

BEULAH UTILITIES DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
February 18, 2025
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 February 18, 2025, 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.

Absent: David Jackson, 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 January 28, 2025. The Board discussed certain amendments to the minutes regarding the new Water Department position. After discussion, Ms. Holt motioned to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Majors and the amended Minutes were unanimously approved.

7. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending 2024 from Jackson Thornton

A representative from the District's audit firm, Jackson Thornton, was recognized and briefed the Board on the Audit Report for the Year Ending 2024. She stated that the audit was a clean audit with no issues detected. She noted that the audit showed a decrease in the District's net position. She said that this was attributable to a decrease in cash as well as a re-designation of cash.

After the briefing, Mr. Majors motioned to accept the Audit Report. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and the Audit Report was unanimously accepted.

B. Approval of January 2025 Financial Statements

Mr. Andrew Bryan entered the meeting.

Blake Simpkins was recognized, and he reviewed the January financial statements for the Board. After discussion, Mr. Majors motioned to approve the January financial statements. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and the motion was unanimously approved.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. ARPA Funds.

Chairman Sims informed the Board that the engineer had sent preliminary bid documents to the District for review.

Mr. Jeff Williams was recognized, and he informed the Board that information had been sent to the engineers to revise the scope and figures for the project.

B. DWSRF Funds.

1. Lake Crossing at Long Bridge

Mr. Jeff Williams updated the Board on the status of the project.

C. Fire Hydrant Repair Schedule.

Blake Simpkins was recognized, and he announced that he had delegated fire hydrant operations to one of the Fire Department's Captains.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None

10. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Administrative Report.

Blake Simpkins was recognized, and he presented the Administrative Report to the Board. He announced that all full-time positions had been filled, including the new Fire Captain and Water Department position.

He stated that he was working with Ms. Holt on the update to the District's employee leave policy discussed at the January meeting.

Mr. Williams updated the Board on the status of the PRV and Tank Maintenance projects. He stated that two of the PRV's had been delivered and the remainder were on order. He said that the tank maintenance work was expected to start in early March.

Chief Simpkins announced that he and Mr. Williams would attend the Alabama Rural Water Conference in Montgomery in March.

The Board was informed that the GMC had been transferred to the Water Department and that the Ford F250 the Board approved the purchase of last month had been delivered.

B. Water Department Report.

Mr. Jeff Williams was recognized, he provided the Board with the monthly operations report. He stated that there were six active leaks and 31 active taps.

Mr. Williams presented the Board with the Adjustments for the month. He said there were 4 total adjustments totaling \$4,163.44. Mr. Bryan motioned to approve the adjustments. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and the adjustments were unanimously approved.

The Board then discussed the ServLine Water Loss Protection Service.

Mr. Williams brought to the Board a request from customer Robert McConnell to waive the \$400 meter set fee. The Board discussed this request and, after discussion, took no action on the waiver request.

Mr. Williams then updated the Board on some issues with the track bearings on the Department's Caterpillar. He said that it would cost approximately \$3,100 per side to replace the track bearings.

Mr. Williams then presented to the Board a plaque to honor longtime employee Jud Sands who had recently passed away. He said that the plaque would hang in the Water Department's lobby.

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

The Board and Mr. Williams then discussed the status of leak reduction activities.

C. 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 117 calls, 8 of which were fire calls. He updated the Board on the notable calls that the Department had responded to.

Chief Simpkins stated that there had been 70 hours of excess overtime worked during the month. He said that this was due to additional staffing during the snowstorm in January.

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 during the month.

He told the Board that hose and ladder testing had been performed in January by SEMS and that all tested hose and ladders passed.

Chief Simpkins announced the donation of \$2,207.14 from the Lee County Commission. He said that this donation was received after paying \$650 towards the regional radio grant.

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

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

None

13. **NEXT MEETING**

Chairman Sims stated that the next regular meeting would be at 6:00 PM CST on March 18, 2025.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business Mr. Bryan motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Holt and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM CST.

Signed _____

