

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BI-MONTHLY MEETING OF DIRECTORS
OF THE WATER WORKS BOARD OF THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM AND PUBLIC HEARING
November 6, 2023**

A regular meeting of the directors of The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham and Public Hearing was held on Monday, November 6, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

The following directors were present: Larry Ward, Tereshia Huffman, George Munchus, William “Butch” Burbage, Jr., and Mashonda Taylor. Directors Tom Henderson, Lucien Blankenship, and Dalton NeSmith were not present.

Others present were: Michael Johnson, General Manager; Derrick Murphy, and Iris Fisher, Assistant General Managers; Cynthia Williams, Board Administrator; Anitra Clark, Corporate Governance Specialist; Drusilla Hudson, Rick Jackson, Jeff Wade, Charles McGee, Rosalind Jones, Colandus Mason, Paul Lloyd, Cassandra Bell, Joyce Komo, Jessica Fadlevich, Brad Steffens, Jeremy Ervin, and Michael Tartt, BWWB Employees; K. Mark Parnell, Parnell Thompson, LLC; Byron Perkins, Perkins Law, LLC; Tiffanie Agee, Agee Law, LLC; Kelvin Howard, Kelvin Howard Law, LLC; Michael Bell, Birmingham Construction Industry Authority; Patrick Flannelly, ARCADIS; Peiffer Brandt, Raftelis Financial Consultants; Lindsey McAdory, CBG Strategies; Bria Chatman; WBRC; Dr. Tammarra Tippet; Cheante’ Smith; Alan Kowns; Deborah Peacock; Ronnie Walker; Donna Bennett; W. J. Thoni ; and Helenia Johnson.

Chairwoman Huffman declared a quorum in attendance.

Chairwoman Huffman called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and Assistant General Manager Iris Fisher opened the meeting with prayer.

Following, Chairwoman Huffman asked the Board to approve the agenda. On a motion duly made and seconded, the following resolution was adopted:

“BE IT RESOLVED By The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham (“the Board”), on a motion duly made by Mr. Larry Ward, and seconded by Mr. George Munchus, that the Board hereby approves the agenda for the November 6, 2023 Regular Board of Directors Meeting and Public Hearing. Resolution No. 9437 is hereby adopted by unanimous vote.”

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Following, Chairwoman Huffman asked to hear Reports of Committee. As there were no reports, the General Manager stated the upcoming Regular Board of Directors’ Meeting would be held Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. and the Engineering & Maintenance Committee Meeting would be held directly following the Board meeting.

Following, Chairwoman Huffman asked to hear Reports of Officers. She stated she would like to schedule a Communications Committee Meeting in November.

Following, the Board moved to Speakers. Mr. Ronnie Walker, BWWB Customer, spoke regarding receiving better service from the BWWB.

Following, the Board moved to the second item on the agenda, Following, the Board moved to the second item on the agenda, Pursuant to Ala. Code § 11-50-303(c) (1975), the BWWB is holding a Public

Hearing to consider taking action consistent with Resolution No. 4166, which was adopted on December 22, 2003, as amended (i.e., adoption of the Rate Stabilization and Equalization Procedure (RSE Model) that will result in a rate increase. The General Manager gave an overview of the agenda and the purpose of the public hearing. He gave an overview of several items including community engagement, Town Hall meetings, BWWB’s Strategic Plan, system development and improvements, and capital planning. He gave an overview of securing the future of water and stated Automated Meter Reading (AMI), having a consistent supply of water, and pipeline replacement will contribute to this. He then gave an overview of the rate setting and the 2024 water rates. He indicated the 2024 Operating and Maintenance Budget is \$133.4 million, a 6.49 percent increase over 2023. Director Munchus questioned whether the rate increase is 5.8 percent for 2024 and the General Manager responded yes. He then gave an overview of the top five budgeted projects, and he indicated pipeline replacement represents for \$25 million of the budget. Director Munchus questioned whether insurance will be broken up to allow insuring separate items within the system. The General Manager stated options regarding insurance would be reviewed. He then gave an overview of revenue projections for 2024 at a \$5.8 million increase. He also gave an overview of debt service coverage for 2024 at \$63.8 million. He indicated the Board has said it wants to generate more cash to fund its capital projects. He stated these aids in controlling rate increases. He closed the presentation by giving an overview of the financial goals and policies for 2024. Subsequently, comments were taken from the public via speakers.

Following, the Board moved to the second item on the agenda, Request Board to approve payment of invoices to the following. On a motion duly made and seconded, the following resolution was adopted:

“BE IT RESOLVED By The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham (“the Board”), on a motion duly made by Mr. George Munchus, and seconded by Mr. Larry Ward, that the Board hereby authorizes staff to execute payments to the following:

- 2.1 Terminus Municipal Advisors, LLC for professional services rendered May 2023 in the amount of \$8,500.00.
- 2.2 Hilliard, Smith & Hunt, LLC for professional services rendered October 2023 in the amount of \$13,000.00.
- 2.3 Perkins Law, LLC for professional services rendered September 2023 in the amount of \$38,495.42.

Resolution No. 9438 is hereby adopted by unanimous vote.”

Following, the Board moved to the third item on the agenda, Request Board to adopt a resolution to allow employees to sell accrued/unused vacation time in excess of 80 hours in December 2023. On a motion duly made and seconded, the following resolution was adopted:

“BE IT RESOLVED By The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham (“the Board”), on a motion duly made by Ms. Mashonda Taylor and seconded by Mr. Larry Ward, that the employees of the Water Works Board have worked diligently throughout the year. Further, in accordance with the Board’s Salary Administration plan and to show employee appreciation for a job well done, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Officers and General Manager to execute any documents necessary to allow employees to sell vacation time in excess of 80 hours in December 2023. Resolution No. 9439 is hereby adopted by unanimous vote.”

Next, Director Ward then made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Director Taylor seconded the motion. On a motion duly made and seconded, the motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

/s/
Tereshia Q. Huffman
Chairwoman

Attest:

/s/
Raymond L. Ward
Secretary-Treasurer