

**Regular Meeting**  
**September 7, 2017**

Chairman Mr. Robinson called the regular meeting of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners of the City of Saraland, Alabama to order at 5:30 P.M. at the Saraland Water Service Conference room with the following Board Members present:

Present:  
Mr. H. O'Neil Robinson  
Mr. Ron Mitchell  
Mr. Scooter Thronson  
Mr. James Davis  
Mr. Jackie Haines

Absent:

Ms. Carah Hall, Board Engineer was present.

Mr. Robinson opened the meeting with prayer.

**Committee Reports:**

Mr. Mitchell reported that since the last board meeting One Hundred sixty-six (166) radio read meters have been installed, and a 6" water line was repaired along with 2 (two) ¾" service lines. The filter medium was replaced at Well #1 and an 18" valve was installed in the south tank.

Mr. Davis reported that since the last board meeting, Seventy-six (76) 811 locates have been worked for the Water and Sewer Departments. Twenty-two (22) work orders for water have been worked and three (3) work orders worked for the sewer department.

Mr. Haines reported that since the last board meeting, the Kubota lawnmower for the Water Department was repaired, and two chainsaws were service.

Mr. Thronson reported that the office is running smoothly, and all paperwork has been completed with Regions Bank for the credit card terminal to arrive along with the wiring for the terminals have been installed.

Mr. Robinson asked the Utilities Director to inform the rest of the Board about the guests that came to the Sewer Plant from Chicago and Canada. Mr. Hennis informed the Board that the guests were from Aqua Aerobic Systems (the company that designed the plant). They came to look at the Sewer Plant and all the repairs we have made to it. Aqua Aerobic was very satisfied with the work and repairs that we have made.

**Old Business:**

Mr. Robinson asked for an update on the Aaron Oil Discharge. Mr. Hennis informed the Board that he went over there to look at their meter and while he was there talked to some of the employees and they did inform Mr. Hennis that currently Aaron Oil is hauling the majority of their discharge to MAWSS. Mr. Hennis then figured some prices on an Aaron Oil truck to leave the Saraland location and head to the MAWSS discharge location and the cost of this trip, he believes that we should increase our rate based on this. Mr. Thronson made motion to RESEND the April 20, 2017 motion to charge Aaron Oil \$1.52 per pound for all industrial discharge over the ADEM set allowance, to (New Motion:) Mr. Thronson made motion to charge Aaron Oil .80 cent per pound for all industrial discharge over the ADEM set allowance effective September 11, 2017. Mr. Davis second the motion. By majority vote the Motion passed.

Mr. Robinson discussed the Bids for Highway 158. Ms. Hall informed the Board that the Bids for both water and sewer lines on Highway 158 were received and opened earlier that day, also added on the bids was a 6" force main that will not be active, it will just be tied into the existing man hole and will be there when someone is ready to tie onto it. Ms. Hall added by the next Board Meeting she will have a recommendation to be voted on and work could start around October.

Mr. Robinson talked about the test Well for #5. Ms. Hall informed the Board that she is still needing to secured the locations before the Board bids the project. The Board Members informed Ms. Hall to find and secure the locations so we can proceed.

Mr. Robinson discussed the water rate increase of 8% (eight percent). The Board decided to table this increase until next meeting.

Mr. Robinson asked for an update on the Maintenance building roof. The Board was told by Mr. Hennis, that he was still working on it.

**New Business:**

Mr. Robinson did inform the Board of the guests that had asked to be placed on the agenda (except one) and at this time he asked one of the three to state their problem. Mrs. Krissy Collins was first to address the Board. Mrs. Collins has received a very high water bill and though she has talked to the office staff it was decided for her to come and talk to the Board. After Mrs. Collins stated her complaint, Mr. Robinson said that her account was discuss and he apologized for no one calling her back but the bill will be corrected and she will pay her average monthly bill. Mrs. Collins thanked the Board and left the meeting. Mr. Charest was next to address the Board. His complaint was about rate increase and the Board agreeing to raise the rates on the sewer and water portion of everyone's bill. The Board informed Mr. Charest the reasoning why they agree to a rate increase, and after the Board's explanation Mr. Charest said he understood. Mr. Charest original complaint (why he did ask to be on the Agenda) was about the Board decision to charge the citizens of Saraland that have property in Saraland Sewer Service area a \$5.00 assessment fee, these are the citizens that has access to the sewer line but elect not to connect to it (residents currently hooked up to a septic tank), after the Board explained the assessment fee, Mr. Charest understood.

The next guest to address the Board was Mr. Skipper, his complaint was his quality of water, after much discussion it was decided by the Board that Mr. Hennis will come by the next day to check into his situation.

