

**THE CITY OF CISCO
CITY COUNCIL, SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
June 6, 2016**

CISCO, TEXAS §
EASTLAND, COUNTY §

The City Council of the City of Cisco met in a regular called *session* at the Cisco City Hall in Cisco as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours in advance and prior to the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

MAYOR _____ **JAMES KING**
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE I _____ **JASON WEGER**
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE II _____ **DENNIS CAMPBELL**
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE III _____ **WILLARD JOHNSON**
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE IV (by videoconference) _____ **RANDY BOLES**
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE VI _____ **PHILIP GREEN**

PERSONNEL PRESENT:

CITY MANAGER _____ **DARWIN ARCHER**
CITY SECRETARY _____ **TAMMY OSBORNE**

PERSONNEL ABSENT:

COUNCILMEMBER PLACE V _____ **TAMMY DOUGLAS**

Guests: Kary Anthony, Justin Pycatt, Richard Anthony, Wanda Anthony, Michael Cofferen, Gary Adams, Alma Adams, Skye Adams, Sam Guthrie, Greg Grymko, Cynthia Austin, Penny Mercer, Dixie Courtney, Charles Courtney, Sergio Vinales, James Graham, Tammy Archer, J.R. McAlister, Norman Adams, Jordan Hibbs, Josh Berryhill, Ricky Hudson, Tami Hudson, Kriss Goff, Tom Terry, Marilyn Preston, Craig Anderson, Nell Anderson, Butch Willingham, Billy Carlton, Sadie Sue Rice

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. PLEDGES

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Pledge to the Texas Flag**

III. INVOCATION:

Councilmember Green gave the invocation.

IV. THE CITY COUNCIL MAY DISCUSS AND/OR TAKE ACTION ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Consider and Discuss Disaster Declaration and Emergency Powers Related to Lake Cisco Flooding.**

Mayor King gave background and an update on the flooding situation:

- The City has experienced tremendous rainfall this month.
- Battle Creek pumps ran for almost a month and were turned off when the lake was 4 feet below the spillway on May 28, 2016.
- USGS data appears to be off about 2.4 feet.
- Water crested the spillway on Memorial Day.
- Significant rain event brought lake one foot over the spillway on Thursday, June 2, 2016.
- At that time, the water rose quickly and the Water Treatment Plant was evacuated which was a dangerous operation and a city truck was lost in the process.
- Prior to this event, the city diligently worked to clear beaver dams to ensure proper drainage to try to alleviate flooding concerns.
- The Water Treatment Plant was completely overtaken by water and all the buildings were under water at one point.

- Highway 6 washed out and the water receded.
- Immediately upon the Water Treatment Plant flooding, a Boil Water Notice was issued.
- Water pumping to town was stopped because the pumps were unable to work.
- Water in town was severely limited.
- Alternate arrangements were made to tie in to Westbound Water with thanks going to the City of Eastland and some Westbound officials for their willingness to help out, but ultimately this connection was unsuccessful.
- Water was pumped into town from the clarifying tanks.
- Sunday a portable Water Treatment Plant was delivered at a cost of \$40,000.00 per month
- Water is coming to town, but we are only able to use one pump right now so water is still limited.
- Stage 3 Water Restrictions were immediately implemented and remain in effect today.
- Thanks went out to all those who made generous donations of water and supplies.
- Boil Water Notice is still in effect until we get clearance from TCEQ.
- In addition to the damage to the Water Treatment Plant, there was significant road damage.
- North Shore Dr. is under water.
- The lake was evacuated.
- An emergency contract was begun with Dustin Schaefer today to begin road repair to make North Shore Dr. passable.
- City crews will be working in town on city street repair.
- TXDot is under an emergency timeline to repair Highway 6, but that will be a major construction project and they will be putting in a bridge class structure to ensure this won't occur again.
- Clean up efforts will be aided by two roll off dumpsters placed on North Shore Dr. for residents to use free of charge.
- Also, the convenience station has been opened to residents free of charge.

