

**MINUTES
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD
CITY OF EL PASO
May 10, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Public Service Board was held in person, Wednesday, May 10, 2023

PSB MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Ivonne Santiago, Chair
Charlie Intebi, Secretary-Treasurer
Bryan Morris, Vice-Chair
Dr. Kristina D. Mena, Member
Stefanie Block Uribarri, Member
Lisa Saenz, Member

PSB MEMBERS ABSENT

Mayor Oscar Leeser

PSB EMPLOYEES PRESENT

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

EPWATER EMPLOYEES PRESENT

Marcela Navarrete, Vice President
Art Duran, Chief Financial Officer
Claudia Duran, Executive Assistant to the President/CEO
Irazema Rojas, Chief Technical Officer
Lisa Rosendorf, Chief Communications & Government Affairs Officer
Gisela Dagnino, Chief Operations Officer
Martin Noriega, Chief Operations Officer
Ciara Grier, Support Services I
Rose Guevara, Purchasing and Contracts Manager
Luz Holguin, Assistant Chief Financial Officer
Geoffrey Espineli, Engineering Division Manager
Christina Montoya, Communications and Marketing Manager
Adriana Castillo, Engineer Division Manager
Rebecca Hart, Treasury and Property Control Manager
Gustavo Hurtado, Fiscal Operations Manager
Michaela Ainsa, Senior Assistant General Counsel
Alma De Anda, Land and Water Rights Manager
Alex Vidales, Real Estate Manager

GUESTS

MEDIA

None

The Public Service Board meeting was called to order by Dr. Santiago at 8:03 a.m. A quorum of its members was present. After a moment of silence, those in attendance joined Marcela Navarrete in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Ms. Saenz, item 10 was pulled from the Consent Agenda and placed into the Regular Agenda.

On a single motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Dr. Mena and unanimously carried, the Board took action on the following consent agenda items:

1. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING HELD ON APRIL 12, 2023.

2. CONSIDERED AND ADOPTED A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADDITION OF STAFF AS AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EL PASO WATER UTILITIES PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD FOR THE TEXPOOL INVESTMENT POOL ACCOUNTS; AND THAT THE PSB CHAIR AND SECRETARY-TREASURER BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS.

3. CONSIDERED AND ADOPTED A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADDITION OF STAFF AS AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EL PASO WATER UTILITIES PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD FOR THE TEXAS SHORT TERM ASSET RESERVE PROGRAM (TEXSTAR) INVESTMENT POOL ACCOUNTS; AND THAT THE PSB CHAIR AND SECRETARY-TREASURER BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS.

4. CONSIDERED AND ADOPTED A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADDITION OF STAFF AS AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EL PASO WATER UTILITIES PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT COOPERATIVE (LOGIC) INVESTMENT POOL ACCOUNTS; AND THAT THE PSB CHAIR AND SECRETARY-TREASURER BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS.

5. CONSIDERED AND REJECTED THE SOLE BID RECEIVED FROM FOX SCIENTIFIC, INC FOR BID NUMBER 12-23, MISCELLANEOUS CHEMICALS AND SUPPLIES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL WATER QUALITY LABORATORY AND ALLOWED STAFF TO RE-BID.

6. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NUMBER 13-23, ASPHALTIC COLD MIX, TO JOBE MATERIALS L.P., THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$48,300 FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR, WITH FOUR ONE-YEAR OPTIONS, PROVIDED FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET.

7. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NUMBER SW38-23, SANDBAGS - FILLED AT SPECIFIC SITE AND LOCATIONS, TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, BLACK STALLION CONTRACTORS, INC., IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$219,000 FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR WITH THE OPTION FOR TWO ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS PROVIDED THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET.

8. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED A MASTER CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PIPES, VALVES, FITTINGS, AND OTHER RELATED MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES WITH FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, LLC, THROUGH ESC REGION 19 ALLIED STATES COOPERATIVE CONTRACT NO. 23-7457, FOR MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$5,000,000 DURING THE TERM OF ESC REGION 19 ALLIED STATES COOPERATIVE CONTRACT NO. 23-7457, WITH AN END DATE OF APRIL 30, 2024, WITH THREE ANNUAL EXTENSION OPTIONS SHOULD ESC REGION 19 EXERCISE THE OPTION TO EXTEND.

9. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED AN INCREASE IN CAPACITY OF MASTER CONTRACT MC00000459 ISSUED TO PUREOPS, LLC FOR THE PURCHASE OF INDUSTRIAL PUMPS, MOTORS, FILTERS, FLOW METERS, AND RELATED THROUGH ESC REGION 19 ALLIED STATES COOPERATIVE CONTRACT NUMBER 21-7402 BY AN ADDITIONAL \$1,500,000 TO INCREASE THE EXISTING MASTER CONTRACT CUMULATIVE AMOUNT TO \$2,000,000.

11. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR ON-CALL CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR VARIOUS WATER, WASTEWATER, RECLAIMED WATER, AND STORMWATER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS – RFQ 14-23 TO ARCADIS U.S., INC., BROCK & BUSTILLOS INC., BROWN AND CALDWELL DBA BROWN AND CALDWELL, INC., CDM SMITH INC., CEA ENGINEERING GROUP, INC., CONSOR ENGINEERS, LLC, JOHNSON, MIRMIRAN & THOMPSON, INC. (FORMERLY NAMED AS ECM INTERNATIONAL), ESSCO INTERNATIONAL, INC., FRANK X. SPENCER AND ASSOCIATES, INC., GARVER, LLC, H2O TERRA, LLC, HUITT-ZOLLARS, INC., MORENO CARDENAS, INC., PARAGON PROJECT RESOURCES, INC., PARKHILL, SMITH, AND COOPER, INC., AND MILLER, ENGINEERS, INC. DBA SOUDER, MILLER, AND ASSOCIATES, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,500,000 FOR EACH FIRM FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS AND AUTHORIZED THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.

12. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH USIC LOCATING SERVICES, LLC, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 252.022(A)(4) OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, TO CONDUCT LOCATING AND MARKING SERVICES FOR AN ANNUAL ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$100,000 FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR, WITH THE OPTION FOR TWO ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS, PROVIDED THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET.

REGULAR AGENDA

10. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED AN INCREASE IN CAPACITY OF THE MASTER CONTRACT MC00000467 ISSUED TO INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION USA, INC. THROUGH PURCHASING COOPERATIVE OF AMERICA CONTRACT NUMBER OD-368-22 TRADES AND RELATED ITEMS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF CURED-IN-PLACE LINERS FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF THE MASTER CONTRACT BY \$3,987,000 FOR A TOTAL ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$5,287,000.

Felipe Lopez, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The EPWater collection system has deteriorated manholes due to hydrogen sulfide, excess stormwater, and heavy traffic. The manholes can collapse if not maintained. A program to rehabilitate manholes is in place to avoid the failure of manholes. On January 11, 2023, the Public Service Board (PSB) approved a contract with Infrastructure Rehabilitation USA, Inc., through Purchasing Cooperative of America Contract Number OD-368-22 for cured-in-liners in the estimated annual amount of \$1,300,000 for the first year and authorized two one-year renewals for the estimated annual amount of \$3,000,000 provided that funding is available in the appropriate budget. Staff requests to increase the first year of the master contract by \$3,987,000 for a total estimated amount of \$5,287,000 for Contractor to complete more work during this current first year. Mr. Lopez answered questions from the Board on this item.

On a motion made by Dr. Mena, seconded by Mr. Morris, and unanimously carried, the Board approved an increase in capacity of the master contract MC00000467 issued to Infrastructure Rehabilitation USA, Inc. through Purchasing Cooperative of America Contract Number OD-368-22 Trades and Related Items for the installation of cured-in-place liners for the first year of the master contract by \$3,987,000 for a total estimated amount of \$5,287,000.

