

BEULAH UTILITIES DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
May 16, 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 May 16, 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 was 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. Mr. Bryan 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 April 18, 2023. Mr. Majors motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Approval of April 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 April. Mr. Ewbank briefed the Board on the Water Department's April financial statements and Chief Simpkins then briefed the Board on the Fire Department's March financial statements. Mr. Majors motioned to approve the April financial

statements. The motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and the April 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 the progress of construction. He stated that the last concrete had been poured and that they were now working on the interior framing.

B. ARPA Funds

Mr. Ewbank was recognized and informed the Board that he had no update this month. He stated that everything had been submitted to the County for review.

C. DWSRF Funds

Chairman Sims informed the Board that the District had received approval from the Corp of Engineers for boring under the Lake.

D. East Alabama Agreement

No update.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Auditor's Report

Chairman Sims stated that the audit report was not ready and that it was still being worked on.

B. Cameras for Front Office

Chairman Sims informed the Board of the four new cameras that have been installed in the front office. He stated that this would cost approximately \$3,600.00.

C. 266 Tank Site

The Board discussed with Mr. Ewbank the graveling of the entire tank site versus installing just a gravel driveway. After discussion Ms. Holt motioned to approve installing a gravel driveway at both of the water tanks. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and unanimously approved.

D. Clearwater Solutions Report

Mr. Zach Ewbank was recognized and briefed the Board on Clearwater's activities over the past month. Mr. Ewbank then informed the Board that there were two adjustments for the month:

Elisabeth Moore in the amount of \$211.60

Ginger Hammonds in the amount of \$1,731.45.

During discussion it was brought up that Ms. Hammonds adjustment request was due to some vandalism that she had suffered. After discussion the Board requested more information on the District's policy regarding adjustments for customers subject to vandalism. After discussion Ms. Holt motioned to approve the Elizabeth Moore adjustment for \$211.60. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and the adjustment was unanimously approved.

Mr. Ewbank then announced the leak incentive winner of for the month.

Mr. Ewbank and other Clearwater Representatives were recognized and reviewed a Line Loss Summary spreadsheet with the Board. The Clearwater Representatives updated the Board on the status of zoning the District for their water loss study.

E. Beulah Fire and Rescue Report.

Chief Blake Simpkins was recognized, and he informed the Board that one of the Department's auto pulses had failed testing. He stated that this meant that it could no longer be used on emergency calls. He stated that they were looking for a buyer for the equipment and if none were found then they would donate the equipment to the high school for training. Ms. Holt motioned to surplus the auto pulse equipment and the motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and unanimously approved.

Chief Simpkins then briefed the Board on the annual fire hydrant testing report. He stated that three additional fire hydrants were needed and requested that the Board authorize approval of the same. Ms. Holt motioned to purchase three new fire hydrants. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and unanimously approved.

Chief Simpkins informed the Board there have been a total of 74 calls the past month, two of which were fire calls. He then briefed the Board on the notable calls.

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

He announced that the Department had been given a tour of the Bartletts Ferry Dam. He stated that this would be beneficial in the event the Department ever had to respond to an emergency on the site.

He announced there has been one random drug test the prior month.

Chief Simpkins announced that the Department had received a \$5,000.00 donation from the Lake Harding Owners Association. He stated the donation was very much appreciated.

Chief Simpkins updated the Board on the Fire Departments community involvement in the prior month. He also informed the Board of the tour he recently had of the new County EMA building.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE.

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

A. Mr. Robert Ham of 322 Willow Creek was recognized and stated that he was proud of the work that had been done by all the Board Members and Clearwater staff to get the District to where it was today.

12. **NEXT MEETING**

Chairman Sims stated that the next regular Board meeting would be at 6:00 PM CST on June 20, 2023.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ms. Holt motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM CST.

Signed_____

