

Emergency Session

Commissioners' Court

August 3, 2000 8:30 a.m.

The following members of Court were present:

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Jack Leath      | County Judge         |
| Keith Clark     | Commissioner Pct. #1 |
| Lynn Smith      | Commissioner Pct. #2 |
| Doyle Dickerson | Commissioner Pct. #3 |
| Gene Nethery    | Commissioner Pct. #4 |
| Janice McDaniel | County Clerk         |

Judge Leath called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Agenda item #1-Take Action - Water Development Board Grant

Judge Leath said Phyllis Thomas with the Water Development Board called him yesterday to let him know that our application for funding of the regional water planning study has been approved for \$105,000.00. This amount is \$115,000.00 short of what we requested. She told him that we were at the bottom of the list that was approved and this was all that was left. He said he contacted Keith Kindle and asked if they could cut cost.

Judge Leath read the letter of response from Keith Kindle, Turner, Collie & Braden. They recommended that the wastewater study not be done at this time except for the EDAP eligible areas.

Phyllis Thomas asked us to decide whether or not we want to proceed. We have spent approximately \$25,000.00 so far.

Judge Leath said he doesn't know how the Water Development Board and the Sabine River Authority (SRA) will respond to us not doing the wastewater study except for EDAP eligible areas. He said we have 3 choices: fund the whole thing except for the \$105,000.00; do what TC&B suggest and drop the wastewater except for the EDAP eligible areas; or to get out. He said he doesn't think we should get out. Everywhere you go and everyone you talk to says that water is the most critical issue we have in the State of Texas. Someone within the State told him that when the Legislature convenes again, junior water rights would be

eliminated. Every area of the state will have the same right to the waters of Toledo Bend that we have.

Commissioner Nethery said we entered this with the belief that this was the most serious need in the County and we should go ahead with it if we can handle the extra cost. He said he believes we need to have a one on one meeting with the head person with the Water Development Board and with the SRA. This whole issue is beneficial to the SRA. We need to see if we can get more support out of the SRA than we have now.

Judge Leath said he doesn't have the final figures right now but he feels like we would be able to fund the extra cost. He said we may be voted down but we have to give the people of this County the opportunity to guarantee them good water and enough of it for well into the future. If we have any hope of economic development or expansion, we have got to be able to offer water. Right now you could not. South Sabine might be able to offer a few hundred gallons. The TNRCC keeps putting more and more regulations on the water supply corporations and the cost of water is going to keep going up.

Commissioner Smith said he agrees with what has been said. He said he doesn't mind cutting back on the wastewater except for the EDAP areas. That is probably all we could afford anyway.

Judge Leath said the Water Development Board is just as strong on wastewater as they are on water.

Commissioner Dickerson said he agrees with what has been said.

Commissioner Clark said he feels that the water situation is just going to get worse. These small water supply corporations are having difficulties already trying to comply with the regulations that the TRNCC is imposing.

Judge Leath moved to commit us to the completion of this project in whatever form that looks most favorable in funding from the Water Development Board and the SRA or if we have to fund the whole \$275,000.00. Commissioner Clark seconded. All voted for. Motion carried.

The Court was in agreement that this project would need good publication.

Commissioner Nethery moved to adjourn. Commissioner Dickerson seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Jud Leath COUNTY JUDGE

Keith Clark COMMISSIONER PCT. #1 Vol HN Pg 232

Lynn Smith COMMISSIONER PCT. #2

Doyle Dickerson COMMISSIONER PCT. #3

W. Gundry COMMISSIONER PCT. #4

ATTEST:

Jenice McDaniel COUNTY CLERK

# Turner Collie & Braden Inc.

Engineers • Planners • Project Managers  
August 2, 2000

Serving the Rio Grande Valley

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600 Ridgewood St., Suite A  
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936 544-6490  
Fax 936 544-2412

Honorable Jack H. Leath  
Sabine County  
P.O. Box 720  
Hemphill, Texas 75948

Re: TWDB Regional Planning Application

Dear Judge Leath:

We have been notified that the TWDB has allocated \$105,000 towards the preparation of a regional planning study. The total amount approved is \$115,000 below what was requested. As you may recall, the application included a total cost of \$440,000 of which the TWDB was requested to fund \$220,000. The County would have been responsible for \$160,000 in cash contribution plus the \$60,000 of in-kind service.

If we proceeded with the scope of work as planned, the County would now have to contribute \$275,000 in cash plus the \$60,000 of in-kind services. Since this figure is a substantial amount of cash for the County to support, TC&B proposes to reduce the scope of services by developing a regional planning study for primarily water. The regional needs for wastewater would not be examined at this time with the exception of the EDAP-eligible areas.

The reduction in the scope of services provides for the following cost revisions.

|                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Water Planning Study                | \$130,000               |
| Wastewater Planning Study           | \$ 40,000               |
| Environmental Information Document  | \$ 41,000               |
| Preparation of Management Authority | \$ 30,000               |
| Preparation of Final Reports        | <u>\$ 38,000</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL CASH</b>                   | <b>\$279,000</b>        |
| <b>TOTAL IN-KIND</b>                | <b><u>\$ 60,000</u></b> |
| <b>TOTAL COST</b>                   | <b>\$339,000</b>        |

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# Turner Collie & Braden Inc.

Judge Jack Leath  
Sabine County  
August 2, 2000

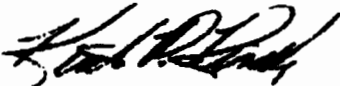
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**With the TWDB funding of \$105,000, the County would be required to fund \$174,000, \$14,000 above the original cost that the County agreed to contribute.**

The approval by the County to proceed with the reduced assistance from the TWDB will allow the development of a regional planning study to address the water supply, storage and treatment needs of the area in addition to establishing a management authority for the area. It will also provide for the development of a facility engineering plan to proceed with the EDAP portion of the regional planning effort. Lastly, the revised costs shown on the following page will result in the development of an EID that will provide environmental clearance to allow future funding of proposed improvements.

Please call me at (956) 781-6991 if you have any questions or comments.

Respectfully,



Keith P. Kindle  
Senior Project Manager

cc: Commissioner Pct. #1, K. Clark  
Commissioner Pct. #2, L. Smith  
Commissioner Pct. #3, D. Dickerson  
Commissioner Pct. #4, G. Nethery  
File 48-06035-031/1.2

D. Dow, TC&B  
R. Saucedo, TC&B  
C. Garza, TC&B  
J. Gonzales, TC&B  
File 48-06035-033/1.2

The State of Texas  
County of Sabine

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE DOCUMENTS WERE FILED AND  
DULY RECORDED IN THE COMMISSIONER COURT MINUTES OF SABINE  
COUNTY, TEXAS.

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JANICE MEDANTEL COUNTY CLERK  
BY Louis Clark  
Deputy



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