#### MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE

#### NORTH HARRIS COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

January 4, 2021

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of the North Harris County Regional Water Authority (the "Authority") met in regular session, open to the public, via Zoom at <a href="https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYkdeutqTkqH9HBK1CO33-TVF8jiKC-Gbrl">https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYkdeutqTkqH9HBK1CO33-TVF8jiKC-Gbrl</a> and/or telephone conference call at 346-248-7799, passcode 4403924, pursuant to the Texas Governor's suspension of certain Texas Open Meetings Act provisions due to COVID-19, at 6:15 p.m. on Monday, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021; whereupon, the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Board, to-wit:

Alan J. Rendl President
Kelly P. Fessler Vice President
Lenox A. Sigler Secretary

Ron Graham Assistant Secretary

Jim Pulliam Treasurer/Investment Officer

All members of the Board were present, thus constituting a quorum. Also attending the meeting were: Mr. Jun Chang, P. E., D.WRE, General Manager for the Authority; Mr. Mark Evans, Director of Planning and Governmental Affairs for the Authority; Ms. Cynthia Plunkett, Financial Assistant for the Authority; Ms. Barbara Payne of Payne Communications, Communications Coordinator for the Authority; Messrs. Stephen Berckenhoff, P.E., Mike Baugher, P.E., and Doug Haude, P.E., of AECOM Technical Services, Inc., Program Manager for the Authority; Mr. David Huang, P.E., and Ms. Katherine Mears, P.E.; of RPS Klotz Associates, on-call engineers for the Authority; Mr. Harrison Steed, P.E., of ARCADIS US, Inc., on-call engineers for the Authority; Ms. Melinda Silva, P.E., of Dannenbaum Engineering Corporation, on-call engineers for the Authority; Mr. Mike Bagstad, P.E., of Zarinkelk Engineering Services, Inc., on-call engineers for the Authority; Mr. Dennis Sander, P.E., of Sander Engineering Corporation, on-call engineers for the Authority; Mr. Rafael Ortega, P.E., of Aurora Technical Services, LLC, on-call engineers for the Authority; Ms. Kate Hallaway, P.E., of Brown & Gay Engineers, Inc., on-call engineers for the Authority; Mr. David Warner, P.E., of Jones|Carter, Inc., on-call engineers for the Authority; Mr. Marcel Khouw, P.E., of IDS Engineering Group, on-call engineers for the Authority; Mr. Carlton McDevitt of Inframark, LLC ("Inframark"), operator for the Authority; Ms. Robin S. Bobbitt, attorney, and Ms. Alison Miller, paralegal, of Radcliffe Bobbitt Adams Polley PLLC ("RBAP"), general counsel and cobond counsel for the Authority. Numerous members of the public and other consultants to the Authority were also present at the meeting. The conference call meeting was recorded and made available to the public in accordance with the provisions of Texas Government Code Sections 551.125 and 551.127.

WHEREUPON, the meeting was called to order by Director Rendl and evidence was presented that public notice of the meeting had been given in compliance with the law. The posted notices of the meeting are attached hereto.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Director Rendl first stated that he is looking forward to the work that the Authority will be accomplishing in 2021. Director Rendl then reported that Mr. Chang has officially transitioned into the General Manager role for the Authority as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Director Rendl wished Mr. Jimmie Schindewolf well and stated that Mr. Schindewolf will continue on with the Authority in an advisory role to Mr. Chang.

# BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Director Pulliam then thanked Mr. Schindewolf for all of the work he has done for the Authority and for getting the 2010 distribution system online. Director Sigler stated that he appreciates everything Mr. Schindewolf has done on behalf of the Authority and added that Mr. Schindewolf has done a fantastic job for the Authority. Director Sigler further stated that he is sad to see Mr. Schindewolf retire, but that he welcomes Mr. Chang as Mr. Schindewolf's successor.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Rendl noted that no public comment cards had been received.

# STATUS OF ACTIVITIES BY COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR

A copy of Ms. Payne's PowerPoint presentation is attached as an exhibit to these minutes.

Ms. Payne reported that a new edition of the Authority's <u>Waterlines</u> newsletter is currently being printed and should be in the mail within the next week. Director Rendl congratulated Mr. Chang and Ms. Payne on another fantastic edition of the <u>Waterlines</u> newsletter.

### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Chang then called upon Mr. Berckenhoff to present the Program Manager's Report to the Board, a copy of which is included behind Tab 3 of the meeting packet and attached hereto.

## PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

### <u>UPDATE ON STATUS OF SURFACE WATER CONVERSION</u>

Mr. Berckenhoff first reported that the Spears Road Regional Pump Station delivered a daily average rate of approximately 20.6 million gallons per day ("MGD") of surface water during December. Mr. Berckenhoff added that the alternative water used in November was approximately 36.6%, compared to approximately 32.3% in October. Mr. Berckenhoff further explained that during November, approximately 83.9% of the water used by the Public Water Systems (the "PWSs") in the Authority's 2010 service area was alternative water.

#### MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Mr. Berckenhoff went on to report that during the prior month, AECOM had performed other activities for the Authority as follows: 1) implemented and performed tasks regarding the Authority's aggregate water well permit (the "Permit"); 2) assisted the Authority in a variety of activities involving the City of Houston (the "City"); 3) continued oversight of engineering and acquisition related efforts; 4) provided oversight of Inframark's activities and its contract to operate the Authority's system; and 5) monitored, tabulated and analyzed amounts of water used by the PWSs covered by the Authority's Permit and, where necessary and practical, in consort with Inframark and the respective PWS operators, took appropriate actions to optimize the use of surface water. Mr. Berckenhoff also reported that the Authority currently has 26 active projects, with seven (7) in or near construction, 17 in final design and right-of-way acquisition, one (1) undergoing a routing study and one (1) project on hold.

# LUCE BAYOU INTERBASIN TRANSFER PROJECT (THE "LUCE BAYOU PROJECT") UPDATE

Concerning the Luce Bayou Project, Mr. Berckenhoff gave an update on the status of the following items: 1) the contractor installed the 84-inch (84") discharge header and 108-inch (108") pig launch piping, completed cofferdam removal, installation of upstream and downstream riverbank rip rap, installed pump motors and pump control panels and continued installation of electrical and control wiring; and 2) the contractor completed removal and replacement of grooved piped sections in the pig retrieval building.

# NORTHEAST WATER PURIFICATION PLANT (THE "NEWPP") EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Berckenhoff further reported on the status of the NEWPP Expansion Project, noting that construction of the Central Plant continues with concrete work for the filter modules and the Transfer Pump Station. Mr. Berckenhoff also reported that construction of the North Plant continues with ongoing formwork, rebar placement and structural concrete for various structures. Mr. Berckenhoff added that installation of pump station structural steel is ongoing. Mr. Berckenhoff further reported that the roof has been erected at the administration building and the concrete masonry unit wall construction has been initiated at the maintenance building. Mr. Berckenhoff went on to report that construction of the South Plant is continuing with installation of 78-inch (78") piping. Mr. Berckenhoff also reported that installation of the battery system and bus duct at the electrical substation is ongoing. Mr. Berckenhoff further noted that the Houston Waterworks Team continues to progress on the procurement of various balance of plant packages and that the Project Advisor/Technical Consultant continues to provide construction oversight services on behalf of the City of Houston and the Authorities.

#### NORTHEAST TRANSMISSION LINE (THE "NETL") PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Berckenhoff next reported that in connection with the NETL project, the contractors have continued with construction on seven (7) sections of the 108-inch (108") line. Mr. Berckenhoff added that real estate acquisitions are proceeding on several additional sections of the NETL.

### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Ms. Bobbitt stated that she had nothing to report.

# **REGULAR AGENDA**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board next considered approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2020 special meeting, November 23, 2020 special meeting, November 30, 2020 special meeting, December 7, 2020 special meeting and December 7, 2020 regular meeting. Upon motion by Director Pulliam, seconded by Director Fessler, after full discussion and the question being put to the Board, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of November 17, 2020 special meeting, November 23, 2020 special meeting, November 30, 2020 special meeting, December 7, 2020 special meeting and December 7, 2020 regular meeting, as written.

