

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Claire Powell, City Manager

DATE: April 21, 2025

SUBJECT: **Consideration of Reappointment of the City of Lewisville Representative on the Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD) Board of Directors to Complete the Term Ending May 31, 2029.**

BACKGROUND:

The Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD) is a regional non-profit organization that provides wholesale water and wastewater services to entities in Denton County. Established in 1989 by the State of Texas, Lewisville is a founding member of UTRWD and holds three votes on the Board. Additionally, Lewisville is a partner in UTRWD and owns 30% of the lake intake structure.

The UTRWD is governed by a 24-member Board of Directors, with members appointed by local municipalities, water districts, and Denton County. Board members must be residents of Denton County. While a board member may be an employee of a municipality, they cannot be an elected official. If a municipality employee is selected, they can only represent the city where they work, not any other city within the district.

UTRWD Board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the District office, located at 900 North Kealy in Lewisville. Meetings typically begin at 1:00 p.m. and last between 2 to 4 hours, with occasional committee meetings scheduled.

ANALYSIS:

The City Council has a long-standing practice of appointing city staff to serve on the UTRWD Board. This practice has enabled staff to stay informed about initiatives, foster collaboration between the two entities, and ensure that the appointee is knowledgeable and professionally trained on water infrastructure matters.

The City Council appointed Aaron Russell, Director of Public Services, to the UTRWD Board for the current term, which ends May 31, 2025. Aaron Russell is eligible for reappointment, and City staff recommends his reappointment as the City's representative. With over 20 years of experience in municipal services, Aaron is a seasoned public works professional. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from New Mexico State University and is a licensed Professional Engineer. Throughout his career, Aaron has managed capital improvement projects, served as Director of Public Works, and Assistant City Manager in various municipalities. His expertise includes strategic planning, infrastructure development, and operational optimization. As Director of Public Services, Aaron is well-versed in water utility matters and meets the residency requirement, as he lives in Denton County.

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CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council reappoint Aaron Russell, Director of Public Services, to serve as a board member on the UTRWD Board of Directors as set forth in the caption above