

**PEARLINGTON WATER & SEWER DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

July 15, 2015

The Board of Commissioners of the Pearlington Water and Sewer District met in official session on Wednesday, July 15, 2015, in the Pearlington Recovery Center.

In Attendance:

Absent:

Cabrina Bell, Commissioner

Rosa Jackson, Commissioner

James Lamy, Chairman

Denise Wilkinson, Commissioner

Zoe Bretzius-Bowers, PWSD General Manager

Ty Necaize, CPA

Mike Haas, Jr., Attorney

Chairman Lamy called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, followed by a moment of silent reflection.

PUBLIC REQUEST TO SPEAK

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Wilkinson, to approve June 17, 2015, Minutes. **Motion passed.**
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Wilkinson, to approve the July 2015 Docket. Discussion: Two credit card requests were added to the docket. **Motion passed.**
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Wilkinson, to approve the June 2015 Treasurer Report. **Motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

- Date of next regular monthly meeting is August 19, 2015, at the Pearlington Recovery Center.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- HCUA Activity Summary:
On July 14, 2015, a long meeting was held regarding the HCUA budget and the water costs. Bay St. Louis and Waveland have not begun to participate, but it appears they are giving consideration to the possibility. Chairman Lamy expressed the difficulty in preparing a budget when participants are

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uncertain. Three or four budget options have been presented to assist in resolving the budget issues.

Chairman Lamy emphasized the need to look closely at Pearlington operations to ensure that services were streamlined and efficient without causing any increase in cost to the customers when the SRF loan payments begin in August.

Pansy Maddox and Chere Wortham, representatives from the Health Department, were invited to address the Board on the issue of customer noncompliance. Ms Maddox offered to provide a letter from the Health Department which would contain their regulations and pertinent legal references to state law. Emphasis was placed on the fact that infraction of MS Code 41-3-59 could result in a \$500. per day fine and/or 6 months in jail. In the event that continued customer noncompliance resulted in a decision by the Pearlington Water and Sewer District to disconnect sewer service, the District would need to keep the Health Department informed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bell, to authorize the PWSD General Manager to develop a sewer disconnect policy for review and approval at the next Board meeting. **Motion passed.**

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A reminder was provided to Board members by Commissioner Wilkinson that the June Treasurer's Report and future treasurer's reports would be directly aligned with the monthly bank statements. Unprocessed checks would no longer appear on the treasurer's reports.

CPA'S REPORT (TY NECAISE)(2 Attachments)

- Monthly Budget Report was presented. Mr. Necaise stated that the District should be within the budget for the current fiscal year. In October, budget changes will be necessary due to required RUS loan payments, SRF loan payments, and higher insurance premiums. The budget committee should expect to meet within the next week or two.
- Mr. Necaise explained that for the purpose of saving money the printer lease would be allowed to expire and a printer would be purchased by the District. The savings would be about \$1000. a year.
- DSL by Air has not worked well for the District. Mr. Necaise presented a less expensive option for maintaining Internet service through DSL by Air that would allow for a trial period to test effectiveness.
- Hancock Bank has issued the District a credit card fee waiver.
- The address for the PWSD website will be pwsd.ms.gov. A grant is available for building the website at no cost to the District
- A customer complaint was received in the PWSD office about an increase in a sewer bill that resulted from filling a swimming pool. Four people have complained of this issue. **Motion** was made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve requested sewer adjustments to 3 accounts for a total amount of \$28.35 due to sewer bill increases that were prompted by use of water to fill swimming pools. **Motion passed.**

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- Mr. Necaise requested that the Board consider a written response to hand customers who tell office personnel they are disconnecting service and/or refuse to pay. Chairman Lamy asked Attorney Haas to look at the ordinance to see if there is a way to resolve the customers' misunderstanding.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT (1 Attachments)

Operations:

PWSD General Manager expressed concern that issues with mail delivery are continuing to be a problem.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- Attorney Haas addressed the collection letter the Board asked him to draft. Chairman Lamy has a copy of the letter.
- Preliminary research has been conducted by Attorney Haas on attorney general opinions and some of the laws dealing with disconnects.
- He e-mailed other local entities' water agreements to Chairman Lamy, noting the differences in the agreements. He pointed out that the water supply agreement with Bay St. Louis, Waveland, and PWSD was initially for a term of four years and it renews every two years. If PWSD were able to fund a different water source, the PWSD could choose not to renew the water agreement.
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bell, to approve Seymour Engineering's Project Manager Nancy Depreo to perform Grant Pre-application Services for 12 hours at a cost of \$1400.00. Discussion: potential projects for consideration. **Motion passed.**
- **Motion** by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bell, to authorize Attorney Haas to send a letter to HCUA regarding PWSD concerns about making payments on the SRF loan. **Motion passed.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bell, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion passed.**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Denise Wilkinson, Secretary/Treasurer

James Lamy, Chairman