13. CEO MONTHLY UPDATE REGARDING UTILITY MANAGEMENT AND/OR OPERATIONS.

Mr. Balliew provided a presentation to the Board on this item. Mr. Balliew updated the Board regarding City Council's approval of the Bonds and the AA+ rating reaffirmation. In addition, the El Paso Hispanic Chamber awarded the El Paso Water Purchasing Department as the Distinguished Supplier Diversity Champion. The Texas Water Development Board increased the grant funding for the Montana Vista Sewer Project. The El Paso Water team won 3rd place state-wide at the Texas Water Pipe Tapping Contest. The El Paso Water IT Department won the Best CIS Implementation for the C2M system. The ground breaking for the Aquifer Storage and Recovery was moved to May 17th. A grant from the Bureau of Reclamation was awarded for \$5 million for the purchase and installation of Smart Meters.

14. CONSIDERED AND APPROVED AMENDMENT NUMBER 1 TO THE STANDARD FORM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND ARCHITECT, EXIGO ARCHITECTURE, LLC, FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES FOR THE EPWATER MAIN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,117,552.07 AND AUTHORIZED THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.

Laura Foster, Chief Architect, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) In November 2021, the Public Service Board (PSB) approved and awarded the professional architectural services contract to Exigo Architecture, LLC (Exigo), for the Main Administration Building - RFQ23-21. This amendment is for additional programming and design services required to complete the project. Ms. Foster answered questions from the Board on this item.

On a motion made by Dr. Mena, seconded by Mr. Intebi, with Mr. Saenz opposing, the Board approved Amendment Number 1 to the Standard Form of Agreement between Owner and Architect, Exigo Architecture, LLC, for additional programming, design, and construction phase services for the EPWater Main Administration Building in the amount of \$1,117,552.07 and authorized the use of commercial paper.

15. DEEMED G.R.A.C.E CONSTRUCTION AS NON-RESPONSIVE AND AWARDED BID NUMBER SW17-23, FENCE MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND INSTALLATION SERVICES TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, E.G.L. CONSTRUCTION INC. IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$350,300 FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR WITH THE OPTION FOR TWO, ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS PROVIDED THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET.

Enrique Ochoa, Stormwater Operations Manager, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) This contract will facilitate fence installation, repair, and maintenance at EPWater facilities, including but not limited to well sites, pump stations, lift stations, ponds, channels, and other protected areas. Mr. Ochoa answered questions from the Board on this item.

On a motion made by Dr. Mena, seconded by Ms. Saenz, and unanimously carried, the Board deemed G.R.A.C.E Construction as non-responsive and awarded Bid Number SW17-23, Fence Maintenance, Repair, and Installation Services to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, E.G.L. Construction Inc. in the estimated annual amount of \$350,300 for a term of one year with the option for two, one-year extensions provided that funding is available in the approved budget.

16. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NUMBER 21-23 WATER, WASTEWATER, AND RECLAIMED WATER SYSTEM DIRECT MAINTENANCE AND LEAK DETECTION SERVICES, TO THE SOLE RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, WATER CONSERVATION SERVICES COMPANY, LLC., IN THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$2,990,500 FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR, WITH TWO ONE-YEAR OPTIONS, PROVIDED FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET.

Felipe Lopez, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) This contract is for water, wastewater, and reclaimed water system-directed maintenance, which provides routine valve exercising services, inspection, and maintenance or replacement of air, vacuum, or combination air release valves located on potable water, reclaimed water, and wastewater force mains. It is also for leak detection services, which includes furnishing and installing new detectors to replace non-functional or missing leak detection loggers. This contract will also be used for service provider to refurbish loggers to their

original condition or better. The previous bid was awarded on October 2019 and the percentage difference between the previous bid and the current bid increased by 9%. Mr. Lopez answered questions from the Board on this item.

On a motion made by Dr. Mena, seconded by Ms. Saenz, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Bid Number 21-23 Water, Wastewater, and Reclaimed Water System Direct Maintenance and Leak Detection Services, to the sole responsive, responsible bidder, Water Conservation Services Company, LLC., in the estimated annual amount of \$2,990,500 for a term of one year, with two one-year options, provided funding is available in the approved budget.

17. DEEMED CUBIC WATER, LLC, NON-RESPONSIBLE, CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NUMBER 02-23, AIRPORT WELL FIELD IMPROVEMENTS CORRIDOR F, TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, LONGHORN ELECTRICAL SERVICES, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,646,105 AND AUTHORIZED THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.

