

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE PEARL RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT HELD ON  
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020 AT 9:30 A.M. AT THE  
TIMBERLAKE CAMPGROUND  
NORTHSHORE CAUSEWAY, BRANDON, MISSISSIPPI**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District was held at 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at Timberlake Campgrounds, Northshore Causeway, Brandon, Mississippi.

Members Present: Jennifer Hall and Ben Evans

Present by Teleconference: Bruce Brackin, Billy Cook, Phillip Crosby, Lonnie Johnson, Kenny Latham, Samuel Mitchell, John Pittman, Tedrick Ratcliff Jr., Kenny Windham and Jack Winstead

Members Absent: W. C. Gorden

Others Present: John Sigman, Cindy Ford, Trevell Dixon, Michael Gober, Jason Temple

Others Present by Teleconference: Philip Huskey, Marcy Forester, Susan Brashear, Craig Hunt, Greg Burgess, Bobby Cleveland, Tammie Ballard, Jim Angle, Isaac Morris

President Jennifer Hall called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

President Hall asked for review of the minutes of April 16, 2020

Upon review of the minutes of meeting of the Board of Directors held April 16, 2020, a motion was made by Mr. Ben Evans for the minutes to be approved. Mr. Billy Cook seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

President Hall noted that all agenda items were being presented directly to the board, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. President Hall noted that individual committees did not meet in May.

President Hall asked Mr. Ben Evans, chairman of the selection committee for Chief of Police, to present the committee's findings.

Mr. Evans stated that the committee had been formed to find the replacement for Chief Perry Waggener, who had announced his retirement effective June 30<sup>th</sup>. The committee met and interviewed the in house candidates for the position, and had determined that Lt. Trevell Dixon was the most qualified and best choice for the position.

Mr. Ben Evans made a motion to accept the selection committee's choice of new Chief of Police, Trevell Dixon. Mr. Kenny Windham seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

President Hall asked for the next item to be presented.

Mr. Greg Burgess reviewed staff's request for the acceptance of the 2019 Formal Dam Inspection from Burns Cooley Dennis. Mr. Burgess reviewed the content of the inspection with the board members. Mr. Burgess noted that the report is submitted to the State of Mississippi Dam Safety office.

Mr. Burgess detailed the recommendations and long term action items contained in the report.

Mr. Samuel Mitchell asked if any of the recommendations were carryovers from previous years. Mr. Burgess stated that they were not.

Mr. Ben Evans made a motion to accept the 2019 Formal Dam Inspection Report from Burns Cooley Dennis as presented. Mr. Bruce Brackin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

President Hall asked for the next agenda item.

Mr. Philip Huskey stated that staff had been working with the Public Procurement Review Board on the contract for master electrician for the District. Mr. Huskey noted that the electrician has to be on call 24 hours a day to service the District's need. It is a contract over \$75,000 so it must go through the Public Procurement Review Board. The Public Procurement Review Board prefers invitations to bid, but the District has asked for a waiver in order to use the Request for Proposal process in order to allow for more specificity to the requirements of the service. Staff expects to receive approval of the waiver at the Public Procurement Review Board's Meeting June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. In order to keep the process moving, Mr. Huskey stated that staff is asking for permission to approve the advertisement of Request for Proposals for District Wide Electrical Services contract, immediately following the approval of the waiver from Public Procurement Review Board, so the District would not have to wait until the Board's July 18 meeting.

Mr. Billy Cook made the motion to approve the Request for Proposals for District Wide Electrical Services Contract, pending final approval of the waiver from Public Procurement Review Board. Mr. Jack Winstead seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

President Hall asked for the next item.

Mr. John Sigman reviewed staffs request for approval of aerial spraying contract for 2020 with the board. Mr. Sigman noted that the proposed spraying contract would cover 618 acres, with 131 within Pelahatchie Bay for the salvinia and the remainder focused up river North of Highway 43. Mr. Sigman noted that staff recommends acceptance of Aerial Forestry Services bid of \$65.77 per acre. Aerial Forestry Services had the second lowest proposal. Mr. Sigman noted that staff experienced problems with performance and communication with the other bidder during their previous contract with the District.

Mr. Sigman noted that this spraying was outside of the aquatic weed spraying contract with Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. Mr. Sigman stated that MDWFP was consulted in the development of the spraying plan and would be assisting with the management process.

Mr. Tedrick Ratcliff, Jr. asked if MDWFP handled aerial spraying "in house". Mr. Sigman stated that they sub-contract their aerial spraying.

