

BEULAH UTILITIES DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
May 21, 2024
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 21, 2024, 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, Lamar Sims, and Andrew Bryan.

Absent: James Majors.

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. Jackson 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 16, 2024. Mr. Jackson motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

7. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. Approval of April 2024 Financial Statements

Chief Blake Simpkins was recognized, and he reviewed the April financial statements for the Board. Ms. Holt motioned to approve the April financial statements. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and the April 2024 financial statements were unanimously approved.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. ARPA Funds.

Chairman Sims informed the Board that the District had received the report back on the water meters that had been sent off for testing. Chairman Sims recognized Mr. Jeff Aston to brief the Board on the report. Mr. Aston stated that the report showed that only four (4) of the meters tested below 90% accuracy with the lowest being about 66% accurate. Mr. Aston then reviewed other results from the testing.

The Board then discussed the results of the testing and the need for water meter replacement versus service line only replacement. After discussion the Board requested that Mr. Aston provide the Board with an estimate for the cost of service line only replacement.

B. DWSRF Funds.

1. Lake Crossing at Long Bridge

Chairman Sims informed the Board that ADEM had verified that it would be able to provide additional funding to make up the gap in funding for this project. Chairman Sims said that the preconstruction meeting was scheduled for this coming Thursday.

C. Policy changes regarding concrete around water meters.

No Update.

D. Water Loss.

Chairman Sims informed Mr. Jeff Aston that the Board would like to see the spreadsheet showing the leaks in the system. Mr. Aston informed the Board that he would begin providing those spreadsheets again.

Mr. Aston was recognized and reviewed the water loss report for the Board. He stated that daily leaks were creeping up and that there were lots of leaks and demands for taps. He updated the Board on communications with Lee County regarding the water use by County employees. He also updated the Board on the main break that occurred due to County construction. He stated that the costs for the repair of that main break would be billed to the County for reimbursement. He then updated the Board on future County construction and the plan for handling the water main in that area.

The Board discussed checking lake crossing mains to look for leaks.

E. Fire Hydrant Repair Schedule.

Mr. Jeff Aston presented the Board with a fire hydrant repair quote from Water Services Group, LLC. The Board reviewed and discussed the quote and requested that a revised quote with better figures be provided by the vendor.

F. Team Project Updates.

No Update.

G. Lead and Copper Study Updates.

The Board discussed how to implement a study to comply with the requirements of the EPA's new Lead and Copper Rule. Mr. Jeff Aston was recognized, and he presented a Clearwater Solutions Proposal for a Lead and Copper Survey. The Board said they would review the quote and make a decision at a future meeting.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Transitional Item Checklist (separate report).

Chairman Sims presented a checklist to the Board for all the items that need to be handled as the Board transitioned from Clearwater Management of the Water Department to self-management. During the discussion it was determined to add cyber security and SCADA contracts to the list.

B. District Insurance Policy Review.

Chairman Sims updated the Board on the review of the insurance policies. He said that the insurance broker would provide the District with an updated quote.

C. Letter to GMC Requesting Infrastructure Data.

Chairman Sims updated the Board on the response received from Goodwyn, Mills & Caywood to the District's letter.

D. Fuel Tank Contract vs. WEX Fleet Card.

Chief Blake Simpkins was recognized, and he informed the Board on an issue that had been encountered with the payment of the WEX Fleet fuel card balance. Chief Simpkins and the Board discussed the various ways to handle purchasing fuel for the District's vehicles. After discussions Chief Simpkins said he would study the options and report back to the Board.

E. Beulah Utilities District 2023 Annual Water-Quality Report.

The Board reviewed the Water Quality Report for 2023 that had recently gone out. Chairman Sims noted that the report contained a notice of a monitoring violation resulting from monitoring violations in 2022. He questioned Clearwater on why the Board had not heard of these violations until reviewing this Report. Mr. Aston and Clearwater staff explained for the Board the nature of the violations, when they occurred, and why they had to be included on the 2023 Report.

F. Business Office Position.

Chairman Sims inform the Board that there was a need to fill an additional business office position. The Board discussed whether to fill that position with a full-time or part-time employee. After discussion Mr. Jackson motioned to fill the position with a full-time general office clerk. The motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and unanimously approved.

G. Clearwater Solutions Report.

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

Mr. Aston stated that there was one adjustment for the month:

Marianne Miller	\$154.80
-----------------	----------

Ms. Holt motioned to approve the adjustment. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson and the adjustment was unanimously approved.

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

G. Beulah Fire and Rescue Report.

Chief Blake Simpkins was recognized to give the Fire and Rescue report for the month. He stated that there were a total of 73 calls, 6 of which were fire calls. He then briefed the Board on the notable calls for the month.

Chief Simpkins stated that there had been 7 hours of excess overtime worked during the month. He said that this was due to fire responses as well as attendance at community programs.

Chief Simpkins then briefed the Board on the training activities conducted by the department during the past month.

He informed the Board that there had been one random drug test.

Chief Simpkins then announced that the Lake Harding Owner's Association had made a \$5,000.00 donation to the Fire Department.

He then briefed the Board on the Department's attendance at various community events over the past month.

Chief Simpkins then updated the Board on the purchase of the Gator approved at last month's meeting.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE.

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

Terrell and JoAnn Hollis of 1194 Lee Road 360 were recognized. They informed the Board of numerous water line breaks on their street caused by the County garbage trucks.

12. **NEXT MEETING**

Chairman Sims stated that the next regular meeting the at 6:00 PM CST on June 18, 2024.

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 7:33 PM CST.

Signed _____

