

BEULAH UTILITIES DISTRICT

Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting

April 18, 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 April 18, 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, James Majors, Lamar Sims, Andrew Bryan. Absent David Jackson.

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. Bryan 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 March 21, 2023. Mr. Bryan motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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

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

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

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

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

Chief Simpkins was recognized, and he updated the Board on construction. He stated that lumber for the inside framing had been delivered and they were waiting for the interior concrete to be poured before beginning the framing.

Chairman Sims updated the Board on the status of the Fire Department's vacating the old Station 2 structure.

B. **ARPA Funds**

Chairman Sims updated the Board on the submittal of documents to the County in order to receive the ARPA funds. Mr. Ewbank was recognized and informed the Board that the District had submitted everything that it has that is responsive to the County's requests. He stated that they had not received any word that any additional submittals would be required.

C. **DWSRF Funds**

Chairman Sims informed the Board the approval process was moving forward.

D. **East Alabama Agreement**

Chairman Simms recognized the Board's Attorney, Stephen Clay, who then briefed the Board on the terms for the East Alabama Agreement. The Board discussed the terms of the current agreement and made suggestions as to terms they would like to see in the new Agreement.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Opelika Water Bill Correction**

Chairman Sims informed the Board that the District had been notified by Opelika Utilities that there had been a billing error and that Opelika had failed to increase the price per 1000 gallons for water sold to the District for 2022 and 2023.

Chairman Sims stated that the amount the District would owe Opelika for these missed payments was \$50,557.80. Chairman Sims stated that Opelika agreed to accept payment of this of this amount in five (5) monthly installments. After discussion Mr. Majors motioned to pay Opelika the water bill correction. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Holt and unanimously approved.

B. **Clearwater Solutions Report**

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

Mr. Ewbank informed the Board that there were no adjustments for the month.

He updated the Board on the status of the water loss study. He stated that the staff was wrapping up placing every property in the District in the water loss study zones.

Mr. Ewbanks informed the Board on the Quarry water usage and the Board discussed continuing to monitor the Quarry's activities with respect to water usage.

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

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

Chief Simpkins informed the Board that there had been 28 hours of overtime paid. He stated that this was due mainly to sick leave taken during the month.

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

Chief Simpkins announced that there had been one random drug test during the month.

He concluded by updating the Board on the status of the fire station cleaning and maintenance that was ongoing.

Chairman Sims informed Chief Simpkins that the Board was very appreciative of the efforts of Captain Hope in repairing the Water Department's skid steer.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairman Sims updated the Board on his review of District contracts and informed them of some upcoming contracts that were due to be renewed.

Chairman Sims informed the Board that the investigation into alleged misuse of customer funds had been completed and the investigation revealed no abnormalities.

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 May 16, 2023.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Signed _____