President Hall asked Mr. Huskey if the board can accept the second lowest bid under these circumstances. Mr. Huskey stated the board could accept the second lowest proposal when the District had experienced problems with performance and communication with the other bidder in previous contracts. The board could take prior experience with a contractor into consideration when making its award.

Mr. Samuel Mitchell made a motion to award contract for aerial spraying for 2020 to Aerial Forestry Services, Inc. in the amount of \$65.77 per acre, as presented. Mr. Kenny Latham seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: Ratcliff. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY.**

President Hall asked for the next agenda item.

Mr. Michael Gober reviewed staffs request for approval of grant application for playground equipment for Pelahatchie Shore Park. Mr. Gober noted that the grant is through MDWFP Land/Water Conservation program. It is a 50/50 grant. Mr. Gober noted that depending on the amount of the award, they may be changes to the plan to include benches and a different surface material.

Mr. Jack Winstead made a motion to approve the application for grant for playground equipment for Pelahatchie Shore Park. Mr. Billy Cook seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: Ratcliff. **MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY.**

President Hall asked for the next item.

Mr. John Sigman noted that, in past action of the board, staff was given directive as unimproved campground pads were vacated, to not have new campers reoccupy until enhancements were completed on the pads. Entergy has begun pulling the electric meters on unused pads and has indicated that the meters may not be replaced until system wide electrical modifications are made at a great cost to the District.

Staff is asking for the board to allow the use of the unenhanced pads by campers on the waiting list, so that the District does not lose the electrical meter service at these pads. The campers on the waiting list will be contacted in their wait order. Pads will continue to be enhanced as the funding is approved.

Mr. Billy Cook made a motion to allow the campers to utilize the vacant unimproved camper pads, as outlined by staff. Mr. Kenny Latham seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

President Hall asked for the financial items presented.

Mr. Billy Cook presented the Per Diem and Travel report for April 2020.

Mr. Billy Cook made a motion to approve the Per Diem and Travel report for April 2020, as presented. Mr. Jack Winstead seconded the motion.

President Hall asked for any comments or questions. None were offered.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Cook presented the Cash Balance Report.

Mr. Billy Cook a motion to approve the Cash Balance Report, as presented. Mr. Kenny Windham seconded the motion.

President Hall asked for any comments or questions. None were offered.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chairman Cook then presented the Claims Docket for May 2020. The board discussed the docket with staff.

Mr. Billy Cook made a motion to approve the Claims Docket for May 2020, as presented. Mr. Ben Evans seconded the motion.

President Hall asked for any comments or questions. None were offered.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Police Lt. Trevell Dixon reviewed the police report for April 2020 with the board. Lt Dixon also noted the Top Cop 2020 awarded officer Jordan St. Hilaire, and the letter of praise received for officers St. Hilaire and Dan Smira.

Mr. Philip Huskey reviewed the lease collection report for April 2020.

Officer Michael Gober reviewed the campground and parks collection report for April 2020.

Mr. Isaac Morris reviewed March and April's Property Maintenance Report and also the inspections report.

President Hall noted the email included in the package praising Mr. Morris for his work in property maintenance.

Mr. Bobby Cleveland noted a full survey of Pelahatchie Bay had just been completed and no new growth or live salvinia had been found in the past month. We are entering peak growing season, so if it is to return we should see it develop June or July.

Mr. John Sigman then gave his report as Executive Director.

Mr. Sigman also noted the news articles in the board book.

Mr. Sigman gave the current lake level at 297.53.

Mr. Sigman also noted that the District's BUILD grant submission had been submitted with support letters from Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker and Michael Guest.

Mr. Ben Evans then made a motion to enter closed session to discuss the grounds for Executive Session. Mr. Phillip Crosby seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Ben Evans then made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss prospective litigation. Mr. Billy Cook seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The board entered Executive Session.

**ACTION TAKEN IN SESSION:**

Mr. Billy Cook made a motion to authorize legal staff to proceed as outlined in the legal staff's request. Mr. Phillip Crosby seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

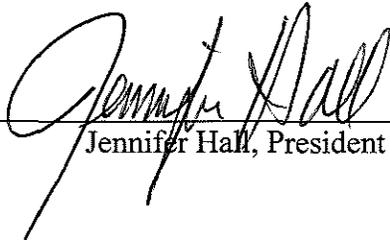
Mr. Ben Evans made a motion to exit Executive Session. Mr. Tedrick Ratcliff, Jr. seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Jack Winstead made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Phillip Crosby seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: For: Brackin, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Hall, Johnson, Latham, Mitchell, Pittman, Ratcliff, Windham and Winstead. Abstained: None. Against: None. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

  
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Jennifer Hall, President