch Water Line Extension, to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, CMD Endeavors, Inc., in the amount of \$1,073,990 and authorize the use of commercial paper.

**9. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NUMBER 36-20, ON-CALL WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FY 20-21 AND ON-CALL SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FY 20-21, BASE BID I IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$2,704,028.80 AND BASE BID II IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$2,153,674.00, TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, KARLSRUHER, INC. DBA CSA CONSTRUCTORS, WITH THE OPTION FOR TWO, ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS AND AUTHORIZE THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). EPWater received five bids for this project on August 24, 2020. The bidders were Karlsruhe, Inc. dba CSA Constructors; CMD Endeavors, Inc.; J.A.R. Concrete, Inc. dba J.A.R. Construction, Inc.; Spiess Construction, Inc.; Ztex Construction, Inc. Base Bid I – Water Distribution System ranged from \$2,704,028.80 to \$7,900,315 or 5% below to 177% above the engineer's estimate of \$2,854,964.06; Base Bid II - Sanitary Sewer System ranged from \$2,153,674 to \$6,739,770 or 16% below to 162% above the engineer's estimate of \$2,573,172.61. This is a unit price bid contract that will be used for repairs as needed. Staff evaluated the bids of the apparent low bidder and has determined that Karlsruhe, Inc. dba CSA Constructors meets the minimum general requirements as well as the minimum project specific criteria as specified on the bid documents for Base Bid I and Base Bid II. Based on the evaluation, staff recommends award Bid Number 36-20 On-Call Water Distribution System Construction Contract FY 20-21 and On-Call Sanitary Sewer System Construction Contract FY 20-21, Base Bid I and II, to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Karlsruhe, Inc. dba CSA Constructors, for a period of one year with the option for two, one-year extensions. Mr. Trejo addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Bid Number 36-20, On-Call Water Distribution System Construction Contract FY 20-21 and On-Call Sanitary Sewer System Construction Contract FY 20-21, Base Bid I in the estimated annual amount of \$2,704,028.80 and Base Bid II in the estimated annual amount of \$2,153,674.00, to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Karlsruhe, Inc. dba CSA Constructors, with the option for two, one-year extensions and authorize the use of commercial paper.

**10. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NO. 46-20, PUMPING SYSTEMS FURNISH, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE PHASE II TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, ALPHA SOUTHWEST, INC. IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$4,131,709.82 WITH THE OPTION FOR TWO, ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The work for this project includes annual well rehabilitation activities on 12 existing high capacity wells in the EPWater system. Contractor will furnish and install new well pumps, motors and associated equipment for each of the wells identified. The contract also includes an allowance which will be used to handle unforeseen conditions

related to expedited, urgent repair of wells, booster stations, wastewater lift stations, and stormwater pump stations. Mr. Trejo addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Bid No. 46-20, Pumping Systems Furnish, Installation and Maintenance Phase II to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Alpha Southwest, Inc. in the estimated annual amount of \$4,131,709.82 with the option for two, one-year extensions.

**11. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES OF THE PUMPING SYSTEMS FURNISH INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE -PHASE II (BID NO. 46-20) TO CDM SMITH INC. IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$450,000; AUTHORIZE FUTURE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS TO BE ISSUED UNDER THIS CONTRACT FOR ADDITIONAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$2,000,000 OVER A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS, PROVIDED THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). Bid Number 46-20 Pumping Systems Furnish Installation and Maintenance - Phase II project requires construction management services from a qualified firm with proven prior experience in management and oversight of evaluation including: review, approve, and inspect all phases of the annual rehabilitation of 12 high capacity wells, as well as the procurement and installation of 12 vertical turbine well pumps.

On a motion made by Dr. Santiago, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board awarded a professional engineering services contract for construction management services of the Pumping Systems Furnish Installation and Maintenance -Phase II (Bid No. 46-20) to CDM Smith Inc. in the estimated amount of \$450,000; authorize future task orders or amendments to be issued under this contract for additional design and construction phase services in the estimated amount of \$2,000,000 over a period of three years, provided that funding is available in the approved budget for the task orders or amendments

**12. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 11 – BID NUMBER 29-19, GROUSE STREET FORCE MAIN REHABILITATION PHASE VI, TO SPIESS CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$190,384.98; EXTENDING THE CONTRACT DURATION BY NINE DAYS; AND AUTHORIZE THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.**

Mr. Trejo provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The Grouse Street Force Mains is a system of dual, parallel force mains that conveys wastewater from the Grouse Street Lift Station to the Fred Hervey Plant. In 2003, a replacement program was developed and implemented:

- Phase I was completed in 2003
- Phases II and III were completed in 2010
- Phase IV was complete in 2012
- Phase V was complete in 2015
- Phase VI began in 2019

The Notice to Proceed for Phase VI, Bid Number 29-19, was issued to Spiess Construction (Spiess) on July 18, 2019. During construction, it was identified that the force main system could not be isolated due to inoperative valves. Spiess was issued a change order to perform the necessary work to remediate the issues. This change order is for additional compensation for labor and equipment costs associated with the force main isolation remediation efforts including a temporary line stop, by-pass pumping system, replacement of additional valves needed to complete the work, and restoration of existing rock wall and asphalt.

