

**Regular Meeting
January 20, 2022**

Chairman Mr. Mitchell called the regular meeting of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners of the City of Saraland, Alabama, to order at 5:33 P.M., at Saraland Water Service meeting room with the following Board members present:

Present

Mr. Jim Davis
Mr. Ron Mitchell
Mr. O'Neil Robinson

Absent

Mr. Jackie Haines
Mr. Scooter Thronson

Mr. Raymond Bell of Maynard, Cooper & Gale Law Firm was present. Ms. Cara Stallman our grant petitioner was present. Mr. Thomas Brymer of Volkert Engineering Firm was present.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting with a prayer.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Mitchell reported on flushable wipes causing problems in septic tanks and sewer systems. The Charleston Water System, which is a large system, they provide drinking water to approximately 450,000 customers and wastewater service to 180,000 customers. They have filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina last week, which denied a motion by major wipes manufacturers and distributors, dismissing a class action lawsuit, filed by Charleston Water System that aims to join the companies against the labeling of wipes as flushable because they cause considerable damage to sewer systems. The Judge agreed with the Charleston Water System that these are a problem, and they should stop doing it. However, with the amount of money Costco, CVS, Procter and Gamble, Target, Walgreens, and Walmart have, they might file a counter suit challenging the Judge's ruling on this matter. These wipes are a continuing problem, and we need to continue our campaign against them being flushable.

Mr. Robinson reported since the last Board Meeting multiple water lines repaired at the following locations: Lafitte Road, Church Street, Norton Avenue, Ideal Drive, Simms Drive, Thunderbird Drive and Joaneen Drive. An angle stop was replaced at each of the listed locations: 532 Second Avenue, 814 Mae Street, and 1130 Martha Alley Drive.

Mr. Davis reported since the last Board Meeting the outside completed 191 water and sewer Alabama 811 locates that have been processed and 38 work orders for water and 10 work orders for sewer.

New Business:

Mr. Mitchell introduced Mr. Stacy Waldrop to present the Property & General Liability Insurance Annual Renewal. Mr. Waldrop reported the insurance has an increase just under \$10,000.00 it would have been \$11,000.00 but you had savings in work-men compensation. There was also a sewer claim filed the first of the year. The work-men comp mod is decreasing. Mr. Mitchell asked what percentage the increase on this renewal is, Mr. Waldrop responded 11 percent. The industry standard increase is from 7 to 10 percent. Mr. Davis made a motion to renew the Insurance. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Mitchell opened the floor to Mr. Benjamin Purvis of Benson LLC to address the Board. Mr. Purvis was not in attendance.

Mr. Mitchell opened the discussion on ADEM SRF applications for Water and Sewer. Ms. Stallman reported the legislature has allocated money. There is \$500,000,000 in grant program money for problems with Water and Sewer Systems. The application deadline is February 1, 2022. Mr. Brymer coordinated with Ms. Stallman and Mr. Vaughn regarding potential SRF projects for both water and sewer facilities. Mr. Robinson made a motion to authorize Board Chairman, Mr. Ron Mitchell to sign the SRF applications. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Mitchell opened the conversation about the Emergency Water Connection and Contract between Saraland Water and Kushla Water. Mr. Davis made a motion to authorize Board Chairman, Mr. Ron Mitchell to sign a new agreement. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Invoices for Ratification:

Sewer Invoices:

- McFadden Engineering Inc., Invoice # 19-2698 dtd 1/3/2022, re: WWTP Operations Support, in the amount of \$1,721.25.
- Mission Communications, LLC., Invoice #1059492 dtd 1/17/2022, re: Annual WWTP notifications, in the amount of \$13,657.20.
- Volkert Engineering, Invoice #01312098, dtd 1/7/2022, re: Sanitary Sewer Collection System Master Plan, in the amount of \$2,400.00.

Mr. Davis made a motion to pool and pay invoices as listed. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Report of Officers:

No report of Officers.

Assistant Superintendent Report:

No report.

Attorney's Report:

No report.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Brymer reported the delivery schedule update for generators at the Deer Run, Forest Avenue and Celeste Road Lift Stations, is arrival at the end of March or beginning of April.

Grant Petitioner's Report:

No report.

Correspondence:

Well Source Data Report December 2021

There being no further business to come before the Board; Mr. Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Robinson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:04 P.M.

ATTEST:

RATIFIED AND APPROVED:
