

Beulah Utilities District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
January 15, 2019
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 January 15, 2019 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, Lamar Sims, and Andrew Bryan

Absent: None

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. Jackson motioned to adopt the agenda. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and the agenda was unanimously adopted.

Chairman Sims informed the Board that he had received a call from Opelika Utilities regarding a Beulah employee who had found a major leak in an Opelika waterline on Christmas Day. Mr. Houston Black was recognized and he briefed the Board further on the actions of the employee to help fix the leak.

6. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES** December 18, 2018

Chairman Sims asked for approval of the minutes from the December 18, 2018 Regular Meeting. Ms. Holt motioned to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and the minutes were unanimously approved.

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Mr. Black was recognized and reviewed the December financial statements for the Board. Ms. Holt motioned to approve the December financial statements. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and the December financial statements were unanimously approved.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Report on Potential Land Acquisition for Pending System Updates**

a. **Tank near Long Bridge**

The Board was given an update on the efforts to contact the adjacent landowner to secure an access easement. Board was also informed of communications with Crown Castle regarding closing on the purchase of the property.

b. **Tank on Lee Road 270/266**

The Board discussed establishing the amount of just compensation for the purchase of the property. Mr. Jackson motioned for the just compensation of the property at \$15,000. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and unanimously approved.

The Board then considered Resolution 2019-001 which would establish the amount of just compensation for the property and authorize an offer to purchase the property for that amount be made to the owner. Mr. Jackson motioned to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and Resolution 2019-001 was unanimously adopted by the Board.

c. **Booster Station on Lee Road 266**

Mr. Black informed the Board that the mortgage release was still awaiting final approval by the bank and that once that was received, the District would proceed to close on the purchase of the property.

d. Wholesale Water Contract Review

Mr. Black informed the Board that a revised contract for the sale of water to East Alabama had been prepared. Mr. Black said he would confer with the District's legal counsel to ensure that the contract is ready to be sent to East Alabama for their consideration.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Clearwater Solutions Report

Mr. Black was recognized to give the Clearwater Solutions Report. He presented the Board with fourth quarter write offs which totaled \$415.48. Mr. Black stated that the accounts that were being written off were accounts that were not eligible to go to the collection service that the District is using. Mr. Black also informed the Board that the write offs for the third quarter of 2018 were \$293.55.

Mr. Black updated the Board on the complaint received from the owner of the Docks Restaurant. He stated that there had been no communication from the restaurant since they were informed that the District did not have any liability for the damages complained of.

Mr. Black stated that there were two requests for rate adjustments for the month:

Brandee Berry	\$244.72
Celia Jones Fuson	\$697.62

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

Mr. Black then briefed the Board on Clearwater's activities over the prior month. He updated the Board on the status of the disinfection by-product (DBP) levels. He said the DBP levels were closer to normal levels in the most recent tests. He stated that if the District could keep the lower levels over the next several quarters, the District should be fine. He noted that the water tank is still offline but the water is still inside and can be used for firefighting or for flushing or for washing of trucks.

Chairman Sims asked Mr. Black to give an update on the Project Manager interviews. Mr. Black stated that he had interviewed a third candidate that was highly qualified and he felt like the candidate would be a good fit. Mr. Black stated that this candidate would likely be brought before the Board for consideration. Chairman Sims reminded the Board that the actual hiring will be done by Clearwater but that they are working closely with the Board to ensure that they hire the right person for the position.

B. Fire Dept. Report

Chief Keith Padgett was recognized to give a report on the Fire Department. He reviewed the December Call Report. He then informed the Board on the year-end report stating that there were a total of 741 calls in 2018, 47 of which were fire calls.

Chief Padgett reported that they were currently busy performing hydrant inspection and maintenance for the year and that it would take around a month for that to be completed.

Chief Padgett announced the hiring of a new Captain, Chance Coefield, who had been working for the department as a part-time employee previously.

Chief Padgett stated that he had sent out new Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures for review by the Board. Chairman Sims said that the Board would review the procedures and vote on approving them in a future meeting.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Sims informed the Board about the situation on Lee Road 259 and the fact that there were several houses on wells on that road and that if a waterline were put down along the road the District could potentially have several new customers. Chairman Sims said that he would ask Mr. Black to research the cost of putting a waterline down that road and asked him to bring a report back to the Board for that discussion.

Mr. Jackson announced that he hoped to have the slab for the maintenance building poured by the end of the week and then the erection of the building can begin.

Chairman Sims announced that David Jackson would chair the fire committee and in addition to Mr. Jackson, himself (Chairman Sims) and Chief Padgett would be members of that committee. Chairman Sims said that a list of items to be considered by the committee would be compiled and that he would also be looking for others to serve on the committee and asked the Board members to do the same.

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 February 19, 2019.

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 6:48 p.m. C.S.T.

Signed _____