On a motion made by Dr. Santiago, seconded by Mr. Gallardo and unanimously carried, the Board approved Change Order Number 11 – Bid Number 29-19, Grouse Street Force Main Rehabilitation Phase VI, to Spiess

Construction Co., Inc., increasing the contract amount by an estimated amount of \$190,384.98; extending the contract duration by nine days; and authorize the use of commercial paper

**13. CONSIDERED AND REJECTED ALL BIDS RECEIVED FOR BID NUMBER 52-20 DISINFECTION SERVICES AT EPWATER FACILITIES.**

Art Duran, Chief Financial Officer, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). This bid was for COVID-19 disinfecting services at EPWater facilities to abide by COVID-19 protocol. Mr. Duran addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Ms. Garcia, Mr. Morris opposed, the Board rejected all bids received for Bid Number 52-20 Disinfection Services at EPWater Facilities.

**14. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED A MASTER CONTRACT WITH INFECTION CONTROLS, INC. DBA GERMBLAST THROUGH ESC REGION 19 CONTRACT NUMBER 19-7321, IN AN ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$800,000 WITH THE OPTION FOR TWO, ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS.**

Mr. Duran provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, disinfection services are needed to help protect our employees. This disinfection services contract will allow all EPWater facilities to continue to be disinfected and adhere to COVID-19 mitigation protocols. Mr. Duran addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Ms. Garcia, Mr. Morris opposed, the Board approved a Master Contract with Infection Controls, Inc. dba GermBlast through ESC Region 19 Contract Number 19-7321, in an estimated annual amount of \$800,000 with the option for two, one-year extensions.

**15. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID 53-20, LARGE PRECAST CONCRETE METER BOXES, TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, DOUBLE H CONTRACTING, INC. IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$135,055 WITH THE OPTION FOR TWO, ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS.**

Mr. Duran provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The large precast concrete meter boxes are utilized at various installations for water services that require connections of 1-1/2 inch or larger. The previous bid was awarded on September 13, 2017. This bid is 4% lower than the previous bid price.

On a motion made by Mr. Gallardo, seconded by Ms. Garcia and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Bid 53-20, Large Precast Concrete Meter Boxes, to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Double H Contracting, Inc. in the estimated annual amount of \$135,055 with the option for two, one-year extensions

**16. CONSIDERED AND REJECTED ALL BIDS RECEIVED FOR BID NUMBER 42-20, NEVINS AND CROWN POINT II PACKED TOWER AIR STRIPPER INSTALLATION.**

Mr. Duran provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The Packed Tower Air Stripper (PTAS) is used to remove trihalomethanes (THMs) from our water supply to comply with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requirements. This bid was for the procurement of two sets of PTAS materials for the Nevins and Crown Point II Booster Stations.

On a motion made by Dr. Santiago, seconded by Ms. Garcia and unanimously carried, the Board rejected the sole bid received for Bid Number 42-20, Nevins and Crown Point II Packed Tower Air Stripper Installation.

**17. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED THE RENEWAL OF THE SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH SUEZ SMART SOLUTIONS/DERCETO, INC. (SUEZ) FOR THE AQUADVANCED ENERGY OPTIMIZER IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$462,800 OVER A TERM OF 4 YEARS AND AQUADVANCED ENERGY MONITORING SUPPORT & MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$188,370 OVER A TERM OF 4 YEARS.**

**INCLUSIVE OF A ONE-TIME, PRO-RATED, ALIGNMENT PERIOD AMOUNT; CONTINGENT UPON DERCETO INCORPORATED'S PROVIDING YEARLY DOCUMENTATION ATTESTING TO THEIR SOLE SOURCE STATUS.**

Mr. Duran provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The Aquadvanced Energy Optimizer (AAE) is the water management software that was implemented back in 2014. This software operates pump stations based on projected water demand, historical demands, and storage tank levels throughout the distribution system. The Aquadvanced Energy Monitoring (AAEM) software is a web-based system that monitors assets' key performance indicators, reports energy consumption and efficiency performance metrics for different EPWater departments.

