

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Claire Powell, City Manager

DATE: December 16, 2024

SUBJECT: Consideration of an Appointment of the City of Lewisville Representative on the Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD) Board of Directors to Complete the Term Ending May 31, 2025

BACKGROUND:

The Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD) is a regional non-profit organization that provides wholesale water and wastewater related services to entities in Denton County. The agency was created in 1989 by the State of Texas. Lewisville is a founding member of UTRWD and currently has three (3) votes on the Board. Lewisville is a partner with UTRWD and 30% owner of the lake intake structure.

The UTRWD is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of 24 members appointed by local municipalities, water districts, and Denton County. Board members must be residents of Denton County. In addition, a board member may be an employee of a municipality but cannot be an elected official. If an employee of a municipality is selected, they may only represent the city for which they work and not another city located in the district.

UTRWD Board meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of each month at the District office located at 900 North Kealy in Lewisville. The time of the Board meeting is 1:00 pm. Meeting durations range from 2-4 hours each month with periodic committee meetings.

ANALYSIS:

Due to the departure of Kelly Rouse on December 3, 2024, the City Council will need to consider a new appointment to fill this vacancy of the City's representative to the UTRWD Board of Directors. Each board member serves a term of four (4) years.

The City Council has had a long history of appointing city staff members to this Board. This practice has allowed staff to stay abreast of initiatives, has furthered collaboration between the two governmental entities, and ensures that the appointee is well-versed and professionally trained on matters related to water infrastructure.

City staff recommends that Director of Public Services Aaron Russell, PE, be appointed as the City's representative. Aaron is a seasoned public works professional with over 20 years of progressive experience in municipal services. A graduate of New Mexico State University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and a licensed Professional Engineer, Aaron began his career as a Civil Engineer, managing capital improvement projects. Over the years, he advanced to roles such as Director of Public Works, and Assistant City Manager in various municipalities,

Subject: Appointment to Upper Trinity River Water District Board of Directors
December 16, 2024
Page 2

where he honed his expertise in strategic planning, infrastructure development, and operational optimization. Currently serving as Director of Public Services, he is well versed in matters related to water utilities and meets the residency requirements because he lives in Denton County.

CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION:

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