Ivan Hernandez, Engineering Division Manager, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) EPWater received three bids for this project on March 30, 2023. The bidders were Cubic Water, LLC, Longhorn Electrical Services, Inc., and El Paso A.R.C. Electric, Inc. The bids ranged from \$2,499,500 to \$124,435,185 or 16% below to 4106% above the engineer's estimate of \$2,958,375. The project consulting engineer evaluated the qualifications of the apparent low bidder and determined that Cubic Water, LLC did not meet the minimum general requirements and minimum project specific criteria and therefore staff recommends to deem the bidder non-responsible. Staff then evaluated the bid documents of the second low bidder and determined that Longhorn Electrical Services, Inc. meets the minimum general requirements as well as the minimum project-specific criteria as specified on the bid documents. Staff reviewed the engineer's evaluation matrix and recommends the award of Bid Number 02-23, Airport Well Field Electrical Improvements Corridor F, to Longhorn Electrical Services, Inc. as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder in the amount of \$2,646,105. Mr. Hernandez answered questions from the Board on this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Dr. Mena, and unanimously carried, the Board deemed Cubic Water, LLC, non-responsible, and awarded Bid Number 02-23, Airport Well Field Improvements Corridor F, to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Longhorn Electrical Services, Inc., in the amount of \$2,646,105 and authorized the use of commercial paper.

18. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED BID NUMBER 01-23, NORTHEAST DYER/RAILROAD LIFT STATION, TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE, RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, CUBIC WATER, LLC, IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$9,995,571 AND AUTHORIZED THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.

Ivan Hernandez, Engineering Division Manager, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The Futureland Lift Station is currently categorized as a small-capacity lift station with a design flow of 0.50 million gallons per day (MGD) and will not be able to handle future wastewater flows in the northeast area of El Paso. EPWater will upgrade this lift station to the intermediate capacity of 5 MGD with the ability to be upgraded to a large capacity lift station of 16 MGD in the future. A 24-inch force main will convey the wastewater flow from the 5 MGD lift station to the Fred Hervey Water Reclamation Plant. Mr. Hernandez answered questions from the Board on this item.

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Saenz, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Bid Number 01-23, Northeast Dyer/Railroad Lift Station, to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Cubic Water, LLC, in the estimated amount of \$9,995,571 and authorized the use of commercial paper.

19. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSAL NUMBER 32-23, JOE CARO PUMP STATION REPLACEMENT PROJECT, TO THE HIGHEST RANKED OFFEROR, SMITHCO CONSTRUCTION, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,690,000.

Ivan Hernandez, Engineering Division Manager, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The existing Joe Caro Pumping Station was constructed in the 1950s in Northeast El Paso. This pump station draws water from two 4 MG ground water storage tanks and pumps water into the

Rosemont-Mountain Park I Pressure Zone. A new pump station will be built through this project to replace the current one, which has surpassed its design life. Mr. Hernandez answered questions from the Board on this item.

On a motion made by Dr. Mena, seconded by Ms. Saenz, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Competitive Sealed Proposal Number 32-23, Joe Caro Pump Station Replacement project, to the highest ranked offeror, Smithco Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$10,690,000.

20. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSAL NUMBER 30-23, ON-CALL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE REPAIR OF STREET RIGHTS-OF-WAY TO DOUBLE H CONTRACTING, INC., ZTEX CONSTRUCTION, INC., AND TAO INDUSTRIES, INC. DBA HAWK CONSTRUCTION FOR EACH CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM SERVICES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS FOR THE ESTIMATED COMBINED ANNUAL COST OF \$7,400,000 TO BE COMPENSATED BASED ON THE UNIT PRICES FOR WORK PERFORMED BY EACH CONTRACTOR FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR WITH TWO ONE-YEAR OPTIONS AND AUTHORIZED THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.

