

**Minutes Of  
Engineering And Maintenance Committee Meeting  
Of The Water Works Board  
Of The City Of Birmingham  
August 22, 2019**

An Engineering and Maintenance Committee Meeting of The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham was held Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 11:30 a.m., at the Birmingham Water Works Board, 3600 First Avenue North, to discuss engineering and maintenance issues.

The following Committee members were present: Brett A. King, Brenda J. Dickerson and Sherry W. Lewis. Committee member Ronald A. Mims arrived late. Other Board Members present who do not serve on the Committee were: Tommy Joe Alexander, Deborah Clark and William R. Muhammad. The following Directors were absent: William “Butch” Burbage, Jr. and George Munchus.

The meeting was also attended by: Michael Johnson, General Manager; T. M. “Sonny” Jones, Interim Assistant General Manager of Operations and Technical Services; Derrick Murphy, Assistant General Manager of Engineering and Maintenance; Grace Amison, Executive Assistant to the Board of Directors; Tammy Wilson, Executive Assistant to T. M. “Sonny” Jones and Derrick Murphy; Rick Jackson, Public Relations Specialist; George Anderson, Information Technology Manager; Stephen Franks, Principal Engineer; Doug Stockham, System Development Manager; Ben Sorrell, Chief Engineer; Luther Austin, SCADA Manager; Drusilla Hudson, EnviroLab/Water Quality Manager; Stacy Littleton, Chief Chemist; Johnnie Mayfield, Commercial and Industrial Accounts Manager; Terrell Jones, Security Superintendent; Mark Parnell, Parnell Thompson, LLC; Kelvin Howard, Kelvin Howard, LLC; Brian Ruggs and Patrick Flannelly, ARCADIS; Andy Mitchell, Agency 54; Chandra Abesingha, CE Associates; Kim Bivins, Birmingham Construction Industry Authority(BCIA); Theo Johnson, Volkert; Kirk Mills, Kimley – Horn; Joshua Yeager, Brent Fox and Chip Boswell, AT & T; City of Birmingham Police Officer.

General Manager, Michael Johnson called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m. Inasmuch as three Committee members were present when the meeting was called to order, a quorum was in attendance. GM Johnson asked Derrick Murphy, Assistant General Manager of Engineering and Maintenance to open the meeting with prayer.

Following, GM Johnson addressed item 1, which was to approve minutes from the Engineering and Maintenance Committee Meeting held July 16, 2019. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to approve the minutes.

Next, Interim Assistant General Manager of Operations and Technical Services, Sonny Jones asked the Committee to recommend to the Board to approve the Birmingham Water Works (BWWB) to join the First Responder Network Authority Wireless Network (First Net), as set forth in agenda item 2. AGM Sonny Jones stated it was his

recommendation to approve joining the network adding this was a product of September 11, 2001 or 9/11. Luther Austin, Manager of SCADA gave a Power Point Presentation (a copy of which is on file with the Committee meeting book). Mr. Austin explained that the 9/11 Commission recommended joining the First Responder Network. AT & T was awarded the contract in March 2017 for a period of 25 years to build, operate deploy and maintain this network. Director Mims entered the meeting at 11:39 p.m. Mr. Austin explained that BWWB would save approximately \$2,000.00 per month on its current billing with AT & T upon joining the network. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee agreed to move the item to the Board. Director Lewis abstained.

Following, AGM Murphy addressed item 3, which was a request for the Committee to recommend to the Board to approve a Carson Loop Right-Of-Way agreement with Armstrong Pump and Service Company, Inc. in the amount of \$62,000.00. Mr. Murphy used a map to highlight the area in consideration. Adding this phase along with a final leg will give BWWB the ability to pump approximately 6.5 million gallons of water per day to the southern end of the system according to Mr. Murphy. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to move the item to the Board.

