

**DALLAS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY
SUMMARY OF AUGUST 11, 2020 MEETING**

- Meeting called to order at approximately 4:07 P.M. with four directors initially present, and the fifth director arrived after a vote on approval of the minutes. Present for the meeting by telephone conference were: Chairperson Ernestine Towns, and Directors Arfletia McGuire and Earl Bender. Directors William Hasberry (Vice Chair), Director Dondi Fikes, and Board Secretary Connel Towns were present in person. Also present for the meeting: Field Manager, David Hamm, and Attorney David Norton. Office manager Tanika Brown was present at the office, and participated through the teleconference. The call-in number was made available to the public on the public notice and at least three members of the public attended virtually, but did not wish to be recognized.
- The agenda was published, and included business of a nature essential to the operations of the Board, which are consistent with the Governor's Emergency Proclamation to hold such meetings, and other items discussed within this summary.
- On motion of Mr. Fikes, seconded by Mr. Bender, the minutes from the previous board meeting were unanimously approved.
- Chair Ernestine Towns noted to the board that the old customer service building still needs attention so that it can be used by the system. She recommended that our manager obtain quotes from local businesses willing to perform the labor. Mr. Fikes requested that the manager make a detailed list of what would be accomplished to provide to those giving quotes. Mr. Bender also requested that the board advertise the matter of quotes on its public bulletin board to make sure all potential bidders had a chance to give a quote. Mr. Hamm indicated he would follow up with the board's request.
- Attorney Report. Mr. Norton updated the board regarding the Blackbelt Wireless negotiations, the matter at Craig Field, the need for the board to designate a representative to give a deposition in a lawsuit, the board's auction policy regarding salvage material, and several matters involving the lift stations. The board unanimously voted to name Vice Chair William Hasberry, as the board's representative in the lawsuit deposition. The manager indicated that he had provided Blackbelt Wireless with coordinates for all lift stations so that they could check to see if the wifi will reach those locations. The manager also indicated that he would apply for addresses for each lift station with E-911, so that in the event there is ever an emergency at those sites, rescue personnel can more quickly find those locations to offer assistance. On motion by Mr. Fikes, seconded by Mr. Hasberry, the board also unanimously approved allowing Jason Bell to assist David Hamm with a grant proposal regarding our lift stations, provided that no strings are attached. The board requested that David Hamm seek quotes on obtaining a mobile pump for our lift stations in the event that it is needed in an emergency, and to also determine the cost of adding a second pump to lift stations that currently only have one pump. The board also indicated it would like to hear from potential bidders on the proposed lift station project with side by side comparisons on selected topics with each potential bidder being given five minutes on each topic. The board asked specifically that both potential bidders address the topic of money savings that the board may expect to see from the project with as much specificity as the bidders may be able to give us,

including the day and month the board should expect to see savings occur, and the amount of those saving. On the Craig Field issue, Mr. Fikes notified the board that Craig Field Airport and Industrial Authority was aware of the issue, and that it would be Craig Field's responsibility to notify private property owners on the base that many of them own private sewer laterals in common, and that it will be their own obligation to repair those laterals in the event they fail. The board also authorized Field Manager David Hamm to advertise and hold the auction on the scrap vehicles and similar items that are of no further use to us and taking up space in the yard in accordance with board policy. Mr. Hamm is also to directly notify individuals who have shown interest in those items of the date and time of the auction so that they can participate in the bidding.

- The Office Manger Tanika Brown gave the office status and financial report. At the board's request, she indicated that she will obtain fair pay scales from Alabama Rural Water Authority, employee evaluations, the budget, as well as consider any other input the board would provide to her in coming up with any raise recommendations for office employees. Mr. Hamm indicated he would do the same.
- Field Manager, David Hamm gave the general manager's report. A worker crashed into a tree while looking at a work order while driving. The matter has been reported to insurance, and Mr. Hamm is obtaining estimates on the damage to the vehicle. The employee was promptly tested pursuant to policy, and the drug test was negative. All plant and equipment problems including problems with a well and pumps were resolved. Seven water leaks were discovered on Craig Field, and all but one have already been repaired. He indicated our water leak rate should go down noticeably next month as a result. He noted our employees had to bust through concrete to get to one that had been inadvertently covered up in the past. Mr. Hamm also reported that information will soon be added to the community bulletin board which should help customers learn about rates and other matters, and learn how to save money on water.
- No other announcements were made by the board.
- On motion by Mr. Fikes, seconded by Mr. Hasberry, the Board meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 P.M.