On a motion made by Dr. Santiago, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board approved the renewal of the sole source contract with Suez Smart Solutions/Derceto, Inc. (SUEZ) for the Aquadvanced Energy Optimizer in the estimated amount of \$462,800 over a term of 4 years and Aquadvanced Energy Monitoring Support & Maintenance Agreement in the estimated amount of \$188,370 over a term of 4 years, inclusive of a one-time, pro-rated, alignment period amount; contingent upon Derceto Incorporated's providing yearly documentation attesting to their sole source status.

**18. CONSIDERED AND ACCEPTED THE EL PASO WATER'S SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 31, 2020.**

Mr. Duran provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The Public Service Board requires regular financial reporting from staff on the financial condition of the Utility. Mr. Duran began his presentation with the comparison of water billed from FY 2019-20 to 2020-21. Over the past five years, there has been a reduction in demand in water. Next, Mr. Duran discussed Water and Wastewater Operating Revenues. The budgeted amount was \$264,921 million and the actual spent for FY2020-21 was \$145,659 million compared to the \$133,127 million at the same time for FY2019-20. Mr. Duran went on to discuss Water and Wastewater Utility Operating Expenses, the budgeted amount was \$111,755 million, the actual coming in at \$49,193 million for FY2020-21 compared to the \$48,135 at same time last fiscal year. Water and Wastewater Capital Projects Expenditures were discussed next, the budgeted amount was \$237,624 million, and the actual was \$50,174 million. This is a decrease compared to the \$58,268 million for last fiscal year. Mr. Duran next discussed Water and Wastewater Debt Service Coverage, the bond ordinance being a minimum at 1.50, with a projected of 2.33, and the actual coming in at 2.93. Next, was the Stormwater Utility Operating Revenues. The budgeted amount for FY2020-21 was \$24,602 million with the actual coming in at \$12,221 million, where as in FY2019-20 the actual was \$12,199 million. Stormwater Operating Expenses were budgeted at \$7,437 million with the actual coming in at \$3,117 million, compared to last fiscal year at 3,143 million. Also discussed was the Stormwater Capital Expenditures, which were budgeted at \$26,011 million for FY2020-21 and the actual being \$4,256 million for FY2020-21 compared to the \$11,000 million in FY2019-20. The Stormwater Debt Service Coverage had a minimum bond ordinance of 1.25 with the budgeted of 1.82 and the actual coming in at 1.95 for FY2020-21. Mr. Duran discussed an update on the effects of COVID-19 Pandemic on Customers Account Balances. Beginning of February through September, 1.22% slight decrease have stayed current; 6.57% decrease on 30 days past due; an increase of 1.91% on 30-60 days past due and 5.87% increase of 60 days past due. The Utility received \$500,000 from the City on CARES ACT Program for utility assistance to low income customers who were impacted by covid-19, financially. Mr. Duran and Ms. Lisa Rosendorf, Chief Communications and Government Affairs Officer, addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Ms. Garcia, seconded by Dr. Santiago and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the El Paso Water's Second Quarter Financial and Performance Measures Report for period ending August 31, 2020.

**19. CONSIDERED AND ACCEPTED THE SECOND QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 31, 2020.**



Mr. Duran provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). The Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA) requires a quarterly report to be submitted. Mr. Duran began her presentation by discussing the US Fed Funds Rate. The percentage has been on a steady increase since March 2016, there was a drop in June 2019 and has been dropping down to 0.25% end of the second quarter. Mr. Duran went on to discuss the Portfolio Composition as of August 31, 2020. The chart broke down the amounts by the following: securities 32%, CDs was 28%, the Money Market Funds was 14%, the TexStar was 3%, the Texpool was 3% and lastly the Texpool Prime was 20%. Mr. Duran went over the 2nd Quarter Portfolio Comparison. The portfolio for FY2020 was \$203,090,341 compared to FY2019 \$260,285,942. Purchases for FY2020 was \$28.9 million, and the FY2019 was \$84.7 million, the weighted average maturity was 142 days for FY2020 and 70 days for FY2019. Lastly was the weighted yield which was 0.94% for FY2020 compared to the 2.19% for FY2019. Mr. Duran ended his presentation with the Benchmark Analysis, the 3 Month T-bill was 0.11%, 6 Month T-bill was 0.13%, 1 years T-bill at 0.12%, 2 year T-bill at 0.14%, and lastly EPWater came in at 0.94%. Ms. Garcia commented regarding this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Gallardo, seconded by Ms. Garcia and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the Second Quarter Investment Report for the period ending August 31, 2020.

**20. CONSIDERED AND AUTHORIZED THE PRESIDENT/CEO TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH EL PASO COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM PROJECT BRAVO, INC. TO PROVIDE UTILITY PAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR ELIGIBLE EPWATER CUSTOMERS.**

Ms. Lisa Rosendorf, Chief Communications and Government Affairs Officer, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). Project BRAVO has received federal funding for COVID-19 utility assistance (electric, gas, water) for El Paso County. In contrast to the City funding received by Project Amistad and EPWater, Project BRAVO is able to provide assistance to customers who reside outside of the El Paso city limits. Eligible households may receive up to \$250 for up to three months of water bills. Low income non-COVID-19 impacted households may be eligible for water assistance based on a priority rating system and availability of funding. This agreement will enable Project BRAVO to work with EPWater customer service staff to confirm unpaid balances and provide assistance to eligible customers. Ms. Rosendorf addressed questions from the Board regarding this item.

On a motion made by Ms. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the President/CEO to sign an agreement with El Paso Community Action Program Project BRAVO, Inc. to provide utility payment assistance for eligible EPWater customers.

**21. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED THE REVISED PSB COMMUNICATIONS POLICY.**

Ms. Rosendorf provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files). PSB Communications Policy was last updated in 2011 and had not been reviewed since the establishment of a PSB Communications Committee. The policy was recently updated and shared with the PSB Communications Committee, which reviewed and discussed changes at a recent committee meeting. The Committee finalized and gave an official endorsement of the updated policy.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board approved the revised PSB Communications Policy.

**22. MANAGEMENT REPORT**

- Update on recent grant agreements and funding priorities
- Status of pavement cuts and plates on streets

The Board requested to have this item deleted from the agenda and be moved to November's PSB Meeting.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board approved to delete this item from the agenda.

**23. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2020 ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN WATER AGENCIES (AMWA) SUSTAINABLE WATER UTILITY MANAGEMENT AWARD TO EL PASO WATER.**

The Board requested to have this item deleted from the agenda and be moved to November's PSB Meeting.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board approved to delete this item from the agenda.

**24. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED THE PROPOSED PSB MEMBER SELECTION TIMELINE.**

Mr. Balliew addressed to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files).

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Gallardo and unanimously carried, the Board approved the proposed PSB Member Selection Timeline.

**25. PUBLIC COMMENT: THE PSB WILL PERMIT PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA. THE CHAIR MAY IMPOSE REASONABLE TIME LIMITS FOR EACH SPEAKER.**

No comments were made.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff, seconded by Mr. Morris, and unanimously carried, the Board retired into Executive Session at 12:31 a.m., October 14, 2020, pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 through 551.076 to discuss the following:

Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney  
Section 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property  
Section 551.074 Personnel Matters

**a. Section 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property**

The Board will deliberate regarding whether the following properties can be declared inexpedient to the water system, the properties are located in the Lower Valley, South of Socorro Road, legally described as a portion of Tract 18, Block 24, all of Tracts 3, 4, 5 and 8B, Block 25, and a portion of Tracts 8, 11, 12, 16A, and 17, and all of Tracts 9, 10, 13, 14A, 14B, 14C, 15A, 15B, 15C, and 16B, Block 26, all within Socorro Grant, El Paso County, Texas, consisting of approximately 301.974 net acres.

On a motion made by Mr. Antcliff seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board reconvened in open session at 12:42p.m.

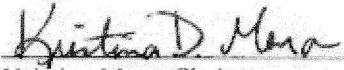
**THE BOARD DELIBERATED REGARDING WHETHER THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES CAN BE DECLARED INEXPEDIENT TO THE WATER SYSTEM, THE PROPERTIES ARE LOCATED IN THE LOWER VALLEY, SOUTH OF SOCORRO ROAD, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS A PORTION OF TRACT 18, BLOCK 24, ALL OF TRACTS 3, 4, 5 AND 8B, BLOCK 25, AND A PORTION OF TRACTS 8, 11, 12, 16A, AND 17, AND ALL OF TRACTS 9, 10, 13, 14A, 14B, 14C, 15A, 15B, 15C, AND 16B, BLOCK 26, ALL WITHIN SOCORRO GRANT, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS, CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 301.974 NET ACRES.**


Motion made by Ms. Garcia and seconded by Mr. Antcliff and carried that the President and CEO be authorized to proceed with the acquisition of land in the manner approved by the Board and in accordance with the terms and conditions specified by the Board, and sign any and all documents necessary to complete the purchase.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Ms. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Ancliff and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 12:43p.m., October 14, 2020.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristina Mena-Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer