

Beulah Utilities District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
July 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 July 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** June 19, 2018; June 28, 2018;

Chairman Sims stated there were two sets of minutes to approve. He first asked for approval of the minutes from the June 19th, 2018 Regular Meeting. Ms. Holt motioned to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. McCollum and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairman Sims then asked for approval of the minutes from the June 28th, 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 reviewed the June financial statements. Mr. Majors motioned to approve the June financial statements. Motion was seconded by Mr. McCollum and the June financial statements were unanimously approved.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Report on Pending System Updates

Chairman Sims stated that the District had received a letter from the USDA approving the loan and grant. The loan amount was approximately \$4.4 million and the grant amount was approximately \$1.229 million.

Mr. Houston Black stated that the District would need to request an extension of time from the USDA to enable the Engineers time to bid the projects.

B. Report on Potential Land Acquisition for Pending System Updates

a. Tank near Long Bridge

Mr. Black and Mr. Jackson said that the purchase contract had been sent to Crown Castle for review but that they had not heard back from them.

b. Tank on Lee Road 270/266

Mr. Black stated that the property owner had been sent notice that a survey team would be on the property to do a survey.

c. Booster Station on Lee Road 266

Mr. Black told the Board that all paperwork had been given to the mortgage company and it was being processed.

C. Report on Proposed Maintenance Building

Mr. Black said that the building would be delivered on August 23. He said he would need to draft specifications for the remaining fitting out in order to advertise for bids.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Review of Bank Signatures (checks)

The Board discussed having Houston Black authorized to sign District checks along with a Board member. Ms. Holt motioned to authorize Houston Black to sign District checks along with a Board member. Motion was second by Mr. Jackson and unanimously approved.

B. Review of Proposed Budget-Water Department

The Board was presented with a draft of the Water Department Budget for the upcoming fiscal year for review.

C. Review of Proposed Budget – Fire Department

The Board was presented with a draft of the Fire Department Budget for the upcoming fiscal year for review.

D. Review of Board Member Salary Amount

The Board reviewed the compensation currently paid to Board members for serving as such and discussed raising that amount.

Lee County Commissioner Robert Ham was recognized and stated that the Board members certainly deserve an increase in compensation for the work they do for the District. He said he would be glad to provide them information on what Board members for other Lee County rural water districts received in compensation.

Chairman Sims stated that he would do a review of compensation paid to Directors of local rural water districts and report back at the next meeting.

E. Clearwater Solutions Report

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

She briefed the Board on Clearwater's activities over the last month.

She stated that ADEM had performed the yearly inspection of the District and issued their report. She said that the report indicated that everything was satisfactory.

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

James Lawrence	\$596.54
Barnes' Restaurant	\$184.47

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

Ms. Chatmon announced the winner of the Leak Incentive Program.

Mr. Black recommended that the Board enter into a formal contract for its water sales to East Alabama.

F. Fire Dept. Report

Chief Keith Padgett was recognized to give a report on the Fire Department. He reviewed the June call report for the Board, stating that the Department ran a total of 62 calls, three of which were fire calls.

Chief Padgett said that the Department was able to take the new fire boat out on the Lake for the 4th of July holiday. He reported that the Fire Department policy for use of the boat had been updated to incorporate Board member comments. He said he was working with a local contractor to make improvements to the boat house to support the new boat.

He said the Department was working with the Lee County Firefighters Association to inspect the local schools. He said they had inspected Beulah Elementary and will do the High School once they could get an inspection date scheduled.

Chairman Sims referred to a letter received from volunteer firefighter Gerald Terry regarding updating the Department's equipment. The Chief discussed issues with one of the older fire engines and discussed his recommendation for replacement.

Chairman Sims announced that the Department was registered for an August 7 training session for the new gas pipeline running through the District's service area.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairman Sims stated that at the next meeting he would be bringing the Board information about an insurance program for water customers against a high water bill. Chairman Sims said that if the Board elected to go with this service then it would do away with the water bill adjustments and give customers the option to opt out of the insurance.

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

Commissioner Hamm was recognized and spoke on the proposed budgets, the need for a digital sign in front of the Water Office and the Fire Department's school inspection program.

Chairman Sims stated that the next Regular Meeting would be at 6:00pm C.S.T. on August 21, 2018.

There being no further business, Mr. Jackson motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m. C.S.T.

Signed _____

