

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

November 2020

The Board of Commissioners of the Pearlington Water and Sewer District met in official session on Wednesday November 16, 2020 in the Pearlington Recovery Center.

In Attendance:

Cabrina Bell, Vice Chairman
Rosa Jackson, Commissioner
John Pavlovich, Commissioner
Michael Haas, Attorney
James Lamy, Chairman
Zoe Bowers, PWSD Operator
Ty Necaise, CPA
James Bennett, Commissioner

Absent:

Scott Burge, Engineer

Chairman Lamy called the official meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was said, followed by a moment of silent.

Call Roll Sign in Sheet (Attachment 1A.)

Amendment to Agenda –None.

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

Date of the next regular monthly meeting: December 16, 2020.

REQUEST TO SPEAK (Guest Presentation)

Dawny Ginter, of AFLAC came to present a health insurance plan for PWSD to offer the employees of PWSD. PWSD does currently have a reimbursable plan this will offer the employees many more options. This plan will not cost the District any money. Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice Chairman Bell accept the AFLAC insurance for the PWSD employees. (Attachment 2A). **Motion Passed 100%**.

Jeremy Lee came before the board he commented that the payment plan we offered was too high for him. Mr. Lee stated he had his attorney send a letter requesting we let Mr. Lee pay \$250.00 down and \$50.00 a month for five (5) years to pay for sewer installation. The PWSD board advised there is no policy to allow this and we cannot agree to such terms.

Sandy Shaw requested to be connected to District water. She was told she had to pay her past due balance in full to connect. Her balance consisted of old water charges from 2014-2015 and the District had received a judgement against her in court. Sandy had never connected to the District's water system. The Board discussed customers that were currently on their well but were not paying for water. Chairman Lamy

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stated we should start sending bills to all residents who are on their wells. They should get a minimum water bill of \$20.00. After a very lengthy discussion the Board determined there was a billing error, and when her judgement was paid, she had accrued more water charges even though she was not connected to our system. Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice Chairman Bell that the PWSD connect Sandy Shaw to our system when her water lines are installed. **Motion Passed 100%.**

Further discussion. Chairman Lamy requested we research to determine if the District allowed customers to hook up to sewer only and not pay for water. He also requested we look up the date of the ordinance and have letters sent to the residents who are hooked up to their well and request they pay a minimum bill of \$20.00.

OLD BUSINESS

Tabled HCUA turnover of PWSD Infrastructure. (Agenda 3A).

AFLAC insurance for employees was voted on with Agenda item 2A.

Discussion: Operator Zoe presented a new installation quote sheet which was discussed and the PWSD board asked to have more detailed information about prices on the water and step tanks. (Attachment 3D.)

Motion to authorize increase in retainer fee for legal service to \$800.00 and to ratify rate increase for Attorney Mike Haas and Caroline Haas to \$200.00 and \$150.00 per hour was tabled until other Board Member Reports. (Attachments 3F.)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice Chairman Bell to approve the November 2020 Docket of Claims. (Attachment 4A). **Motion Passed 100%.**

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bell, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the Minutes of October 2020 meeting. (Attachment 4B). **Motion passed 100%.**

Motion was made was made by Vice Chairman Bell, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to approve the October 2020 Treasure's Report. (Attachment 4C). **Motion Passed 100%.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice Chairman Bell to approve the 2021 Holiday Schedule. (Attachment 4E). Motion Passes 100%.

Discussion: There will be no Christmas Party due to Covid-19. PWSD Board Members will personally buy employees a gift.

OPERATOR'S REPORT

No further discussion.

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ENGINEER REPORT

No report.

CPA REPORT

No further discussion.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Mike Haas stated he looked, into the 7th Avenue property and it appears the property owners who owe the District for damage to the system own the property again. American Public purchased the property through the Hancock County tax sale and allowed the occupant to remain in the home which had no working sewer or water. Attorney Haas stated we won a judgement against the resident and had a lean on property. Attorney Haas stated he will file a motion to the courts to have the homeowner to stop polluting and to hook up to PWSD water and sewer. (Attachment 8A).

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Chairman Lamy stated that he is the Vice chairman for HUCA, and he chaired the last meeting and feels that Waveland and Bay St. Louis is close to buying water.

OTHER BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

The Board discussed the rate increase for Attorney Mike Haas and Attorney Caroline Haas.

Motion to increase monthly retainer to \$800.00 a month failed for lack of a 2nd.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Pavlovich to approve the rate increase for Mike Haas and Caroline Haas to \$200.00 and \$150.00 per hour respectively. (Attachment 8B). **Motion passed 100%.**

Motion by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice Chair Bell to request proposals for legal services. **Motion passed 100%.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bell, to adjourn meeting @ 7:29 p.m.

Approved in January 20, 2021 meeting

Rosa Jackson, Secretary/Treasurer

James Lamy, Chairman