

## SUMMARY OF REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

HELD Wednesday, February 10, 2021

At 11:30 a.m. – (Electronically [via Teleconference/Telephone])

[THESE ARE NOT THE OFFICIAL MINUTES]

The Governor's Open Meeting Act ("OMA") Proclamation allows members of governmental bodies to hold said meeting electronically (via telephone etc.) for purposes of establishing a quorum, deliberating and taking action; and via electronic equipment allows members of the public to listen to the meeting.

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the directors of The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham was held on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at 11:30 a.m., via electronically [via teleconference/telephone].

The following Directors were present via a roll call: Ronald A. Mims, William "Butch" Burbage, Jr., George Munchus, Lucien Blankenship, Tereshia Huffman, Tom Henderson, Dalton NeSmith, Chris Rice and Larry Ward.

Others were present via teleconference/telephone: Michael Johnson, General Manager; Derrick Murphy and Iris Fisher, Assistant General Managers; K. Mark Parnell, Parnell Thompson Law, LLC; Emory Anthony, Esq.; Cynthia Williams, Board Administrator; Vanessa Washington, Executive Assistant; Rick Jackson, Colandus Mason, Paul Lloyd, Ed Travis, Marsha Hammonds, and Rhonda Lewis; Board Employees.

Inasmuch as the Board members were present, a quorum was in attendance.

Chairman Mims called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m. General Manager Michael Johnson opened the meeting with prayer.

Director Blankenship made a motion to approve the agenda by amending agenda item 3, which would separate it into two parts: *3a and 3b (implement special rule)*, present agenda item 7 (*New Business*) before agenda item 8 (*Division Reports*), and to also withdraw agenda item 6.4. Director Munchus seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

Following, GM Johnson asked the Board to approve minutes from the Regular Board of Directors' Meeting held December 16, 2020, as set forth in agenda item 1; necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the governmental body. Director Munchus made a motion to approve said item. Director Huffman seconded. The agenda item was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

Next, GM Johnson asked the Board to approve Director NeSmith's mileage expense reimbursement for the month of January 2021 in the amount of \$89.60, as set forth in agenda item 2; necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the governmental body. **{NOTE: A roll call vote is required.}** Director Munchus made a motion to approve said item. Director Ward seconded. The agenda item was approved by a voice vote with one abstention.

Following, GM Johnson asked the Board to adopt a resolution reaffirming its various established Board Committees for calendar year 2021; and to establish members for each standing Committee {see Exhibit "A" attached hereto}, as set forth in agenda item 3a; necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the governmental body. Director Munchus made a motion to approve the agenda item. Director NeSmith seconded. The agenda item was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

Next, GM Johnson asked the Board to implement a Special Rule of Order as outlined in the attached resolution, as set forth in agenda item 3b; necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the governmental body. However, Director Munchus made a substitute motion to approve the said item, which involved striking the second sentence from section 3c on the resolution. Director Blankenship seconded. The agenda item was approved with 7 votes in favor and 1 against by a roll call vote. There was no response from Director Rice.

Following, GM Johnson asked the Board to approve payment of invoices for professional services, as set forth in agenda items 4.1 through 4.5, respectively; necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the governmental body. The invoices were voted on separately. Director Rice made a motion to approve agenda item 4.1. Director Huffman seconded. Said item was approved unanimously by a roll call vote. Next, Director Munchus made a motion to approve agenda item 4.2. Director Huffman seconded. Said item was approved unanimously by a roll call vote. Next, Director Munchus made a motion to approve agenda item 4.3. Director Henderson seconded. Said item was approved with 8 votes in favor. There was no response from Director Rice. Next, Director Munchus made a motion to approve agenda item 4.4. Director Huffman seconded. Said item was approved with 8 votes in favor and 1 against by a roll call vote. Next, Director Burbage made a motion to approve agenda item 4.5. Director Munchus seconded. Said item was approved with 8 votes in favor and 1 against by a roll call vote.

Following, GM Johnson asked the Board to exercise its bid option to extend a 12-month contract and to authorize the General Manager and/or the Assistant General Manager to execute a contract with Consolidated Pipe, the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, for estimated quantities of Positive Displacement Meters - (Annual), at an estimated cost to the Board of \$474,682.50, as set forth in agenda item 5; necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the governmental body. Director Munchus made a motion to approve said item. Director NeSmith seconded. The agenda item was approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

Next, agenda item 7, which addressed new business, was presented; necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the governmental body. Chairman Mims stated the board has one local lobbyist, but no longer has a national lobbyist because Mr. Earl F. Hilliard, Sr. contract expired December 31, 2020. A motion and seconded was made to continue Mr. Hilliard's contract with a 30-day termination clause for \$15,000.00 per month. However, the item failed with 3 votes in favor, 4 against and 2 abstentions. Following, Director Ward made a motion to continue Mr. Hilliard's contract for 30 days beginning, February 10, 2021 for \$7,500.00. Director Munchus seconded. Said item was approved with 6 votes in favor, 2 against and 1 abstention by a roll call vote. Next, Director Rice made a motion to hear presentations from the following lobbyists: Pat Lynch, Greg Jones, and Earl Hilliard, Sr. Director NeSmith seconded. Said item was approved with 8 votes in favor and 1 abstention by a roll call vote. Following, Director Munchus requested

to reinstate the employee incentive program and possibly seek an interim for AGM Thompson during his absence. Next, GM Johnson announced that BWWB was awarded 8<sup>th</sup> place in the nation in the Top Training Program. BWWB has ranked among the top 10 for three years straight. Rhonda Lewis presented information about said award. Afterwards, Colandus Mason gave an overview on the initiatives BWWB has in place to assist in preventing what happened to the Florida Utility Cyber-attack from happening to BWWB. Following, GM Johnson announced to directors that he would be contacting them for ethics training and in person strategic planning workshops.

Next, GM Johnson asked the Board to hear the Division Reports, as set forth in agenda items 6.1 through 6.3, respectively; necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the governmental body. The General Manager and Assistant General Managers presented information from their division.

As there was no further business before the Board, Director Blankenship made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Rice seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by a voice vote. Chairman Mims adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.