

BEULAH UTILITIES DISTRICT

Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting

March 21, 2023

5320 Lee Road 270, Valley, Alabama 36854

6:00 PM CST

The Board of Directors of Beulah Utilities District met in a Regular Meeting at 6:00 pm on March 21, 2023, 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, Andrew Bryan.

For 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. The motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and the agenda was unanimously adopted.

6. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Chairman Sims asked for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 21, 2023. Mr. Bryan motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

A. **Approval of February 2023 Financial Statements**

Chairman Sims recognized Mr. Zach Ewbank and Chief Blake Simpkins to review their respective financial statements for the month of February.

Chief Simpkins briefed the Board on the Fire Department's February financial statements and Mr. Ewbank briefed the Board on the Water Board February financial statements. Mr. Majors motion to approve the February financial statements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and the February financial statements were unanimously approved.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. New Fire Station No. 2 Building on Lee Road 266

Mr. Jackson was recognized, and he informed the Board that a majority of the driveway had been poured but that they still needed to tie it into the road. He stated that the interior materials had been delivered and that fitting out of the interior would begin.

B. ARPA Funds

Mr. Josh Pierce was recognized, and he updated the Board on the status of the ARPA projects review. He stated that approximately \$400,000.00 in funds are left over from the USDA funds and that they were exploring using those as matching funds on any ARPA or DWSRF project. Mr. Pierce stated that they were working on submitting information to the County for the ARPA projects. The Board and Mr. Pierce reviewed a summary of the projects designated for ARPA funding and the priority of each. After discussion the Board instructed the engineer to move up the priority of the Lee Road 375 Project above that of the Lee Road 259 Project.

C. DWSRF Funds

Mr. Pierce was recognized and informed the Board that the design of the project was approximately 80% complete and that they were working with the Corp of Engineers on securing a permit for the work.

The Board received an update on the Creekside Subdivision and discussed Board policies related to subdivision development.

D. Purchase of ½-Ton Work Truck (Water)

No update on this item.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **East Alabama Agreement**

Chairman Sims informed the Board that the District had received a request from East Alabama to renew the existing water supply agreement which was expiring at the end of the month. The Board discussed the current terms of the water supply agreement with Opelika and how that would affect any terms with East Alabama. The Board also discussed the fact that the agreement would expire before another Bboard meeting would be held. The consensus was that the Board would like to enter into a new agreement with East Alabama.

Mr. Jackson motioned to authorize a 90-day extension of the current water supply agreement with East Alabama subject to the approval of East Alabama. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and was approved by a vote of four to nothing with Ms. Holt abstaining.

B. **Clearwater Solutions Report**

Mr. Zach Ewbank was recognized, and he briefed the Board on Clearwater's activities over the past month.

Mr. Ewbank then presented the Board with the adjustments for the month.

Burrell Chapel Church	\$207.00
Steve Purvis	\$510.55
Andy Crocker	\$439.40
Debra Reach	\$239.20
Ted Phillips	\$279.50

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

Mr. Ewbank informed the Board that the water loss study was ongoing and that they were wrapping up the process of allocating customers to the zones for water loss monitoring.

Mr. Ewbank then announced the Leak Incentive Program winner for the month.

C. **Beulah Fire and Rescue Report.**

Chief Blake Simpkins was recognized and informed the Board there had been 87 total calls the past month, twelve of which were fire calls. He then briefed the Board on the notable calls.

Chief Simpkins informed the Board that there had been no overtime paid in February.

He then briefed the Board on the training activities conducted by the Department in the prior months.

He announced there have been one random drug test.

Chief Simpkins announced that the Department had received two LUCAS devices from the County. He stated that these were automatic CPR devices and that they were valued at \$50,000.00.

The Chief informed the Board of the Department’s attendance at the annual Fire Chiefs Conference and provided a brief update of that conference.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE

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

A. NONE

12. **NEXT MEETING**

Chairman Sims stated that the next regular board meeting would be at 6:00 PM CST on April 18, 2023.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Jackson motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM CST.

Signed _____