Mr. Robinson started the discussion of Water Service Operator I. Mr. Hennis, after the interview, would like for the Board to give him permission to pull Mr. Jones off the Mobile County Personnel Board list and hire him for this position. Mr. Davis made motion for Mr. Hennis to do so. Mr. Thronson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Robinson started the discussion of Sewer Treatment Plant Operator II. Mr. Hennis ask the Board to give him permission to pull Mr. Ard off the Mobile County Personnel Board list and hire him for this position. Mr. Davis made motion for Mr. Hennis to do so. Mr. Thronson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Robinson asked the Board to allow Mr. Hennis to purchase a Blower at the Sewer Plant. Mr. Thronson made motion for Mr. Hennis to purchase this Blower for the Sewer Plant. Mr. Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Robinson brought to the Board's attention the schedule of holidays for Saraland Water and Sewer Service located in their folders. Mr. Mitchell made motion to approve the holiday schedule for the 2017/2018 Saraland Water and Sewer Service. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### **INVOICES FOR RATIFICATION:**

WATER: American Tank Maintenance, LLC, inv#18394, dated 08/22/2017, in the amount of \$18,500.00, re: Well #1 Filter Tank, interior-#10-three coats. American Tank Maintenance, LLC, inv#18395, dated 08/22/2017, in the amount of \$4,200.00, re: Well #1 Filter Tank, exterior overcoat, PW 2/3, Spot & 1 Coat. Mr. Thronson made motion to pay the water invoice. Mr. Haines seconded. Motion passed.

SEWER: HercRentals, inv# 29442526-001, dated 08/11/2017, in the amount of \$2,454.29, re: rental of truck crane single DSL 18 T. REV Construction, project#S7510-2045, in the amount of \$151,224.69, re: I-65 Service Road/Highway 158, New Sewer Line. Suncoast Infrastructure, project# CDBG SAR-PW-16-001, in the amount of \$7,826.96, re: CDBG project, Payment #3 (FINAL). Sheppard Electric Motor SVC, inv#24988, dated 08/07/2017, in the amount of \$1,471.93, re: service call to replace 150hp motor. Supplied by customer. Sheppard Electric Motor SVC, inv#24954, dated 08/11/2017, in the amount of \$1,645.52, re: Wilo 20hp 230/460-volt submersible pump, disassemble and inspect, clean and blast. Mr. Mitchell made motion to pay the sewer invoices. Mr. Thronson seconded. Motion passed.

#### **Report of Offices:**

Mr. Mitchell reported that since the last Board meeting there are two CDs maturing on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September, interest rate and terms will be provided to the Board at next meeting, the time frame is still within the 10 (ten) day grace period for the Board to move these CDs if they so choose.

Mr. Davis reported that since the last Board meeting one safety meeting was held. Mr. Hennis and himself conducted an interview with Mr. Ard.

Mr. Robinson informed the Board that since Mr. Bell has these court dates with people that owe us money, and after Mr. Bell wrote a letter to the owners of 105 Delisa Drive, and the property owner has not responded to Mr. Bell's letter, he took it upon himself to write a letter to Mr. Black from the City of Saraland asking him to assist us in this matter, he has not at this time heard anything from Mr. Black. Mr. Robinson also informed the Board that our first meeting in December will be held at Stoney's. Mr. Robinson added that the 29<sup>th</sup> of this month (September) we will have the dedication to Mike Sullivan of the Maintenance Building at 3:00pm. Mr. Robinson also ask the Board Members to start thinking of an alternative solution for the new subdivisions being built out Celeste Road and the sewer capacity. Mr. Robinson also pointed out to the Board that Mr. Hennis did mention that the Smoke Test on the sewer lines will happen soon and the public needs to be aware/informed of the possibility of smoke coming out of their plumbing in their house, and the possibility of persons tied into storm drainage and how this will be handled.

Mr. Mitchell reported on behalf of Ms. Stallman (Grant Petitioner, which was not able to make the meeting). Mr. Mitchell reported that Ms. Stallman is telling the Board that the Restore Act is active again and that some of the rules have changed, it now will include Sewer Treatment Plants. Meetings will be held monthly and the next one (Public Input) will be the 27<sup>th</sup> of September at the Government Plaza Auditorium from 3:30pm to 5:30pm and it is advised that the Saraland Sewer Service should attend this meeting.

Mr. Hennis reported that the Sewer Treatment Plant is doing really good, good test results are coming back to us. Mr. Hennis also added that Saraland Water Service is doing good.

Ms. Hall reported that the sewer lining project of the Grant is finished, Ms. Stallman will bring the paper work next Board Meeting to "close" and finalize this project. Ms. Hall also reported that someone did come into the Sewer Plant and looked into the Grit removal, she is still waiting to hear back from them.

**Correspondence:**

Ltr from Mrs. Liana Barnett, Mobile County Personnel Board, dtd 08/18/2017, re: Lift Station Mechanic, Adrian D. Parker merit increase

Ltr to Mr. Daniel J. O'Donnell, PG, O'Donnell & Associates, Inc. dtd 08/17/2017, re: Request for review of documents and response, Master agreement dated September 9, 2009

Ltr to Mrs. Liana Barnett, Mobile County Personnel Board, dtd 08/18/2017, re: Bulletin No. 237, deadline for Bonus and Incentive requests.

Ltr from Mrs. Liana Barnett, Mobile County Personnel Board, dtd 08/15/2017, re: Multiple Positions.

Ltr from Mobile County Personnel Board, dtd 08/15/2017, re: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Email from ADEM, dtd 08/11/2017, re: Activity Notice

There being no further business to come before the Board, Motion by Mr. Thronson to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Haines. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 P.M.

ATTEST:

---

RATIFIED AND APPROVED:

---

---

---

---

---