

Beulah Utilities District  
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting  
April 18, 2017  
5320 Lee Road 270 Valley, AL 36854  
6:05 pm CST

The Board of Directors of Beulah Utilities District met in a regular meeting on April 18, 2017 at the Beulah Water Department.

1. **WELCOME**

Chairman Sims welcomed those in attendance.

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sims called the meeting to order.

3. **ROLL CALL**

The following Board Members were present: Linda Holt, David Jackson, Shane Franks and Lamar Sims.

Absent: James Majors.

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. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES** March 21, 2017

Chairman Sims asked for approval of the minutes from the March 21, 2017 Regular Meeting. Ms. Holt motioned to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and the minutes were unanimously approved.

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Chairman Sims reviewed the March financial statements. Mr. Franks motioned to approve the March financial statements. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and the March financial statements were unanimously approved.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Presentation for Insurance Renewal by Mr. Joe Hill

Mr. Joe Hill from J. Smith Lanier was recognized and went over the District's insurance policy proposal for the coming year and highlighted the changes from the prior year's policy.

Mr. Franks motioned to accept the proposed insurance policy from J. Smith Lanier. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and unanimously approved.

B. System Improvements (various projects)

Mr. Houston Black was recognized to give an update on the projects. He said that he had received a draft copy of the engineering report and the only item left to complete the report was to insert environmental data. He stated that the report should be submitted to the USDA before the next Board meeting.

Mr. Black said that the engineer recommended that the District begin acquiring land for the water tanks. Mr. Jackson volunteered to assist Mr. Black in identifying potential land. County Commissioner Robert Ham offered his assistance as well.

C. Asset – Land 4 acres by the Baptist Church Cemetery

Mr. Stephen Clay said that he had received the appraisal and that he would put together a report for the Board on the various ways the District could sell the land so the Board could decide whether or not to sell at the May regular meeting.

D. Update on Lee Road 370 Line Relocation

Mr. Black said that no progress had been made on the project recently. He stated that some houses were under construction on the road and the heavy trucks which drove down the road were not conducive to working on the project right now. He said that they were planning on making completion of this project a priority.

Mr. Black said he had some customers on Lee Road 898 contact him and ask what it would cost to run a water line down the road so their meters could be located closer to the homes. Mr. Black said he would investigate the costs of running the new line and work out who would pay for the project.

E. Update on Point Broadband

Chairman Sims said he and the he and the company responsible for the maintenance of the water tank had looked at a copy of the Point Broadband contract and suggested some changes. He said that there had not been any communications with Point Broadband and that the thought was the District's water tank was not high enough for use as an effective antennae platform. He said that an opportunity may present itself in the future so the lines of communication would be kept open.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Fire Dept. Report

Chief Padgett was recognized to give a report on the Fire Department. He began by reviewing the previous month's call report.

He recognized members of the Department for the outstanding job they did in responding to a house fire on April 4 on Lee Road 374. He did say that a fire engine suffered minor damage responding to the fire and that the insurance adjuster had been out to look at the damage. He stated that the adjuster was still collecting information but had recommended a fire apparatus repair company to do the repair work.

Chief Padgett said that the Lake Harding Homeowners Association approved a donation of \$5,000 to the Department for the purchase of radios and flashlights to be issued to firefighters. He said that these would cost approximately \$4,651 and the remainder of the money would be spent on accessories for the radios.

He mentioned that the Department was still participating in the Home Fire Safety Campaign with the Red Cross and showed the Board a copy of a flyer the Department was using to inform the public of the free smoke detectors

He announced that there were two new volunteers with the Department.

Chief Padgett recognized Ms. Holt and her husband for their work on Dan Roberts' retirement reception.

He concluded the report by discussing some of the training the Department was engaged in.

Chairman Sims talked with Chief Padgett about some additional ways the Department could get the Home Fire Safety Campaign message out to the public. He also discussed ways to recognize volunteers who pass tests and training to further their certifications.

B. Clearwater Solutions Report

Mr. Black was recognized to provide the Clearwater Solutions Report.

Mr. Black said that there was one qualifying rate adjustment for the month:

K.L. Yielding	\$103.90
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Ms. Holt motioned to approve the adjustments. Motion was seconded by Mr. Franks and the adjustments were unanimously approved.

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

He then announced the winner of the leak incentive program for February.

Mr. Black recognized Ms. Sabrina Chapman to update the Board on the candidate collection agencies to contract with to assist the District in collecting on overdue accounts. Ms. Chapman briefed the Board on the success rates of the various agencies and other details relating to their collection efforts. Ms. Chapman said she would get with Commissioner Ham to investigate one more potential debt collection agency. The Board then discussed various issues relating to when a delinquent account would be turned over to the collection agency.

Mr. Franks motioned that, subject to Board approval, accounts with a balance of a minimum of \$100 be turned over to the collection agency after 120 days. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and unanimously approved.

C. Water Loss Review

Chairman Sims said he had been looking at the District's water loss over the years and discussed the District's current water loss situation. He said he had asked Mr. Black to identify equipment the District could purchase to help identify leaks in the system. Mr. Black further described the equipment he was looking for and how the Water Department could start doing a systematic search of the system for leaks.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

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

Commissioner Ham commented on how smoothly the District was operating and thanked Chief Padgett for the good work he and his Department were doing.

Chairman Sims stated that the next Regular Meeting would be at 6:00pm C.S.T. on May 16, 2017.

There being no further business, Ms. Holt motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Mr. Franks and unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m. C.S.T.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

