

**Minutes of Proceedings
Special Board Meeting
La Feria Utilities Board
Tuesday, August 26, 2014**

Be it known that the Board of Directors of the City of La Feria Utilities Board met in special session on **Tuesday, August 26, 2014, at 5:15 P.M.** in the City Commission Meeting Room, 115 East Commercial Avenue, La Feria, Texas 78559. The purpose of said meeting was to consider and take action on those items of Utilities Board business as was duly posted by agenda in accordance with the State Open Meetings Law. The following Board Members were present at said meeting:

Mr. Adolfo Lopez	Chairman
Ms. Betty Jo Dunlap	Vice Chairman
Mr. Ralph Muse	Board Member
Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr.	Mayor/Ex-Officio Member

Absent: Mr. Ovidio Saldivar Board Member

The following staff members were present at said meeting:

Mr. Sunny K. Philip	City Manager
Ms. Maria Chavero	Finance Director
Ms. Paula Rodriguez	Planning and Community Dev. Director
Ms. Esmeralda Sanchez	Capital Projects Coordinator
Ms. Olga Oberwetter	City Secretary

The only other person present at this meeting was Mrs. Helen Muse.

At 5:15 P.M., Board Chairman Mr. Adolfo Lopez asked all present to rise and recite aloud the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. After this was done, Mr. Lopez declared that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board Chairman Mr. Adolfo Lopez declared the public comment session open. No one signed up to speak before the board, so Mr. Lopez declared the public comment session closed.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LA FERIA UTILITIES BOARD HELD
ON TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2014**

After review of the minutes, Mr. Ralph Muse moved to approve the minutes of proceedings of the special meeting of the La Feria Utilities Board held on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 as presented in written form. Ms. Betty Jo Dunlap seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the board members present.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2014

Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero reviewed the financial reports for the month of July 2014 with the board, reviewing both the monthly and year-to-date figures for the month. Ms. Chavero then reviewed the Performance Indicators for the month. After review and all questions answered, Board Chairman Mr. Adolfo Lopez announced that the reports would be filed for audit.

BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR CITY OF LA FERIA WATERWORKS AND SEWER SYSTEM BUDGET FOR FY 2014-2015 AND CAPITAL PROJECTS, AND DISCUSSION WITH THE BOARD

City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip discussed that the water system is doing much better than two or three years ago. He said he is convinced that by growing the community is the only way to advance the system. However, it is a balanced situation where the water system is the entity that is investing the money in the community first and then that will allow the businesses and residences to utilize the services. Mr. Philip said the water utility is a life necessity and whatever the cost, the City has to provide it. Water quality wise, Mr. Philip said the system is doing well. Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero reviewed the proposed budget and budget amendment with the board and answered all questions asked. Mr. Philip said he was not proposing a rate increase. He said the capital improvements would be done through grant funds from the Texas Water Development Board, and contributions from the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program for the water plant expansion. Mr. Philip summarized that there would be 10% increase in medical insurance expenses, 1 to 4% increase in operating expenses, 1 to 3% increase in employee pay. He said staff is not recommending any new staff positions for this budget. There was no action needed on this item.

PUBLIC HEARING – CITY OF LA FERIA WATERWORKS AND SEWER SYSTEM BUDGET FOR FY 2014-2015 AND WATER AND SEWER RATES

Board Chairman Mr. Adolfo Lopez declared the public hearing open at 6:02 P.M. There were no comments on this item, so Board Chairman Mr. Adolfo Lopez declared the public hearing closed at 6:03 P.M.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR CITY OF LA FERIA LWATERWORKS AND SEWER SYSTEM BUDGET FOR FY 2013-2014

These items were discussed during the budget workshop. Mr. Ralph Muse moved to approve the Budget Amendment for the City of La Feria Waterworks and Sewer System Budget for FY 2013-2014. Ms. Betty Jo Dunlap seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the board members present.

REPORTS BY STAFF AND DISCUSSION WITH THE BOARD

- **Water and Wastewater Systems Improvement Project**

City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip reported the following:

- Water and Wastewater Systems Improvement Project – All the remaining plans for the project are being reviewed by the Texas Water Development Board at this time. By November all remaining items should be under contract. Staff will be asking for an extension to September or October of next year to allow the time to finish them all.

- There is one bid advertisement out now for the Alto Real Sewer project.

ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Mr. Ralph Muse moved for adjournment of the meeting. Ms. Betty Jo Dunlap seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the board members present.

ADJOURNMENT – BOARD CHAIRMAN

Board Chairman Mr. Adolfo Lopez adjourned the meeting at 6:06 P.M.

APPROVED:



Adolfo Lopez, Chairman

ATTEST:



Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria as official record of the Utilities Board at 8:00 PM on September 7, 2014.



Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

