

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

September 20, 2017

The Board of Commissioners of the Pearlington Water and Sewer District met in official session on Wednesday, September 20, 2017, in the Pearlington Recovery Center.

In Attendance:

Absent:

James Lamy, Chairman
James Bennett, Commissioner
Rosa Jackson, Commissioner
Denise Wilkinson, Commissioner
Zoe Bretzius-Bowers, PWSD General Manager
Ty Necaise, CPA
Michael Haas, Attorney

Cabrina Bell, Vice Chairman (joined by phone)

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

Agenda – Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to accept the agenda as amended to add executive session for a personnel matter. **Motion passed.**

Request to Speak (Guest Presentation)

- **Ben Taylor – Not Present**

OLD BUSINESS

- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to authorize clerical correction of August 16, 2017, agenda and minutes via nunc pro tunc provision. The correction was to list the docket as August 2017 and Treasurer’s Report as July 2017 on the agenda. **Motion passed.**
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2017, regular meeting of the PWSD Board of Commissioners. (*Attachment 3.B*) **Motion passed.**
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2017, Budget Workshop. (*Attachment 3.C*) **Motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

- Date of the next regular monthly meeting was announced as October 18, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. at the Pearlington Recovery Center.
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve the docket of claims for September 2017. (*Attachment 4.B*) **Motion passed.**
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to accept the August 2017 Treasurer’s Report. (*Attachment 4.C*) **Motion passed.**

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- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to accept the donation of a HP1536dnf printer/copier from Diamondhead Water and Sewer District. *(Attachment 4.D)* **Motion passed.**
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to authorize a leak adjustment to Account #455 in the amount of \$127.72 due to a meter error. **Motion passed.**

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Chairman Report

Chairman Lamy requested the report be held until after executive session.

CPA REPORT (TY NECAISE)

- **Fiscal Year 2018 Budget – Motion** was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to approve the Fiscal Year 2018 budget. *(Attachment 6.A)* **Motion passed.**
- **Employee Retirement Plan** - Mr. Ty Necaise presented a proposed retirement plan update. Board discussion followed. Mr. Necaise stated he would poll employees regarding interest in the proposed retirement plan. *(Attachment 6.B)*
- **Leak Adjustment Policy** – Mr. Necaise questioned the reasonableness of a “once-time” leak adjustment policy. Board discussion followed. The Board determined further research was needed to determine if the policy needed to be revised to better serve the needs of the customers. *(Attachment 6.C)*

OPERATOR REPORT

- Ms. Bowers provided an update on wastewater flow as related to billing by HCUA. *(Attachment 7.A)*

ENGINEER REPORT

- Mr. Scott Burge contacted the general manager of the Oak Harbor sewer and water system and he was receptive to meeting with representatives from the PWSD Board. Mr. Burge stated he would coordinate the meeting.
- **Motion** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve Task Order 2016-2 to authorize study of Oak harbor. *(Attachment 8.A)* **Motion passed.**

ATTORNEY REPORT

- Mr. Haas expressed that some of the delinquent accounts referred to him would not be feasible to pursue due to extenuating circumstances. Two of the accounts would be worthy of pursuit if the Board accepts his recommendation.
- A draft policy has been prepared for people with low to moderate income. The draft will be presented at the October meeting. *(Attachment 9.B)*

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- Research/follow-up is continuing on cross-connected customers. Two issues appear to be resolved. All other legal matters have been addressed, with the exception of residents who refused original hook-up to the water and sewer systems.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Wilkinson to close the regular meeting and enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing possible litigation, AG opinions, and personnel matters. **Motion** passed with Commissioners Lamy, Bell, Bennett, Jackson, and Wilkinson voting "Aye."

Executive Session entered at 5:50 p.m.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to exit executive session and re-open the regular meeting. **Motion** passed with Commissioners Lamy, Bell, Bennett, Wilkinson, and Jackson, voting "Aye."

Executive Session ended 6:22 p.m.

Chairman Report (continued)

HCUA Activity - Mr. Lamy voted against the proposed HCUA budget, but it was approved. The water rate went up to \$.90 a thousand gallons. He disagreed with the increase. Three of the four votes that caused the rate increase to pass are not participants in water purchase. The increase is designed to allow the purchase of needed equipment by HCUA. A motion was made to make the lift stations the responsibility of the districts within HCUA. This motion would cost PWSD about \$8000 a year. The motion was not approved, but it appears that the effort to pass the motion will continue at future meetings of HCUA.

ADJOURMENT

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

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Denise Wilkinson, Secretary/Treasurer

James Lamy, Chairman