Mr. Archer added that the County Judge had declared Eastland County as a disaster and we were currently waiting for the Governor to do a disaster declaration.

Mayor King went into further detail about the Stage 3 Water Restrictions saying that all “non-essential use” was restricted. He went on to read the definition of non-essential use:

1. Irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf courses, except otherwise provided under the plan.
2. Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane, or other vehicle.
3. Use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard surfaced areas.
4. Use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection.
5. Flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street.
6. Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or Jacuzzi-type pools.
7. Use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life.
8. Failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).
9. Use of water from hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than firefighting.

He explained further that the swimming pool had been closed in order to have that water available in the case of a fire.

Mayor King commented to the gallery that the Council would take comments or questions from the attendees of the meetings as long as they were orderly.

The attendees inquired about lowering the lake level to alleviate flooding in homes. The Mayor responded that at this time, the city did not have the ability to significantly lower the level of the lake. He explained about the sluice gates being abandoned upon the advice of the engineers when the lake capacity was increased so those were not able to be used as was erroneously discussed on various social media outlets.

He went on to say that the spillway at the top of the dam is the only flood control device available for Williamson Dam.

Next, the gallery asked about the availability of FEMA funds for relief for those lake residents who were flooded. Mayor King explained the process that will need to happen in order to get FEMA involved and further commented that we were currently far into the process of getting FEMA involved. The residents wondered if there was any idea how much money would be available to those without flood insurance. Councilmember Green explained that he had had some experience with FEMA and thought it would be in the form of a low interest loan for rebuilding purposes.

The attendees also asked about an approximate time for North Shore Drive to be reopened. Mayor King replied that he felt that North Shore Drive should be fairly easy to repair once the waters subside as it will only be a matter of putting base material down to build the road back up, but that Highway 6 would be a much longer project.

Another visitor asked if large pumps used in oilfield work could be brought in to pump water out of the lake to which Mayor King answered that he hadn't heard from any companies willing to help in that endeavor. Mr. Archer said the city hadn't been contacted, but he would be more than willing to speak to anyone willing to help.

Councilmember Green reminded everyone that drinking water was still available for pick up at the Myrtle Wilks Community Center and Calvary Baptist Church and Mayor King also informed everyone that Red Cross was also handing out cleaning kits.

Mayor King ended the question and answer session and went on to discuss the Disaster Declaration renewal saying that the initial Disaster Declaration was for seven days and the Council will need to take action to extend the declaration beyond that seven days. The county extended their declaration for an additional thirty days and asked that the Council follow suit and extend ours for thirty days as well.

Motion was made by Councilmember Green to extend the Disaster Declaration for thirty days, second was made by Councilmember Campbell. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Weger, Campbell, Johnson, Green, King
Nays: None/Motion Carries
Voted: 5 to 0
Absent: Douglas

Mayor King took a moment to thank the engineers from Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd for being so diligent in their efforts to restore water service to the city. The engineers have determined that the Water Treatment Plant was a total loss and in an effort to move forward they have suggested moving the plant to a different location. The general consensus is that the plant should be moved to property that the city owns on top of College Hill. There is one parcel of land that is owned by the College that would be needed to complete the project. Mr. Archer will be attending the College Board of Regents meeting next week to discuss acquiring that parcel from them.

Mr. Archer reiterated that citizens should continue to be extremely conservative with water usage. These conservation measures will need to be observed until the new Water Treatment Plant is up and running.

Mayor King asked E/HT to discuss the expedited timeline for a new plant under emergency measures. Jordan Hibbs explained that the planning and development would coincide with the construction to cut the timeline in half and spoke briefly about the CMAR process. He further stated that he would be speaking to the Council more fully in the coming weeks.

Mr. Archer praised all the employees and the tireless hard work they have put in this past week. He also thanked the community for their generous donation of food, water, and supplies. Mayor King added that he felt the Council's selection of the City Manager had proven to be an outstanding choice.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Campbell made the motion to adjourn, second was made by Councilmember Johnson. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

Tammy Osborne, City Secretary

James King, Mayor