# FINANCIAL ASSISTANT'S REPORT, INCLUDING APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS, ISSUANCE OF CHECKS, REVIEW BUDGET COMPARISON, AND REPORT ON STATUS OF PAYMENTS OF QUARTERLY PUMPAGE FEES

Director Rendl then recognized Ms. Plunkett, who reviewed the Authority's Financial Report with the Board, including the monthly investment report, the checks being presented for payment, and the budget comparison for the month ended November 30, 2020, a copy of which is included behind Tab 5 of the meeting packet and attached hereto.

Upon motion by Director Pulliam, seconded by Director Fessler, after full discussion and the question being put to the Board, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Financial Report, the monthly investment report, and the checks being presented for payment.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTION ITEMS

# <u>AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES WITH DANIEL W. KRUEGER</u>

Mr. Chang then explained that the Authority would like to enter into an Agreement for Professional Consulting Services with Mr. Krueger to provide assistance with managing various ongoing and upcoming construction contracts of the Authority. Upon motion by Director Pulliam, seconded by Director Fessler, after full discussion and the question being put to the Board, the Board voted unanimously to authorize execution of the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services with Daniel W. Krueger, a copy of which can be found in the Authority files.

# AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PROJECT 25C AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF SAME, SUBJECT TO RECEIPT OF TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD ("TWDB") APPROVAL

Mr. Berckenhoff then recommended award of the contract for construction of Project 25C to the lowest qualified bidder, BRH-Garver Construction LP ("BRH-Garver"), in the

amount of \$22,187,185.00. Mr. Berckenhoff noted that TWDB approval has not yet been received for this project, but will likely be received before the Board's next meeting. Upon motion by Director Fessler, seconded by Director Pulliam, after full discussion and the question being put to the Board, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the award and execution of the contract for construction of Project 25C to BRH-Garver Construction LP ("BRH-Garver"), in the amount of \$22,187,185.00., subject to receipt of TWDB approval.

AUTHORIZE GENERAL MANAGER AND AUTHORITY ATTORNEYS TO NEGOTIATE, PREPARE AND ACQUIRE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS IN THE WATER LINE EASEMENT AND CONSENT AGREEMENT (THE "EASEMENT AGREEMENT") WITH CENTERPOINT ENERGY ("CENTERPOINT"), DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 RELATED TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE AUTHORITY'S 84" WATER TRANSMISSION LINE AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF SAME

Mr. Berckenhoff next explained that the Easement Agreement stipulates that the Authority will provide a \$1 million letter of credit or similar instrument prior to construction within CenterPoint's corridor to protect CenterPoint should one of the Authority's contractors damage a CenterPoint tower. Mr. Berckenhoff requested authorization for Mr. Chang and RBAP to obtain the necessary documents required to satisfy the terms and provisions of the Easement Agreement. Upon motion by Director Pulliam, seconded by Director Fessler, after full discussion and the question being put to the Board, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the General Manager and RBAP to negotiate, prepare and acquire all documents necessary to satisfy the terms and provisions of the Easement Agreement with CenterPoint, dated September 13, 2016, and authorize execution of same.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Director Fessler then nominated the following 2021 slate of officers for the Board's approval:

President Alan J. Rendl
Vice President Kelly P. Fessler
Secretary Lenox A. Sigler
Assistant Secretary Ron Graham
Treasurer/Investment Officer Jim Pulliam

Upon motion by Director Fessler, seconded by Director Pulliam, after full discussion and the question being put to the Board, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed slate of officers for 2021, as outlined above.

Director Rendl thanked the Board for the honor of continuing to serve as President of the Board.

#### CONFIRM UPCOMING MEETING DATE

Director Rendl then informed the meeting attendees that the Authority's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 1, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Authority's office.

Director Rendl noted that information on how the Authority meetings will be conducted going forward will be sent out via e-blast and also posted on the Authority's website.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Doug Miller of HMW Special Utility District then thanked the Authority for holding Board meetings outside of regular workday hours and via Zoom. Mr. Miller then asked when the public can expect to be able to attend Authority Board meetings in person again. Director Rendl stated that the Authority continues to monitor the State of Texas and Harris County guidelines to determine when the Authority's Board meetings can be held in person. Director Rendl further stated that the Authority's meetings will be held in person as soon as it is safe to do so.

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

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of February, 2021.



/s/ Lenox A. Sigler
Secretary, Board of Directors