ORDINANCE NO. 2025-001

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BETHANY SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT OF JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS, ORDERING A GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING TWO (2) CANDIDATES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BETHANY SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT; APPROVING THE STANDARD CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES WITH THE JOHNSON COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR; DESIGNATING THE JOHNSON COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR AS THE CUSTODIAN OF CAST BALLOTS AND ELECTION MATERIALS FOR THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW; MAKING PROVISIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF A GENERAL ELECTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Bethany Special Utility District (the "District") is a political subdivision of the State of Texas created under the authority of Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and operating pursuant to Chapters 49 and 65 of the Texas Water Code; and

WHEREAS, the District's political boundaries cover portions of Johnson County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the District must order a general election to be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025, for the purpose of electing two (2) candidates to the Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BETHANY SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT THAT:

- Section 1. <u>Date and Purpose</u>. A general election is hereby ordered to be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025, for the purpose of electing two (2) candidates to the Board of Directors of the District (the "General Election").
- SECTION 2. Approval of Johnson County Contracts. The Board of Directors of the District hereby approves the standard Johnson County contract for election services pursuant to which the Elections Administrator for Johnson County (the "Elections Administrator") will administer the General Election on behalf of the District. The President or General Manager of the District is hereby authorized to execute the contract for election services for and on behalf of the District.
- SECTION 3. Applications for a Place on the Ballot. Beginning Wednesday, January 15, 2025, completed applications for a place on the ballot will be accepted by the Election Agent by hand delivery or mail to Bethany Special Utility District, c/o Elections Agent, 133 S CR 810, Alvarado, Texas 76009, or by electronic mail sent to bethanysud@gmail.com. The deadline to file applications for a place on the ballot is Friday, February 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. The District will accept delivery of completed applications during regular office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with extended hours on Friday, February 14, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- SECTION 4. Election Notice. The Election Agent will deliver notice of the General Election to the County Clerk and Voter Registrar of Johnson County no later than Tuesday, March 4, 2025, unless the General Election was previously cancelled due to a lack of contested races. The Election Agent is hereby authorized and directed to publish or post all required notices.
- Section 5. <u>Early Voting by Personal Appearance</u>. Early voting by personal appearance for the General Election will be conducted beginning Monday, April 21, 2025 through Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at the early voting locations designated by the Elections Administrator and posted for Johnson County voters at: https://www.johnsoncountytx.org/departments/elections-office/early-voting-and-election-day-locations
- SECTION 6. Applications for Ballot by Mail. An Application for Ballot by Mail for the General Election may be obtained at: https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/regabbm.shtml. Completed Applications for Ballot by Mail must be submitted to the Johnson County Elections Office after Tuesday, March 4, 2025 and before Tuesday, April 22, 2025 by 5:00 p.m. Completed applications may be submitted to the Johnson County Elections Office (i) by mail to P.O. Box 895, Cleburne, TX 76033-0895, (ii) by fax to (817) 556-6048, or (iii) by email to votebymail@johnsoncountytx.org.
- SECTION 7. Ballot by Mail. Completed Ballots by Mail must be received no later than 7:00 p.m. on May 3, 2025, to Johnson County Elections Administrator, Joy Adams, 103 S. Walnut St., Cleburne, Texas 76033, P.O. Box 895, Cleburne 76033-0895, or by May 5, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., if carrier envelope is postmarked by May 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Note: If you are hand-delivering your ballot in person to the Early Voting Clerk, you must deliver your ballot between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. You cannot hand-deliver your ballot to the Early Voting Clerk after 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- SECTION 8. Election Day Voting. Election day voting by personal appearance for the General Election will be conducted from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at polling locations designated by the Elections Administrator and posted on the counties elections information websites referenced in Section 5 above.
- SECTION 9. Election Rules and Voter Eligibility. The General Election shall be conducted in accordance with the contract for election services described in Section 2 of this Ordinance and the Texas Election Code. All qualified and registered voters of the District shall be eligible to vote in the General Election.
- Section 10. Order of General Election. The attached Order of General Election for posting hereby approved.
- Section 11. <u>Election Judges</u>. The Elections Administrator shall appoint qualified individuals to serve as election judges to conduct the General Election.
- SECTION 12. <u>Custodians of Ballots</u>. The Elections Administrator is hereby appointed as the custodian of cast ballots and shall retain all General Election materials of the District for the time-period specified by law.

Section 13. Authority of Board Officers. The President and Secretary of the District, in consultation with the District's general legal counsel, are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary for the District to comply with applicable provisions of the Texas Election Code and any other state or federal law in carrying out and conducting the General Election, whether or not expressly authorized herein.

SECTION 14. Effective Date. That this Ordinance shall take effect from and after the date of its passage and will remain in effect until the General Election is held or cancelled.

ADOPTED on this the 14th day of February, 2025, by the Board of Directors of Bethany Special Utility District.

[District Seal]

Tommy Head, President

ATTEST:

Eric Freeland, Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

W. Wilson, Attorney