

Beulah Utilities District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
October 18, 2016
5320 Lee Road 270 Valley, AL 36854
6:08 pm CST

The Board of Directors of Beulah Utilities District met in a regular meeting on October 18, 2016 at the Beulah Water Department.

1. **WELCOME**

Chairman Sims welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Sims recognized and welcomed Mr. Fred Ward, the Editor and Owner of the Opelika Observer as well as representatives from the Alabama Rural Water Association.

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sims called the meeting to order.

3. **ROLL CALL**

The following Board Members were present: Linda Holt, Dan Roberts, James Majors, Shane Franks and Lamar Sims.

Visitors in Attendance - See attached Visitor Sign In Sheet.

4. **DECLARE QUORUM**

After the roll was called, Chairman Sims declared that a quorum was present.

5. **ADOPT AGENDA**

Chairman Sims presented the proposed agenda for adoption. Mr. Franks motioned to adopt the agenda. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and the agenda was unanimously adopted

6. **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Chairman Sims recognized and congratulated Mr. Houston Black for receiving the American Water Works Association Alabama Young Professional's Award. Mr. Black thanked the Board and Clearwater for giving him the opportunity.

7. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES** September 20, 2016

Chairman Sims asked for approval of the minutes from the September 20, 2016 Regular Meeting. Mr. Franks motioned to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts and the minutes were unanimously approved.

8. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Chairman Sims reviewed the September financial statements. He mentioned that the September figures reflected the recently approved rate increase. Mr. Black stated that the money the Board had voted to move to the Fire Savings Account was moved this week and would show up on the October Financial Statements. Mr. Majors motioned to approve the September financial statements. Motion was seconded by Mr. Franks and the September financial statements were unanimously approved.

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Recognition of Alabama Rural Water Association**

Chairman Sims recognized the representatives from the Alabama Rural Water Association that were in attendance. They stated that they were in the District to help detect leaks. Work had begun that morning and roughly 40% of the system had been checked. They said they would be working through Thursday.

B. **Asset Valuation Report**

Chairman Sims said that he had spoken to the auditors and they were still working on the numbers so the priority at the current time was getting the right wording in the Report.

C. **Engineering Report on Water System Improvements & ADEM Grant/Loan**

Chairman Sims stated that the Engineers had presented various proposed projects at the work session held just prior to the Board Meeting and that there were deadlines that needed to be met in order to secure funding for the projects the Board wished to go forward with. Mr. Black reviewed some financial numbers to give the Board an idea of the loan amount the District could afford. He did recommend keeping the District's savings intact in case of emergencies.

Ms. Linda Holt said she felt that the District had to do something to address the pressure issues.

Mr. Black suggested that the District could save up some money in order to fund some of the smaller proposed projects out of pocket thus reducing the amount of money the District would need to finance.

Commissioner Robert Ham suggested the District keep construction costs in mind when budgeting for the projects as they were going up.

Mr. Franks said that as the Board had just been presented with the engineers proposed projects, further review and discussion were needed before he felt comfortable voting on which ones to move forward with. He motioned that the Board hold a Work Session on November 3, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. CST to discuss the Engineering Report and the various options it presented to the District. Motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and unanimously approved.

D. Lee Road 370 Project (relocating water meters)

Chairman Sims stated that the property owners were agreeable to the District moving the water line up to the road. Mr. Black stated that the project had not yet started as they would need 2-3 consecutive days to complete the project and that his schedule had not worked out to allow for that yet.

E. Report on potential new fire station

Fire Chief Padgett was recognized to report on the establishment of a new fire station to fill in the gaps in coverage for ISO purposes. Chief Padgett stated that he had contacted the owner of the building he told the Board about at the September meeting regarding a purchase or rental price but he had received no response.

Mr. Franks stated that he and Mr. Black had gone out looking for property suitable for a fire station and that they had found some property in the area of Lee Road 390. He said that before contacting property owners, he first wanted to hear from the Board on how to proceed.

Ms. Holt mentioned that some of the areas not covered by Beulah were covered by other fire districts so the District did not need to worry about covering the residences in those areas. Chief Padgett asked if there was a way to identify residences in the District who got their fire coverage from the neighboring Fire Departments. Commissioner Ham suggested contacting the Fire Chiefs of the neighboring Departments in an attempt to identify such residences.

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Fire Dept. Report

Chief Padgett was recognized to give a report on the Fire Department. He stated that in September the Department ran 66 emergency calls, three of which were fire calls. He said that this was an average month for the department.

Chief Padgett said that last week the Department gave a presentation to the seniors at the Senior Center. The Department also went out to a couple of the seniors' homes to install smoke detectors. The Department also visited the Fig Tree Daycare. Chief Padgett mentioned that he was going to meet with the principals of the elementary and high school to discuss doing a presentation for the schools. He said that the District had two volunteers in the Volunteer 160 course

Chief Padgett said that the Department had hired Mark McManus to fill one of the Shift Captains Positions.

Chief Padgett said that the Department took part in a joint training session with the East Alabama Fire Department and that part of the training was a driving simulator so several of the volunteers got to use the simulator.

Chief Padgett stated that in an effort to increase communications with the community, he had set up a Twitter account for the Fire Department

B. Clearwater Solutions Report

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

Mr. Black then announced the winners of the leak incentive program for August and September.

Mr. Black said that there were four qualifying rate adjustments for September:

Andrew Cox	\$1,120.45
Anderson Lane	\$ 291.10
Russell Williams	\$ 647.33
Reginald Rock	\$ 160.40

Ms. Holt motioned to approve the adjustments. Motion was seconded by Mr. Franks and the adjustments were unanimously approved.

Mr. Black briefed the Board on Clearwater's activities for the month of September.

Mr. Black said that he and the other District staff would be out in the field assisting the Alabama Rural Water people with detection over the next couple of days.

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

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

None.

Chairman Sims stated that the next Regular Meeting would be at 6:00pm C.S.T. on November 15, 2016 and the Board would hold a Work Session on November 3, 2016 at 5:00pm C.S.T.

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 7:03 p.m. C.S.T.

Signed _____