Adriana Castillo, Engineering Division Manager, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) EPWater's current Street Repair Contract will expire on July 11, 2023. EPWater's staff was tasked to work on a replacement Street Repair Contract with improved efficiency, productivity, and service levels. Staff determined that a Competitive Sealed Proposal (CSP), Unit Price Construction Contract, with the option to award a contract to multiple contractors, would accomplish the goal. Engineering staff collaborated with Operations staff and the City of El Paso's Street and Maintenance Department to collect information regarding contractor performance requirements. Ms. Castillo answered questions from the Board on this item.

Two individuals were signed up for comment on this item, Hector Hinojos with Double H Contracting and Mark Winton with Double H Contracting.

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Dr. Mena, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded Competitive Sealed Proposal Number 30-23, On-Call Construction Services for the Repair of Street Rights-of-Way to Double H Contracting, Inc., ZTEX Construction, Inc., and TAO Industries, Inc. dba Hawk Construction for each Contractor to perform services on an as-needed basis for the estimated combined annual cost of \$7,400,000 to be compensated based on the unit prices for work performed by each Contractor for a term of one year, with monthly reports to the PSB within the Management Reports' Construction Contracts Update and returning to the PSB prior to exercising the two one-year options and authorized the use of commercial paper.

21. CONSIDERED AND AWARDED A PRECONSTRUCTION SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT-RISK FOR THE FRED HERVEY WATER RECLAMATION PLANT HEADWORKS, FILTER, ODOR CONTROL, CLARIFIER, AND OZONE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT – RFP 33 23, TO MGC CONTRACTORS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$685,000; AUTHORIZED FUTURE TASK ORDERS OR AMENDMENTS TO BE ISSUED UNDER THIS CONTRACT FOR ADDITIONAL PRECONSTRUCTION SERVICES IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$500,000 PROVIDED THAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE ADDITIONAL TASK ORDER OR AMENDMENTS, AND AUTHORIZED THE USE OF COMMERCIAL PAPER.

Geoffrey Espineli, Engineering Division Manager, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The Fred Hervey Water Reclamation Plant (FHWRP) located in Northeast El Paso is permitted to produce 12 MGD of treated effluent. The effluent is used to recharge the aquifer, irrigate a city park, golf course, and for industrial cooling water. The plant has several capital improvement projects that were combined into one program. To improve on the efficiency of delivering all the projects, they will be constructed using the alternative project delivery method Construction Manager At-Risk (CMAR). Under this contract, the CMAR contractor will collaborate and cooperate with the owner and design engineers to finalize the design, perform field investigations, prepare a construction cost estimate, develop the project schedule, and advise on project constructability and sequencing of the work. This innovative project delivery method takes advantage of

the CMAR contractor's experience and resources to inform the design, mitigating risks during construction. The CMAR contractor will procure long lead-time materials and will procure the trade bid packages for construction, and develop a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal to construct the entire project. If the GMP proposal is acceptable to EPWater, an award of the construction contract will be presented to the Public Service Board for approval. Multiple GMPs are anticipated for this project. Mr. Espineli answered questions from the Board on this item.

On a motion made by Dr. Mena, seconded by Ms. Saenz, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded a Preconstruction Services Agreement for Construction Manager At-Risk for the Fred Hervey Water Reclamation Plant Headworks, Filter, Odor Control, Clarifier, and Ozone Improvements Project – RFP 33 23, to MGC Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$685,000; authorized future task orders or amendments to be issued under this contract for additional preconstruction services in the estimated amount of \$500,000 provided that funding is available in the approved budget for the additional task order or amendments, and authorized the use of commercial paper.

22. MANAGEMENT REPORT:

- **CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS UPDATE**

Irazema Rojas, Chief Technical Officer, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The Pecos Street Water and Sewer Line Replacement for the installation of 8-inch water and sewer lines was bid out on March 28, 2023 and the project duration is 410 days. Five bids were received and the bid was awarded to Hawk Construction for \$2,661,697.00.

- **PEOPLESOFT HR UPGRADE PHASE 2 UPDATE**

Werner Klouda, Project Manager, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) To date, there are 435 tasks that have not started, 13 tasks complete, 62 in progress and 0 overdue, 549.5 hours with 6,076.5 hours remaining. The approved expenses total \$981,750 and to date \$86,522.50 has been expensed.