Next, Director King, Committee Chair stated Director Dickerson would like to move items 4 through 13, to take bids to the Board. Director Lewis asked to leave item 13 off. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to move items 4 through 12, to take bids, to the Board. Some discussion occurred in relation to item 4, taking bids for pavement saw cutting. This would be the first bid taken by the Board for saw cutting. AGM Murphy explained that allowing the BWWB to focus on the leaks and permitting another company to perform the road work would make a more efficient process. Director Mims explained that BWWB has been performing this work and all Staff is asking for is to take bids and then they will know the cost. Director Clark asked if Staff is looking to save time or money. Mr. Murphy stated prior to placing this item before the Board for approval that he would get information to Board members on the estimated cost. Relating to item 5, Director Mims asked how many employees wear uniforms and how many uniforms each employee receives. GM Johnson stated he would get the BWWB Uniform Policy to Board members. Relating to item 8, Director Mims asked how many total Sampling Stations the Board has. Drusilla Hudson, EnviroLab Manager responded there will be a total of 88 with the 17 Staff is requesting to add today. Relating to item 9, Director Mims asked what the ThermoFisher Scientific Dionex ICS-6000 HPIC System is used for. Ms. Hudson responded that the Lab uses it to run nutrients on like bromides, fluorides, nitrates and nitrites, among other things. Director Clark stated she thought it would be helpful in the future to the Board for Staff to explain why items are needed and the time-frames in which they need to be replaced. Director Lewis asked if it is the normal process for the contractor to pick-up in item 12, Asphalt Hot Mix. AGM Murphy responded yes, confirming it is for temporary and permanent patch paving. Director King asked George Anderson to explain item 11, taking bids to replace hardware for handling core networking functions in the IT department. Mr. Anderson explained this hardware is for coordinating the computer center with other parts of the building, desks and other locations on the campus.

Following, GM Johnson asked the Committee to recommend to the Board approval to take annual bids for Chemicals to be used at BWWB filtration plants, at an estimated cost of \$5.7 million, as set forth in agenda item 13. Director Lewis stated some plants are not up to date and some changes are being made. AGM Sonny Jones stated Shades Mountain Filter Plant is the only plant that uses Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite, but we are in the process of installing Liquid Lime in place of Powdered Lime at Putnam Filter Plant. The new bid takes this into consideration. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to move the item to the Board.

Next, AGM Murphy addressed item 14, which was a request for the Committee to recommend to the Board to approve entering into a Standard Reimbursable Agreement with JeffCo; and to authorize the General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager to execute the agreement, and to take bids for the extension of mains along Berrywood Road and McCombs Mill Road in Pinson, at no cost to the Board. The total project cost to JeffCo is \$226,750.00. AGM Murphy explained that there are 16 people on well water currently that will be added to the main with this project. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to move the item to the Board.

Following, AGM Murphy addressed item 15, which was a request for the Committee to recommend to the Board to approve entering into a Supplemental Agreement with ALDOT; and to authorize the General Manager and /or Assistant General Manager to execute the agreement, and to take bids for the relocation of BWWB facilities in conflict with a project along Patton Chapel Road, at no cost to the Board. The total project cost to ALDOT is \$1,283,692.08. AGM Murphy explained there are two schools in this area where the conflict is. Director Lewis asked if there is any adverse effect for BWWB. AGM Murphy responded no. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to the move the item to the Board.

Next, AGM Sonny Jones addressed item 16, which was a request for the Committee to recommend to the Board to award a bid to Mark Johnson Construction, to replace the Chlorine Scrubbers at Putnam and Carson Filter Plants, at a total cost of \$550,000.00. Some discussion occurred regarding the supplier. Director Mims asked if this company has been approved by BCIA. Chief Engineer, Ben Sorrell responded they have been certified through the National Women's Business Enterprises. Director Clark asked if it is the normal process for bids to go out through Engineering rather than Purchasing. AGM Sonny Jones stated bids for products go through Purchasing. The advertising process as set by law was discussed. Director Muhammad asked for clarification about the subcontractor. The minority subcontractor is supplying the material and Mark Johnson Construction is performing the work, according to Ben Sorrell. More discussion occurred regarding whether minority participation should include a subcontractor who provides materials on a project. Director Clark stated the HUBE Program needs to be reviewed. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee agreed to move the item to the Board. Director Mims voted no.

Following, AGM Murphy addressed item 17, which was a request for the Committee to recommend to the Board to award bids to Kenworth of Birmingham and

Long Lewis Ford for 9 replacement vehicles at a total cost of \$1,161,710.83. AGM Murphy stated the criteria for replacing vehicles in the BWWB fleet is maintenance cost, mileage and age of vehicles. The goal is to replace 1/7 of the fleet every year. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to move the item to the Board.

AGM Derrick Murphy explained the difference in Hot and Cold Mix. Hot Mix is permanent patch and Cold Mix is temporary. There was some confusion earlier in the language we used, according to Mr. Murphy.

As there was no further business to be brought before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

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Michael Johnson  
General Manager

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Brenda J. Dickerson, Ph.D.  
Second-Vice Chairwoman/Second Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_/S/\_\_\_\_\_  
Brett A. King, Esq.  
Director

\_\_\_\_\_/S/\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald A. Mims  
Secretary-Treasurer