# MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 2 NATCHITOCHES PARISH, LOUISIANA

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

PRESENT: Carletta Jones-President; Henderson Howard; Jerry Longlois; Preston Broadwater; Donald Forrest; Emile Metoyer; Patrick Masson-Vice-President; Ludlow McNeely-Secretary/Treasurer; Bubba Dunn- District Manager; Russell L. Sylvester.

ABSENT: None

VISITORS: Ken McManus

The President called the meeting to order and had a prayer.

The Minutes of the regular meeting of Wednesday May 28, 2025, were accepted as written. It was moved by Mr. Forrest, seconded by Mr. Meyoter and unanimously adopted that the Minutes for the meeting be accepted as written.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### I) Accounts paid/payable:

Accounts paid and to be paid June 25, 2025, are attached and marked "Exhibit A." Mr. Dunn explained the bills already paid and answered questions from the Board. This included explaining that the bill from Central Pipe Supply was for new meters and the bill from Coburn was for pipe fittings. The bill to M.E. Amy Drilling was associated with attempts to evaluate and repair the damage to well no. 8. By motion of Mr. Howard and seconded by Mr. Metoyer, the board unanimously approved Exhibit A.

## II) Customer Status Report:

The Status Report for May 2025, is attached and marked "Exhibit B." The Board discussed water usage and disconnections. By Motion of Mr. Longlois and seconded by Mr. Forrest, the board unanimously approved Exhibit B.

# III) Monthly Budget Report/Profit & Loss Statement/Financial Report:

The Budget Report and a Profit and Loss Statement for May 2025 is attached and marked "Exhibit C". Mr. Dunn explained the monthly income and expenses compared to the budgeted amounts. By Motion of Mr. Forrest and seconded by Mr. Longlois, the board unanimously approved Exhibit C.

### IV) Monthly Balance Sheet:

The Monthly Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2025, is attached and marked "Exhibit D".

Mr. Dunn and the Board discussed the investments of the District. By Motion of Mr. Metoyer and seconded by Mr. Forrest, the board unanimously approved Exhibit D.

### V) Past Due Accounts:

The Board discussed the status of the past due accounts and their collections.

### VI) The laying of internet cable:

Mr. Dunn provided an update on the efforts of the District to mark the water lines in light of the digging activities of Swift contractors to lay new internet cable. Under state law, once the District is notified of a contractor's intention to conduct digging activities in an area where the District's water lines are present, the District is responsible for adequately marking the lines location within 48 hours after notification. The fact the contractor has utilized multiple crews to lay the cable has put a strain on the District to be able to timely mark the lines. Mr. Dunn has relayed these concerns to Swift, and Swift has attempted to provide some extra time for the District to mark its lines. Mr. Dunn will keep the Board informed as to this issue.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- I) Mr. McManus, the District's engineer, advised the Board that based on the approximate \$800,000.00 cost to drill a new well no. 8, he had looked into some possible funding sources. The first option would be to apply for a grant with the State Division of Administration based on the emergency need for a new well. The problem with this application is that the chances for approval are slim. The second option would be to apply for a loan with the Department of Health. If granted, the State would forgive 49% of the debt. Mr. McManus suggested the District apply for both funding sources, since it would cost nothing to apply. If one or both were granted, the Board could then decide if it wanted to proceed with that funding source. By motion of Mr. Longlois, and seconded by Mr. Masson, the Board unanimously approved to authorize Mr. McManus to seek funding for the digging of the new well from these two sources.
- II) Mr. Dunn showed the Board pictures of the corrosion that is already present on the new 250,000-gallon ground storage tank. Mr. McManus advised the Board that he would consult with Mr. Jeff Oakley of Midsouth tank inspectors, to determine if the tank can be repaired or if it must be replaced. Mr. McManus will report back to the Board after he consults with Mr. Oakley. The District has refused to accept the tank in its present state and therefore release the remaining funds to complete payment. The contractor, Womack Construction, who built this larger tank also built the District's smaller tank, which is in great shape. The crew that was utilized for this larger tank construction was a different one from the one utilized for the smaller ground tank and there was some word that this other crew was taken off another project because of unacceptable work. Mr. McManus will advise the Board after he consults Mr. Oakley.
- III) It has been learned that the sale of Sabine State Bank to a credit union has fallen through. Mr. McNeely has had discussions with Sabine State Bank to determine what proposal they might offer to keep the District's banking business. Sabine State Bank's proposal was comparable to the other best proposals presented by other local banking institutions. The rates provided by Sabine State Bank would be good for one year. At that time, the Board would be able to determine if it wanted to continue with Sabine State Bank. By motion of Mr. Longlois and seconded by Mr.

Howard, the Board unanimously approved the utilization of Sabine State Bank as its banking institution for 2025.

III) The next regular meeting will be on July 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm. The meeting's agenda will include the discussion of Accounts Paid/Payable, Customer Status Report, Monthly Budget Report/Profit & Loss Statement/Financial Report, Monthly Balance Sheet, the status of the District's equipment and employees, quality of water and any cut-off issues.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Longlois, seconded by Mr. Forrest, and unanimously approved, that the meeting adjourns.

Attest:

SECRETARY TREASURER

PRESIDENT