- **COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

Christina Montoya, Marketing and Communications Manager, provided a presentation to the Board regarding this item (copy on file in Central Files.) The WaterWatch news website and newsletter is up and running, which features reports, videos, photos and infographics in one place that can be filtered by topic. The site is also a better resource for customers and journalists. The WaterWater newsletter was sent to customers with email and had an open rate of 40% compared to the Pipeline newsletter, which was sent to 314 people with an open rate of 34%. EPWater Citizens Academy is recruiting emerging leaders to get a better understanding of EPWater, building a network of community influencers and hosting 6 sessions at different locations from February to July. Communications is proving significant public outreach regarding the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. Currently there are efforts at elementary schools/daycares and will be providing in the future consumer confidence reports and property owner outreach.

23. 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 one was signed up for public comment for items not on the agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Ms. Saenz seconded by Dr. Mena and unanimously carried, the Board retired into Executive Session 10:37 a.m., May 10, 2023 pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 through 551.089 to discuss the following:

Section 551.072	Deliberation Regarding Real Property
Section 551.073	Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift
Section 551.074	Personnel Matters
Section 551.076	Deliberations Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits
Section 551.087	Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations
Section 551.089	Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits

Discussion and action on the following:

- a. The Board will deliberate regarding the purchase of the real property legally described as west half of Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19, Block 60, Altura Park Addition, an addition to the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, approximately 0.18 acres. (551.071) (551.072)
- b. The Board will deliberate regarding the purchase of the real property legally described as Lots 28, 29 and 30, Block 60, Altura Park Addition, an addition to the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, approximately 0.21 acres. (551.071) (551.072)
- c. The Board will deliberate regarding the purchase of the real property legally described as Lots 11, 12 and the west half of Lot 13, Block 60, Altura Park Addition, an addition to the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, approximately 0.17 acres. (551.071) (551.072)
- d. Consultation with attorney on the City of El Paso Charter amendment election for the “Climate Charter.” (551.071)
- e. Update on the claim of Project Amistad from May 12th, 2022. (551.071)

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Saenz and unanimously carried, the Board reconvened in open session at 11:09 a.m., May 10, 2023.

- a. **THE BOARD WILL DELIBERATE REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF THE REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS WEST HALF OF LOTS 16, 17, 18 AND 19, BLOCK 60, ALTURA PARK ADDITION, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS, APPROXIMATELY 0.18 ACRES. (551.071) (551.072)**

On a motion made by Mr. Intebi, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board approved that the President/CEO be authorized to proceed with the acquisition for land approved by the Board in accordance with the terms and conditions specified and sign any and all documents necessary to complete the purchase.

- b. **THE BOARD WILL DELIBERATE REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF THE REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOTS 28, 29 AND 30, BLOCK 60, ALTURA PARK ADDITION, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS, APPROXIMATELY 0.21 ACRES. (551.071) (551.072)**

On a motion made by Mr. Intebi, seconded by Mr. Morris and unanimously carried, the Board approved that the President/CEO be authorized to proceed with the acquisition for land approved by the Board in accordance with the terms and conditions specified and sign any and all documents necessary to complete the purchase.

- c. **THE BOARD WILL DELIBERATE REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF THE REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOTS 11, 12 AND THE WEST HALF OF LOT 13, BLOCK 60, ALTURA PARK ADDITION, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS, APPROXIMATELY 0.17 ACRES. (551.071) (551.072)**

On a motion made by Mr. Intebi, seconded by Dr. Mena and unanimously carried, the Board approved that the President/CEO be authorized to proceed with the acquisition for land approved by the Board in accordance with the terms and conditions specified and sign any and all documents necessary to complete the purchase.

d. **CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY ON THE CITY OF EL PASO CHARTER AMENDMENT ELECTION FOR THE "CLIMATE CHARTER." (551.071)**

No action was taken on this item.


e. **UPDATE ON THE CLAIM OF PROJECT AMISTAD FROM MAY 12TH, 2022. (551.071)**

No action was taken on this item.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Saenz and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m., May 10, 2023.

ATTEST:



Dr. Ivonne Santiago, Chair

Charlie Intebi, Secretary-Treasurer

