

Beulah Utilities District

Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting

April 17, 2018

5320 Lee Road 270 Valley, AL 36854

6:00 pm CST

The Board of Directors of Beulah Utilities District met in a regular meeting on April 17, 2018 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, James Majors, Garnett McCollum, 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. Ms. Holt motioned to adopt the agenda. Motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and the agenda was unanimously adopted.

6. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES** March 20th, 2018;
April 4th, 2018

Chairman Sims stated that there were two sets of minutes to approve. He asked for approval of the minutes from the March 20th, 2018 Regular Meeting. Ms. Holt motioned to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairman Sims then asked for approval of the minutes from the April 4th, 2018 Special Meeting. Mr. Jackson motioned to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. McCollum and the minutes were unanimously approved.

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Chairman Sims asked Houston Black to look into purchasing a projector system so that the financials could be displayed on a screen for all to see.

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

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Report on Pending System Updates

Mr. Houston Black was recognized and said that the USDA should have all the paperwork they need from the District and that the funds should be ready to allocate to the District soon.

B. Report on Potential Land Acquisition for Pending System Updates

a. Tank near Long Bridge

Mr. Black stated that he was waiting to get a legal description of the property to be purchased from the Engineers so that a contract could be drawn up.

b. Tank on Lee Road 270/266

Mr. Black stated that there had been no further communication from the representatives of the Johnson property since the Special Board Meeting. The Board discussed the need to acquire a site so that the tank project could go forward. Mr. Jackson motioned to approve the use of eminent domain to acquire the property. Motion was seconded by Mr. McCollum and unanimously approved.

c. Booster Station on Lee Road 266

Mr. Stephen Clay from the District's law firm, Davidson, Davidson & Umbach, was recognized and said that the Seller was in the process of removing a mortgage from the portion of the property to be purchased by the District. He stated that once the mortgage was removed, a closing would be scheduled.

C. Report on Proposed Maintenance Building

Mr. Black stated that he got quotes for both metal and stick framed buildings. The Board and Mr. Black discussed various options for bidding out the project.

D. Bank of New York 2010 Bond Issue

Chairman Sims said Joe Jolly had asked if the District wanted to include the note for the two newer fire trucks in the bond refinance. Chairman Sims stated that including the note in the bond refinancing would move the note from an eight year pay-off to a 15 year payoff but it would save the District approximately \$37,004 a year in payments. Chairman Sims stated that if approved, the Fire Department would present to the Board a plan for the utilization of the savings. The Board discussed the matter and Mr. Jackson motioned to include the fire engine note in the bond refinance. Motion was seconded by Mr. McCollum and unanimously approved.

E. Dump Truck Acquisition Update.

Chairman Sims stated that there may be a dump truck available locally and that more would be known by next month's meeting.

F. Fire Only Customers Incentive to Become Water Customers

The Board discussed implementing a policy to incentivize certain fire customers on wells to tap into to the water system where there was a water main running next to their property. Mr. Jackson motioned to offer to waive the tap fee for the 13 customers identified as being fire customers on wells with a water main next to their property if they would become water customers. Ms. Holt and Mr. McCollum spoke against offering the incentive. Motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and approved by a vote of 3-2.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Beulah Utilities/Clearwater Professional Services Agreement

Chairman Sims presented the Board with a contract with Clearwater Solutions to have Clearwater continue to manage the District at the end of the term of the current contract. He reviewed some of the pertinent terms of the contract for the Board. He stated he wanted to go ahead and have the District approve the contract now rather than wait until next year and have something come up while in the midst of all of the system improvement projects. Chairman Sims stated that legal counsel had reviewed the contract and that the draft presented to the Board reflected the changes recommended. Mr. Jackson motioned to approve the contract. Motion was seconded by Mr. McCollum and the contract was unanimously approved.

B. J. Smith Lanier & Co., Inc. Insurance Renewal

Mr. Black was recognized and stated that it was time to renew the District's insurance policy. He stated that the terms of the policy were not changing and that the premium was increasing by approximately \$600. Ms. Holt motioned to renew the insurance policy. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and unanimously approved.

C. Clearwater Solutions Report

Ms. Sabrina Chatmon was recognized to present the Clearwater Solutions Report.

She said that were two requests for rate adjustments for the month:

Kenneth Taylor	\$1,309.85
Frith Burton	\$ 541.26

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

Ms. Chatmon then briefed the Board on Clearwater's activities over the last month.

B. Fire Dept. Report

Chief Keith Padgett was recognized to give a report on the Fire Department. He reviewed the March call report for the Board, stating that the Department ran a total of 70 calls.

He recognized volunteer firefighter Caine Longshore for graduating from the West Point Police Academy and becoming a full time police officer with the City.

He announced that three new volunteers had joined the Department.

He stated that the Department had installed 14 new smoke detectors in residences over the last few weeks.

He said that the Department would be installing biometric locks on all of the fire station doors. He said the locks would enable monitoring of who was unlocking the doors. He said the Department would also be installing security cameras at Station 1.

a. Vehicle Replacement Update

Chief Padgett asked the Board to approve the purchase of a 2018 Ford Explorer from Strivers Ford off of the State Bid List to replace the 2007 GMC Yukon

currently serving as the Fire Chief's vehicle. He stated that the cost, with options, would be \$37,385. He said he would like to add a rear storage compartment and decals for an additional amount of approximately \$2,100.

He said he was told the vehicle would have a build date in July with delivery in August. He said it would then take about a week to install the radios and decals and that the vehicle should be in service by September.

Ms. Holt motioned to approve the purchase of the vehicle. Motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and unanimously approved.

b. Boat Replacement Update

Chief Padgett updated the Board on the status of the search for a replacement fire boat.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Holt asked Mr. Black if the District was getting its paving done. Mr. Black stated that there were only a couple of spots left that needed paving.

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

None.

Chairman Sims stated that the next Regular Meeting would be at 6:00pm C.S.T. on May 15, 2018.

There being no further business, Ms. Holt motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. C.S.T.

Signed _____

