

**Minutes of
Engineering And Maintenance Committee Meeting
of The Water Works Board
of The City of Birmingham
January 13, 2025**

An Engineering and Maintenance Committee Meeting of the Directors of The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham was held on Monday, January 13, 2025, immediately following the Regular Board of Directors' Meeting.

The following Committee members were present via roll call: Dalton NeSmith (Chair), Tereshia Huffman and Larry Ward. Other Directors present were Jonathan Harris, Tom Henderson, Ivan W. Holloway, Andre McShan and Monique Gardner Witherspoon.

Others present were: Darryl Jones, Interim General Manager; Mac Underwood, Interim Deputy General Manager; Barry Williams, Derrick Murphy and Philip King, Interim/Assistant General Managers; Tammy Wilson, Executive Assistant; Cynthia Williams, Board Administrator; Anitra Clark, Corporate Governance Specialist; Geoff Goodwin, David Walker, Colandus Mason, Mario Easter, Jeff Wade and Charles McGee, Birmingham Water Works (BWW) employees; Mark Parnell, Parnell Thompson, LLC; General Ronald Burgess; Patrick Flannely, ARCADIS U.S.; Frank Adams, Alex Perez and Rick Heartsill, Direct Communications; Olivia Martin, State of Alabama Attorney General's Office; George Munchus, Citizen; Olivia McMurry, Birmingham Watch; Lisa Ffiles, Security Guard.

Committee Chair, Dalton NeSmith called the meeting to order at 11:47 a.m. A roll call confirmed three Committee members were present, so there was a quorum in attendance.

Next, Interim General Manager, Darryl Jones asked the Committee to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Director Huffman and seconded by Director Ward, and the Committee unanimously approved the January 13, 2025, Engineering and Maintenance Committee Meeting agenda as printed.

Following, the Committee moved to the first item on the agenda, Request Committee to approve minutes of the November 20, 2024, Engineering and Maintenance Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Director Ward and seconded by Director NeSmith, and the Committee unanimously approved the referenced minutes.

Following, Under Reports of Officers, Chairwoman Huffman addressed the new Board Members present at the meeting, stating she would reach out to all Board Members regarding committee assignments for 2025 and she indicated they will be established and approved at the next Board Meeting. There was No Unfinished Business

Next, the Committee moved to the second item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to award bid to Viking Painting, LLC, for WIFIA-Painting and Repairs to Cahaba Cove and Warrior Potable Water Tanks, at an estimated out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$1,147,850.00; and to authorize the Interim General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager to execute the agreement. AGM Murphy noted BWW staff has since met with the vendor, which resulted in an increase in HUB participation to 11%, which will be reflected on the next Board Meeting agenda, should the item move forward. A motion was made by Director Ward and

seconded by Director NeSmith and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Next, the Committee moved to the third item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to award bid to Willoughby Contracting Company, Inc., the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, for WIFIA Set #1 water main replacement projects, at a bid amount \$3,691,767.05; plus estimated cost of materials and Water Board labor in the amount of \$1,519,869.02; at an estimated total out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$5,211,636.07; and to authorize the Interim General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager to execute the agreements. HUB participation for Grasselli Avenue SW/Doby Avenue SW at 32.5%, Brenda Avenue SW/Alvin Avenue SW at 35.2%, Hillandale Drive/Rutledge Way at 32.8%. Director Ward asked for verification of where the projects are located. AGM Murphy stated one is in Fairfiled and two are in the City of Birmingham. A motion was made by Director Ward and seconded by Director Huffman and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Next, the Committee moved to the fourth item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to approve expenditures with MARS Company, a sole source provider, for a Meter Testing Bench and Software Upgrade, at an out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$3,061,510.00; and to authorize the Interim General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager to execute the agreement. HUB participation is 0%. The vendor is a direct manufacturer. A presentation was made by AGM Murphy. AGM Murphy talked about the importance of water meter bench testing given that revenue is based on meter readings and given that accuracy is important for billing and customer confidence. AGM Murphy stated new meters are tested prior to installation, tested again when they are removed from the system, in addition to annual testing being required for non-revenue water reporting. AGM Murphy stated that the Committee is welcome to come by anytime to observe the meter testing bench machine at work. He stated the current meter test benches are at the end of their useful life, of 25 years old. He stated the existing benches are also not AMI ready and the current software does not communicate with SAP. He stated the testing bench should replicate what happens in the system with pressure variations. AGM Murphy stated only one company offers test benches that meet BWW requirements, which makes it a sole source. AGM Murphy stated there are two cost options, which are a pre-paid upgrade of the existing equipment (\$2,474,616.00) and a pre-paid brand-new water meter test bench (\$3,061,510.00). AGM Murphy stated Staff recommends replacing the existing equipment with brand new equipment. Director Ward asked if the new equipment would be located in the new lab building. AGM Murphy stated it would be located on the Main Campus. Director Ward questioned why the new lab building was taking so long to get ready since the purchase was made last year. Director NeSmith asked AGM Murphy to provide the Committee with an update on the progress of the new lab building renovation at the next Engineering and Maintenance Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Director Ward and seconded by Director Huffman and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Following, the Committee moved to the fifth item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to approve a one-year license and support renewal with Software House International (SHI), for CrowdStrike Manage Detection and Response Service (Sourcewell contract), effective April 28, 2025, through April 27, 2026, at an estimated out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$90,444.10; and to authorize the Interim General Manager and/or Interim Assistant General Manager to execute the renewal. HUB participation is 0%. A motion was made by

