

Waterworks District No. 2, Parish of Beauregard

MINUTES

The Board of Commissioners, governing authority of Waterworks District No. Two (2) of the Parish of Beauregard, Louisiana, met in an open and public session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 11, 2025, at the regular meeting place of said Board, 9252 Hwy 27, Singer, LA.

Bill White, Vice-President of the Board of Commissioners called the meeting to order and on roll call, the following members being present: Bill White, Carroll Johnson, Lisa Gearen, and Richelle Bowman

Absent: 1—Jerry Cooley

Others Present: Connor Moyer-Meyers and Associates

Other Absent: Mathieu Rose

Public Participation: *There was no one present for public participation*

Approval of Minutes:

Lisa Gearen, 2nd by Carroll, moved to adopt the Minutes of the July 15, 2025 meeting and to forego the reading thereof, the motion carried without opposition.

Approval of Financial reports:

Lisa Gearen, 2nd by Carroll Johnson, moved to adopt the financial reports as written for July 2025, the motion carried without opposition.

Payment authorization:

Lisa Gearen, 2nd by Carroll Johnson, moved to pay monthly invoices for August 2025, the motion carried without opposition.

Unfinished Business:

Water Sector Program:

Connor Moyer with Meyer & Associates discussed the progress and delays with the ongoing projects at Phelps and Fields.

- a) The progress at Phelps consists of completing the new ground storage tank, the tube pumps, the renovation of the electrical building, and has started on the electrical, completed Change Order #1, and installed a new Fire Hydrant at Fields.*
- b) The delays come from the Control Panels not being delivered in a timely manner. They were initially to be delivered by the end of July, but because of the ordering delay, delivery was moved to the week of August 25th.*
- c) The contractors' goal is to complete the onsite pipe, install the new electrical rack, and complete the electrical system at both Phelps, and Fields during the next work period, weather permitting.*
- d) A report was submitted to the Board showing the new scheduling due to the delays, and will need to demo the old electrical rack. The majority of the conduit has been installed.*

One concern of the contractor is the control panel delay; it will put them past the substantial completion date of August 25th. A project completion schedule was submitted to Conner last week, and he presented

it to the Board. The plan is to finish all the required work at Phelps, and then have it put online, and start on Fields with a new completion date of October 3rd, or 4th.

A few options have been discussed that he would like to bring to the Board as follows:

Option one (1)- Have Womack present an official request for a Contract Time Extension to the Board, whether is to October 3rd date, or however long it will take them to finish.

Option two (2)- Allow the contractor to continue to work without a Contract Time Extension, and once the job is completed, they will complete a reconciliation for left over material, and so forth. At this point the Board can take a step back and a contract time reconciliation once we get to the end of the job. This will apply to both the Phelps and Fields project. He stated that there has not been a concern or issue with their work, and are relatively easy to work with.

Bill White wanted to follow up on the previous request for a contract time extension, because the original substantial completion was set for June.

Conner Moyer explained that the contract time extension was due to the change orders granted, not an official contract time extension. This would be the first official contract time extension request if submitted.

Paula Rose-asked about the \$1,000 liquidated damage clause, and would this delay affect the contract, if the time continued outside of an acceptable range.

Conner Moyer explained that it was \$1,000.00 per day if it comes to that, but he believes that the Board should wait until the end of the job's completion to do a reconciliation, and see where it stands at that point. We could go with option 2, and review our options at the end of the job. Liquidated damages aren't something that we would want to pursue, unless they were difficult to work with, or they were not listening, then the Board can take a look at the situation.

Bill White said according to last month's minutes even with the delay they should have the Control Panels by August 25th. We have had issues with past project of things being left out, and the last project litigation was on the table, which no one really wants to do this, but no one seems to be held accountable for their actions.

Conner Moyer said he was not with Meyers during the last project, and has spoken with Mathieu about his (Mathieu's) concerns with the delays.

Bill White stated that the last project delays were blamed on Covid, and the issue with contractors is that they get paid throughout the project, and when they get to the end they just really do not care. It seems to be an ongoing problem with these projects.

Richelle Bowman said that one of the reasons they increased the liquidated damages to \$1,000 per day was because of how the last project went. Why have rules if you are not going to follow them.

Paula Rose discussed with Conner Moyer about the tank leaking at Phelps, and if had been repaired, and he said the tank contractor went out the following day, and fixed the issues, and to his knowledge there were not any more leaks.

Bill White asked for confirmation on Meyer & Associate's representing the District, and how far, and what capacity is their representation. The last ordeal he felt as if the District was presented as the "bad guys", and that has left a bad taste for the District. If we have hired you to represent us, he believes pressure should be put on the contractors to complete the job, instead of coming to meetings and expecting the Board to accept, and smooth over the delays.

Conner Moyer explained that is something that is done behind the scenes. He stated that Mathieu has called almost every day giving updates, and questioning why items have not been completed. I am not there every day, but I do call our inspector to see what has been accomplished, and to remind him to let the contractor know that completion dates need to be met on certain items. Yet, at the same time there is only so much you can do in terms of daily reminders that you need to get something done.

As to the question about hiring us, you are correct, you have hired us to represent the Board in this, and we are (unintelligible).

Bill White stated that both the District, and the Contractors need each other, but Meyer and Associates has a lot more power than what they are using.

Conner Moyer said he understood, but the hold up on this project is the delay in receiving the Control Panels, and this is holding them up on finishing Phelps.

Bill White: Do you have a rating on these vendors, such as 100%, 90%, 80%, classified as 1-5 stars, or a Facebook page?

