

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR PUBLIC BOARD MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE CITY OF SARALAND, ALABAMA**

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners of the City of Saraland, Alabama (“SWSS”), after providing proper notice in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, met for a regular meeting in Saraland, Alabama on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at approximately 5:30 p.m. The following members of the Board were physically present at the meeting:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dewey “Scooter” Thronson, Chairman; Vice-Chairman; Drew Taylor, Nikhil Patel, and William Keeney were present. O’Neil Robinson was not present.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Saturn Ezell, Secretary-Treasurer and Nelson Willard were present.

**LEGAL COUNSEL:** Stewart Thames IV, Attorney, Maynard Nexsen PC, was present

**GUESTS:** Jett Byrne, and Ray Miller from Volkert, Cara Stallman from Grant Management, LLC were in attendance.

**DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made to approve February 19, 2026, meeting minutes. Motion passed 4-0.

**VISITOR’S WELCOME & OPEN DISCUSSION**

Mr. Miller gave updates to various ongoing projects. Mr. Miller reported on The Celeste Road project; there have been multiple complaints on a hole opened at Bernard Street during this project.

Several Bernard Street residents expressed their concern on the conditions of their road and not being notified of the delayed project on their street. Mr. Miller assured the Board and the residents these concerns are being resolved and the contractor should resume working on the project next week.

Dr. Rubenstein requested there be a change in the policy waiving late fees for payments made online that arrive late in the mail or that do not arrive at all as long as proof is provided that an effort was made to pay on time. The Board agreed to address this issue at a future meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Mr. Keeney reported on the various leak repairs, service line repairs and taps installed.

2. Mr. Patel reported twenty-eight (28) water locates, twenty-eight (28) sewer locates, and nine (9) customer concern cards being worked.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

2026 Partners in Progress Sponsorship – A motion was made to pay the \$500 partnership sponsorship with Saraland Chamber Foundation. Motion passed 4-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Cypress Hollow Subdivision Letter – After discussion, A motion was made to authorize Mr. Thronson to sign for the Cypress Hollow Letter and commission a survey. Motion passed 4-0.
2. Norton Creek Payment Application #1 – A motion was made to approve payment. Motion passed 4-0.
3. Norton Creek Payment Application #2 – A motion was made to approve payment. Motion passed 4-0.
4. Payments Arriving Late/Not Arriving from USPS and Being Returned to Sender – Mrs. Ezell discussed how the payments via online banking are processed, often over thirty (30) payments from different banks are in one envelope with many different payment dates, there is not a post mark date on these envelopes. The Board will readdress this issue at the next meeting.

### **INVOICES**

There are no invoices to approve for Water or Sewer at this meeting.

### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

None.

### **UTILITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

None.

### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Thames inquired about the status of the Saraland 158 Partners payment. Mrs. Ezell will follow up with AP clerk Ms. Graham Monday. Mr. Thames discussed progress on the pretreatment program.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

### **GRANT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Stallman discussed community funded projects that are available. The Board agreed for Ms. Stallman to submit the online form.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At approximately 6:17 p.m., the Chairman, with the assistance of legal counsel, declared there were items to be discussed that qualify for executive session under Alabama Code Section 36-25A-7 of the Alabama Open Meetings Act, including, but not limited to (1) the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation and controversies not yet being litigated, but imminently likely to be litigated if the governmental body were to pursue a certain course of action, (2) discussions related to certain consideration the SWSS might be willing to offer and/or accept in connection with the disposition of certain real estate and (3) preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade and commerce; whereby, an open discussion might be detrimental to the SWSS's efforts to advance the SWSS's business. In connection with any potential real estate matters to be discussed, Mr. Thames further apprised the Board that no member of the Board having a personal interest in any matter to be discussed in executive session could attend such session. The Chairman confirmed for the record that the representations made by Mr. Thames were accurate and stated the Board's intent to reconvene its meeting immediately at the conclusion of executive session. After a proper motion and second, the Board voted to enter executive session with all members present participating. At the conclusion of the executive session, the Board duly reconvened into open session. No further action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Following the executive session, the Board moved to adjourn at approximately 6:50 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary