

BEULAH UTILITIES DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
January 21, 2020
5320 Lee Road 270, Valley, Alabama 36854
6:00 PM CST

The Board of Directors of Beulah Utilities District met in a regular meeting on January 21, 2020 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.

Visitors in attendance: see attached visitor sign-in sheet.

4. **DECLARE QUORUM**

After 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 Ms. Holt and the agenda was unanimously adopted.

6. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Chairman Sims asked for approval of the minutes from the December 17, 2019 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 stated that he and Mr. Majors had been given a draft copy of the audit report. He stated that he had reviewed the report and that it looked good, although there

may be a few things that the auditor changes before the final report is issued next month. He stated that the auditors would be at the February Board Meeting to go over the final audit report with the Board.

Chairman Sims informed the Board of one issue the auditor uncovered regarding accounts receivable reports. He stated that the printed reports did not match what was in the computer for accounts receivable. He stated that the staff was studying the problem and would reach out to neighboring water districts to see if they had any experience with the software and the problem that the District was experiencing.

Mr. James Waites was then recognized and reviewed the December financial statements for the Board. Mr. Majors 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 Land Acquisition for Tank Lee Road 266

Chairman Sims informed the Board that they had closed on the purchase of the Prather property and that it now belonged to the District. He stated that the engineer was performing tests on the tank sites and that the projects were expected to be sent out for bid in the first quarter of 2020.

b. Update on Wholesale Water Contract with East Alabama

The Board's legal counsel informed the Board that the last communication he received from East Alabama was that the Water Contract went before the East Alabama Board the prior week. However, he stated that he had received no update on the outcome of that meeting. The Board discussed the process for billing East Alabama for the water that they purchased from the District.

c. Update on Replacing Meter for East Alabama Connection Lee Road 266

Chairman Sims stated that this matter required no action as it was currently a part of the East Alabama Water Contract negotiations.

d. HB 360 Insurance Policy

Chairman Sims stated that the District had received information on the insurance policies it was waiting for and said that they had received information on two types of policies; the standard policy and the enhanced policy. He stated that the primary difference between the standard and enhanced policy was that the enhanced policy also covered skin cancer and brain tumors.

Chief Blake Simpkins stated that the cost for the standard policy would be \$186.48 per year, per firefighter, while the cost of the enhanced policy would be \$198.24 per year, per firefighter. Chairman Sims stated that the policy would only

cover full-time firefighters, but part-time and volunteer firefighters would be able to purchase coverage at their own expense. Chief Simpkins stated that he had budgeted for whatever plan the Board elected to go with.

After discussion, Mr. Jackson motioned to purchase the enhanced policy. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and unanimously adopted.

e. Update on Proposed Lee Road 259

Mr. Waites was recognized and stated that he had not heard from any party regarding the running of the waterline down the road.

The Board further discussed the particulars of the project.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Clearwater Solutions Report

Mr. James Waites was recognized and briefed the Board on Clearwater’s activities over the past month. He stated that, after investigation, he discovered that it would be too complicated to include the water tank storage in the monthly water loss report. He stated that other Water District managers he had spoken to confirmed that it would be difficult to accurately track and account for water stored in water tanks in a monthly report. He said that the numbers should average out over time. He also informed the Board that the District’s DBP levels were good and well below the limits.

Mr. Waites then informed the Board of the adjustments for the month:

Robert Johnson III	\$129.63
Ginger Hammons, Brooklyn Estate	\$633.90
Hope White	\$146.88

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

Mr. Waites informed the Board that there had been one fourth-quarter write off in the amount of \$66.81. He stated that the District had turned over 224 accounts to the ACCA Tax Interception Collection program.

The Board discussed handling customers with poor credit scores.

Mr. Waites then announced the Leak Incentive program winner for the month.

Mr. Waites updated the Board on the status of Mr. Berry obtaining his CDL. Mr. Waites and the Board then discussed alternative hauling options that would not require the use of the dumptruck.

b. Beulah Fire and Rescue Report

Chief Blake Simpkins was recognized and briefed the Board on the monthly run report. He stated that a total of 63 calls were run in the previous month, three of which were fire calls. He then briefed the Board on the notable calls.

Chief Simpkins then gave the Board the year end run totals, stating that the Department had run 816 total calls in 2019, 57 of which were fire calls. He stated that this was up from 741 calls in 2018.

Chief Simpkins then gave the Board the payroll report for the month. He stated that there were an extra five hours of overtime paid out during the month. He said that some of this was due to one of the captains working a fire call.

He then updated the Board on the training activities conducted by the Department during the month of December.

Chief Simpkins then briefed the Board on the drug test report.

Chief Simpkins then updated the Board on ISO matters. He stated that the Lee County Firefighters Fund Committee was created to study an automated response mechanism for Lee County. He said that if this automated response mechanism were to be implemented, it would raise the ISO scores for those in the County.

He concluded by stating that the two new firefighter hires would begin training school in Alexander City on the following Monday.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

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

None.

12. **NEXT MEETING**

a. Next Regular Board Meeting February 18, 2020

Chairman Sims stated that the next Regular Board Meeting would be at 6 pm CST on February 18, 2020.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Jackson motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 pm.