Connor Moyer: You can go on Google, or Facebook and look for reviews, but the problem is only a few companies make these control panels, and VFD's.

Paula Rose asked what was the delay causing them not to be onsite working from July 22 to August 3? She gave a break down of the days in questions, and that she, Mathieu and Conner were trading text, and pictures of no working being done.

Richelle Bowman, also asked why were they not working during those days.

Conner Moyer said he knew that they started on August 4th, but he thought they were working some of those days. He finally said he did not know why they were not working those days.

Bill White: Does anyone ever call the General Manager to find out what is going on? It is not a courtesy call anymore, but I need to get this done.

Conner Moyer: He discussed this with Mark McCarty, and we are representing the District on this project. We do not want this to drag on for another 6 months. If we see this is going to drag into October, he can meet with the Board, and see what steps need to be taken.

Bill White: Does Meyer & Associate have an attorney to represent the District if this happens to go into litigation? I am not saying I want to do this, I am asking at what point does Meyer & Associates represent us.

Conner Moyer: He knows that in the past they have had issues with other contractors, but they have not had issues with Womack. It is rare to take steps that lead to litigation.

Bill White: What I am asking is does Meyer and Associates have a lawyer on retainer that represent its clients, with no cost to the clients? I am not wanting to go to court, I just need to know where we stand.

Conner Moyer said he really doesn't know, and doesn't want to tell the District wrong. He spoke with the Superintendent of Womack, and let him know that the District was not happy with the time going past the substantial completion date. The Superintendent agreed that it was going on longer than anticipated, and he just wants to get the job done, and done right. The main purpose of the schedule is to let the District know realistically this is where we are at.

Richelle Bowman: In her opinion she felt like on the last project the District was not represented, and it was the District up against the Contractor and Meyer & Associates.

Caroll Johnson, 2nd by Richelle Bowman, moved to accept option two (2) to allow Womack to continue to work past the August 25th substantial completion date WITHOUT a Contract Extension Time, and to focus on getting the job completed. The Board will revisit the substantial completion date, liquidated damages, and reconciliation once the job is finished. The motion carried without opposition

Maintenance Report: Paula Rose

Mr. Chance Wood has chosen to voluntary resign his position. The temporary hire would like to go to a full-time position in his place.

Lisa Gearen, 2nd by Caroll Johnson, moved to allow Ryan Davis to continue in the 60 days temporary position, then go to the 90 days probation, and then full time. The motion carried without opposition.

Insurance Claim: The insurance adjuster has not gone to inspect the Bobcat as of today, and the Secretary has sent multiple emails trying to get an answer on where we stand on repairs.

Paula Rose stated that she rented a Mini X for two weeks in order to get some work orders accomplished, while the Bobcat is being repaired, and the company Mini-X is being used for the Cooper Road project.

2015 GMC Truck:

The GMC truck was without oil, and we are not sure if it is losing oil, or what happened because the oil was changed a few weeks ago. It was put in the shop at CBG, because it broke down. The cost of the fuel sensor repair is approximately \$360.00.

Bill White: The Supervisor needs to be more proactive on holding the staff accountable, and making sure they are inspecting the trucks. (Mathieu has been on medical leave since July 2025)

Overview Report:

We had to hire another company to do the Backflow Test because Mr. Jeremy with Griffin Plumbing has move out of state. Kristy was put over the annual Backflow Testing information, and I gave her the state list of certified testers, and she found Mr. Neely for \$125.00 per test, verses the \$175 we were paying.

On July 22, Ethan Foster-Temporary Foreman was given a job description in Mathieu absence, in order for everyone to work as a team.

The Staff was given a standard procedure for work orders to give a better understanding that would be beneficial to everyone.

Fiber Optic: Swyft Fiber has been helping to get the contractor to pay their invoices. We do have one for approximately \$9,600.00 that will need to be voided because our 10" water main had not been marked in a timely manner. The same company hit the 2" on Bob Cooley and Fred Cloessner in the amount of \$891.56. The board agreed to void the \$9,600.00 strike, but to allow the one on Bob Cooley, and Fred Cloessner to stand as is.

We have collected \$23,405.00 so far from the Fiber crews. The balance due is \$108,364.00, this includes the overtime payroll. I do not think we will receive reimbursement for the overtime pay.

As of August 1, 2025 the LA 811 is requiring annual testing for Excavator Certification. Once the test is completed the certificate must remain with the operator during any excavation to avoid penalties.

Truck Logos: Logos were presented to the Board for a decision with an explanation that the Hornet represent the school's mascot. The logo will be revisited showing a happy hornet, as well as the protecting hornet.

Paula will contact LA Signs to see what the options are.

Work orders:

Singer completed 29 work orders, 2 new services, 3 leaks repaired, 59 locates, 1 Precautionary Boil Advisory, 7 disconnects for non-payment., and reconnected 6 of those.

Junction completed 1 new service, 9 work orders, 35 locates. Junction is having minor issues with slightly colored water, and Mathieu has been working with Hawkins from home, and had decided to return back to the original chemicals, and see if that resolve the problem.

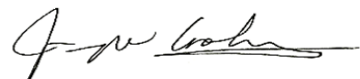
Adjournment:

There being no further business, upon a motion by Lisa Gearn, 2nd by Carroll Johnson, the meeting was adjourned, the motion carried without opposition.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the business meeting held on Monday, August 11, 2025 at the regular public meeting place of said Board at 9252 Hwy 27, Singer, Louisiana.



Paula Rose-District Secretary/Treasurer



Jerry Cooley, President