Director Huffman and seconded by Director NeSmith and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Following, the Committee moved to the sixth item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to approve a three-year license and maintenance support renewal with Software House International (SHI), effective April 16, 2025, through April 15, 2028, for VMware vSphere renewal to support the BWW server environment (Sourcewell contract), at an out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$173,641.60; and to authorize the Interim General Manager and/or Interim Assistant General Manager to execute the renewal. HUB participation is 0%. A motion was made by Director Huffman and seconded by Director Ward and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Following, the Committee moved to the seventh item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to award bid to Ferguson Waterworks, the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, for Polymer Concrete Armorcast Vaults, to include torsion assists, at an out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$182,621.10 and to authorize the Interim General Manager and/or Interim Assistant General Manager to execute the agreement. The vendor is a direct distributor. HUB participation is 0%. A motion was made by Director Ward and seconded by Director Huffman, and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Next, the Committee moved to the eighth item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to approve a scope of services with Morin Services, Inc., and their proposal to provide, install, and warranty two 722 TRI-Ram LB Roots Rotary Lobe Blower pumps for the Western Filter Plant Blower Replacement Project, at an estimated out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$90,792.00; and to authorize the Interim General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager to execute the agreement. HUB participation is 0%. A motion was made by Director Ward and seconded by Director Huffman and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Following, the Committee moved to the ninth item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to award bid to Southeast Maintenance, Inc., the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, for Filter Underdrain repairs at the Western Filter plant, at an estimated out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$263,000.00; and to authorize the Interim General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager to execute the agreement. HUB participation is 0%. A motion was made by Director NeSmith and seconded by Director Ward and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Following, the Committee moved to the tenth item on the agenda, Request Committee to recommend to the Board to approve an agreement with Schneider Electric, a sole source provider, for the Schneider Electric Customer First Premium Level Support and Services Agreement, covering a three-year period at a cost of \$238,232.00 for the first year, \$249,204.00 for the second year and \$260,718.00 for the third year, at a total out-of-pocket cost to the Board of \$748,154.00; and to authorize the Interim General Manager or Assistant General Manager to execute the agreement. HUB participation is 0%. A motion was made by Director Huffman and seconded by Director Ward, and the Committee unanimously recommended to move the referenced item to the Board for approval.

Following, IGM Darryl Jones recognized and introduced Senior Staff, including himself, Mac Underwood, Derrick Murphy, Barry Williams, and Philip King to the new Board Members. Director NeSmith asked IGM Darryl Jones to introduce the support staff in the Executive Office as well. IGM Darryl Jones recognized and introduced Cynthia Williams, Anitra Clark, and Tammy Wilson. Elyse Page and Vanessa Washington were recognized as part of the support staff although they were not in attendance.

As there was no further business before the Committee, Director Huffman made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Director NeSmith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

_____/S/
Darryl R. Jones
Interim General Manager

_____/S/
Dalton NeSmith
Engineering and Maintenance Committee Chair

_____/S/
Tereshia Huffman
Director

_____/S/
Larry Ward
Director