

February 2021

The Board of Commissioners of the Pearlington Water and Sewer District met in official session on Wednesday February 17, 2021 in the Pearlington Recovery Center.

In Attendance:

Absent:

Cabrina Bell, Vice Chairman
Rosa Jackson, Commissioner
James Lamy, Chairman
John Pavlovich, Commissioner
Nolan Pansano, Commissioner
Ty Necaise, CPA
Scott Burge, Engineer
Zoe Bowers, PWSD Operator
Caroline Haas, Attorney

Chairman Lamy called the official meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was said, followed by a moment of silent.

Chairman Lamy introduced our new Board Member, Nolan Pansano, who replaced James Bennett. PWSD took a moment to welcome him to the board. PWSD plans to get a plaque for James Bennett.

Call Roll Sign in Sheet (Attachment 1A).

Amendment to Agenda –None.

Agenda – Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice Chairman Bell, to accept amended agenda as presented. (Attachment 1C). **Motion Passed 100%**.

Date of the next regular monthly meeting: March 17, 2021. (Attachment 1D).

REQUEST TO SPEAK (Guest Presentation)

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Tabled: HCUA turnover of PWSD Infrastructure.

Tabled: Mandatory connection for customers who are still using their well. Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson and seconded by Commissioner Pavlovich to have Attorney Haas to revise the letter to show if residents staying on their well, PWSD will have to meter water going into sewer system. (Attachment 3B). **Motion Passed 100%**.

Discussion: Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson seconded by Commissioner Pavlovich to authorize CPA Necaise to shop for a new bank depository due to increasing fees at our current bank and

to accept if the new bank does not exceed old fees. Commissioner Jackson rescinded motion per Attorney Caroline Haas recommendation we wait for banking information to be received and have an emergency meeting to making decision. **Tabled.**

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice Chairman Bell to approve the February 2021 Docket of Claims. (Attachment 4A). **Motion Passed 100%.**

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bell, seconded by Commissioner Pavlovich to approve the Minutes of January 2021 meeting. (Attachment 4B). **Motion passed 100%.**

OPERATOR'S REPORT

Operator Zoe. No Report.

ENGINEER REPORT

Discussion: Engineer Burge stated we could possibly hear next month, in March, if funds have been awarded for the Oak Harbor Project. Chairman Lamy is wanting to know if PWSD should move forward with purchase of Oak Harbor System. Engineer Burge stated if PWSD has funding we should set down at the table and start negotiating a price. Engineer Burge stated when funding is awarded PWSD should be ready to move forward. Chairman Lamy stated we will put Oak Harbor on the Agenda for vote at next meeting if we want to purchase now or wait. GOMESA funding included purchase cost and BP funding is for sewer infrastructure repairs.

CPA REPORT

CPA Necaise stated he was able to get the copier moved and computers. Things are working better and PWSD came under budget to make these changes. CPA Necaise stated the District is waiting on the billing software to be installed, then the new checkout station will be fully functional.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Caroline Haas stated the office has spoken with the attorney for American Public who is the owners of the 7th Avenue property and they have agreed to pay PWSD \$1,500.00 plus the standard cost for reconnection of water and sewer. American Public has also agreed to pay attorney's fees of \$600.00 and court costs. Attorney Caroline Haas stated the office will still pursue the charges against the occupants in the home for damages caused to PWSD property. Attorney Caroline Haas stated an injunction will be filed for continued pollution being discharged on the property. With the injunction if it is violated, occupants will be taken back to court and could face jail time and fine.

Attorney Caroline Haas stated the office does not recommend any changes to the current Ordinance.

Rosa Jackson was reappointed to the Board and new board member Nolan J. Pansano was appointed.

CPA Necaise asked Attorney Caroline Haas to contact the County Board of Supervisors to have a correction made to the appointments of Rosa Jackson and Nolan J Pansano. The County Board of supervisors has both terms expiring at the same time. Attorney Caroline Haas stated her office will send a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting a correction be made to appointments. (Attachment 8A)

Attorney Caroline Haas excused herself from the meeting for the discussion on the proposals received for legal services.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Chairman Lamy gave report during the Attorney's report.

OTHER BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

None.

Tabled: Motion to authorize increase of retainer for legal services to \$800.00 per month. (Attachment C).

Chairman Lamy and Vice Chairman Bell gave their report on the interview with Attorney Derek Cusick. Both Chairman Lamy and Vice Chairman Bell were impressed and felt he would meet all PWSD legal concerns.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pansano, seconded by Commissioner Pavlovich to offer Derek Cusick the Attorney position for PWSD. Further discussion. PWSD received 3 proposals and Derek Cusick was the lowest. One proposal was declined due to conflict of interest. **Motion Passed 100%**

PWSD Board suggested Chairman Lamy contact Mike Haas, the current attorney, to advise him of the change and to thank him for the years of service to the District.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice Chairman Bell, to adjourn meeting @ 6:48 p.m.

Approved in March 17, 2021 meeting

Rosa Jackson, Secretary/Treasurer

 James Lamy, Chairman