

**PEARLINGTON WATER & SEWER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
October 2023**

The Board of Commissioners of the Pearlington Water and Sewer District met in official session on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, in the Pearlington Recovery Center.

In Attendance:

Absent:

Nolan Pansano, Chairman
Cabrina Bell, Vice Chairman
Rosa Jackson, Treasurer
John Pavlovich, Commissioner
Debra Sonnier, Secretary
Derek Cusick, Attorney
Ty Necaie, CPA
Scott Burge, Engineer

Vice Chairman Bell called the official meeting to order at 3:04pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

Attachment 1A

APPROVAL TO THE AGENDA

MOTION to accept the agenda as presented. Attachment 1C. **PASSED**

Moved: Jackson
Seconded: Sonnier
Ayes: All

REQUEST TO SPEAK (Guest Presentation)

Jilean Dennee (Installation)

- Customer came to the meeting and requested 100% forgiveness of the installation cost to her home. The Board took her proposal under advisement and deferred discussion to executive session due to the potential for litigation of the matter.

James Baldree (Leak)

- Customer stated that his meter is not working properly. He requested we investigate the meter. He plans to attend the meeting to request a leak adjustment next month.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

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NEW BUSINESS

MOTION to approve the October 2023 Docket of Claims. Attachment 4A. **PASSED.**

Moved: Jackson
Seconded: Pavlovich
Ayes: All

MOTION to approve the September 2023 Treasurer's Report. Attachment 4B. **PASSED.**

Moved: Jackson
Seconded: Pavlovich
Ayes: All

MOTION to approve September 2023 regular meeting minutes. Attachment 4C. **PASSED.**

Moved: Pavlovich
Seconded: Bell
Ayes: All

MOTION to approve August 2023 special meeting minutes. Attachment 4D. **PASSED.**

Moved: Pavlovich
Seconded: Bell
Ayes: All

MOTION to approve September 2023 recess meeting minutes. Attachment 4E. **PASSED.**

Moved: Pavlovich
Seconded: Bell
Ayes: All

OPERATOR'S REPORT

Discussion: High Water Loss

- Zoe updated the board on her search for the major water leak that the District has had for the past few months. The leak still has not been found and Rural Water has been on site assisting in the search.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Discussion: Western WWTF Outfall Relocation Project

- Contractor has installed approximately 2 miles of the 5 miles (40%) of force main pipe. Installation is complete on White's Road and is currently proceeding along Whipple Road.
- Boring contractor will be directional boring outfall into the Pearl River this week.
- Value of the total contract work completed is 23%.

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ENGINEER'S REPORT (continued)

Discussion: Stennis Wastewater Conveyance Project

- Preliminary design of force main is complete.
- Preliminary design of 2 pump stations is nearing completion.
- Property survey completed for the 2 pump station parcels. Attorney is obtaining appraisal for acquisition of the properties.
- Soil borings at pump station sites are scheduled in the next few weeks.
- Project is expected to be ready to bid in early 2024.

Discussion: Oak Harbor Acquisition

- Utility Services is in the process of selling other utility systems. Once they finalize this other sell, which is anticipated by the end of the year, they will focus on the sell of Oak Harbor.
- It appears that they will be transferring the Oak Harbor system, at no cost.

BUSINESS REPORT

Discussion: Budget Report

- The District had a total deficit of \$62,665 for the fiscal year 2023. This is approximately \$6,988 more than the budgeted expenditures.

Discussion: Rate Increase

- The Board discussed the need for a rate increase due to the likelihood that the District will continue having a deficit and will not be able to balance the budget.

Discussion: Pump Purchases

- By request of the board, we determined that 54 pumps have been purchased since January 1, 2023, for a total of \$22,545.

Discussion: Compliance Update

- The District has not identified any new non-compliant customers since the last meeting. The Hosty and Arnold cases are both proceeding as scheduled.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Discussion: HCUA Meeting

- Mr. Cusick updated the Board on events that took place at the HCUA meeting. No action was taken as a result of this discussion.

Discussion: Dennee Litigation

- The Board was advised that they may enter closed session to discuss the need for an executive session regarding potential litigation over the Dennee installation.

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BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION to close the meeting and discuss the need for an executive session. **PASSED**

Moved: Jackson

Seconded: Pavlovich

Ayes: All

MOTION to enter executive session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to 25-41-7(4)a. **PASSED**

Moved: Bell

Seconded: Pavlovich

Ayes: All

MOTION to exit executive session. **PASSED**

Moved: Jackson

Seconded: Bell

Ayes: All

MOTION to come out of closed session and resume the open meeting. **PASSED**

Moved: Jackson

Seconded: Sonnier

Ayes: All

Attorney Cusick announced that no official actions of record were taken during the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 5:20pm. **PASSED.**

Moved: Jackson

Seconded: Bell

Ayes: All

Approved in November 15 meeting

Debra Sonnier, Secretary

Date