

Chairman Sims then asked for approval of the minutes from the June 2, 2016 Special Meeting of the Board. Ms. Holt motioned to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Franks and the minutes were unanimously approved.

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Chairman Sims reviewed the financial statements. Mr. Franks motioned to accept the financial statements. Motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and the Financial Statements were unanimously accepted.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Rate Study

Houston Black was recognized and stated the numbers given to the Board were the same as discussed at the last regular meeting.

Mr. Roberts asked whether a rate increase was necessary. Chairman Sims stated that he believes a reasonable rate increase may need to go into effect in September. Mr. Franks suggested a five or six year rate plan to keep up with the rising cost of purchasing water from Opelika. He stated that small increases each year would be more beneficial than a large increase every couple of years. Mr. Black stated that he recommended a 10% increase in rates prior to January 2019, which was when the cost of purchasing water from Opelika would begin to rise.

Mr. Franks motioned to raise rates 5% in 2016 starting September 1st, and 5% in 2017 starting September 1st of that year and then 3% every year thereafter starting September 1st for three additional years with an option for the Board to revisit the need for a rate increase each year. Motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and unanimously approved.

B. Bond Refinancing/New Bonds

Chairman Sims said that he and Houston Black met with Mr. Joe Jolly to practice for an interview with the bond company from New York. He stated that he and Mr. Black then spoke with the bond company representatives to answer their questions.

Chairman Sims said that there was nothing new to vote on but that Mr. Jolly mentioned that a special meeting may need to take place to approve the final numbers that come back from the bank.

C. Asset Valuation Report

Chairman Sims presented a report from the District's engineering firm, Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, which attempted to identify District assets in the ground and their individual value. Chairman Sims appointed Mr. Majors, Mr. Black and accountant Jeff Hilyer to a committee to finalize the report and bring it to the Board for approval.

D. Update on New Hire for Fire Chief Position

Mr. Franks stated that there have been four applications submitted for the Fire Chief position so far. He said there may need to be a special meeting set up to go through the applications. The Board directed several questions to Stephen Clay from the Board's law firm of Davidson, Davidson & Umbach, LLC regarding conducting the interview process in compliance with State laws. Mr. Franks stated that the process may go on for a couple of more weeks.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Fire Dept. Report

Blake Simpkins was recognized to give a report on the Fire Department. He stated that in May the Department ran 71 emergency calls, 7 of which were fire.

He said that operations were running smoothly since the departure of Chief Geiger and that the Shift Captains had been stepping up to cover the work.

He then announced the resignation of the Fleet Maintenance Officer whose last official day would be July 5.

B. Clearwater Solutions Report

Mr. Black was recognized to give the Clearwater Report for the month of April.

He conducted the drawing for the Leak Incentive Program for May.

He mentioned that there were no rate adjustments for the month of May.

Mr. Black then briefed the Board on Clearwater's activities over the past month.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

11. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. B.J. Crenshaw, 52 Lee Road 965, was recognized and asked that the Board keep seniors in mind in discussing and approving any rate increase. He asked Mr. Black if the District could get by with a lower rate. Mr. Black responded that without a rate increase, the District would not have any money for improvements and replacement of outdated infrastructure as the cost of purchasing water from Opelika would eventually eat up any surplus the District had. Mr. Crenshaw closed by stating that the District needed to fill all vacant positions in the Fire Department to avoid stretching the Fire Department personnel too thin.

Chairman Sims stated that the next Regular Meeting would be at 6:00pm C.S.T. on July 19, 2016.

There being no further business, Mr. Franks motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m. C.S.T.

Signed _____

