

**Minutes of  
Engineering And Maintenance Committee Meeting  
of The Water Works Board  
of The City Of Birmingham  
September 4, 2024**

An Engineering and Maintenance Committee Meeting of the directors of The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham was held on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 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 Board members present were William "Butch" Burbage, Jr., Tom Henderson, and George Munchus.

Others present were: Darryl Jones, Interim General Manager; Derrick Murphy and Philip King, Assistant General Managers; Tammy Wilson, Executive Assistant to Derrick Murphy and Philip King; Cynthia Williams, Board Administrator; Anitra Clark, Corporate Governance Specialist; Mac Underwood, Consultant; Barry Williams, Consultant; General Ronald Burgess, Consultant; Colandus Mason, IT Manager; Jonathan Jett, Purchasing Superintendent; David Walker, Security Manager; Anthony Hazel, Security Superintendent; Akhi King, Security Systems Technician; Rick Jackson, Public Relations Manager; Jeff Wade and Charles McGee, Electrical and Mechanical Shop; Derrick Maye, Employee Association President; Hattye McCarroll; Chief Engineer; Mark Parnell, Parnell Thompson, LLC; Kelvin Howard, Kelvin W. Howard LLC; Keesia Crenshaw, Office of the State of Alabama Attorney General; Patrick Flannelly, ARCADIS U.S.; Alex Perez and Frank Adams, Direct Communications; Lindsey McAdory, CBG Strategies; Fred Keith and Ali Omar, A. G. Gaston; Birmingham City Police Officer.

Committee Chair, Dalton NeSmith called the meeting to order at 12:52 p.m. A roll call confirmed three Committee members were present, so there was a quorum in attendance.

Next, Committee Chair, Dalton NeSmith asked the Committee to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Director Ward and seconded by Director Huffman, and the Committee unanimously approved the September 4, 2024, Engineering and Maintenance Committee Meeting agenda as printed. Director Huffman announced she had requested that Bob Dickerson attend the meeting by phone today.

Following, there were no minutes on the agenda for approval. There were no Reports from the Committee Chair or Committee Members, and there was no Unfinished Business.

Next, Assistant General Manager King recognized Assistant General Manager Derrick Murphy and Patrick Flannelly of ARCADIS, to present information on the Lake Purdy Dam Stability Improvements Project, in conjunction with Item 1 on the agenda. A handout was provided to Committee members (a copy of which is on file in Diligent BoardBooks). AGM Murphy explained that Lake Purdy Dam is classified as a high hazard dam, per US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Alabama was the last state in the union to adopt a Dam Safety Program (2003), and the dam is aging and needing improvements, being more than 100 years old. Without a Dam Safety Program, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) would not allocate funds in the case of a state of emergency. Various work has been performed on the dam, in 1975

work was performed on seepage control, but other improvements are needed in order to renew the life of the dam. The objectives of the current project according to AGM Murphy are to improve the structural stability to meet a full range of loading conditions, mitigating the seepage that is visible at the foundation and abutments through foundation grouting, improving spillway capacity, raising the non-overflow section of the walls to train flow to the spillway, and rehabilitation of the valve house along with replacement of the valves. Mr. Flannelly addressed the improvement approach, explaining that Schnabel Engineering was working with ARCADIS, as they specialize in solving complex infrastructure problems and mitigate risks. Our relationship with Schnabel dates back to 2011. A diagram was used to acquaint the Committee with the structure; buttress, spillway, and flood walls. Mr. Flannelly explained that the plan is to make the dam wider, bigger, and much beefier, using roller compacted concrete (RCC). Additionally, an apron wall is to be added for erosion control. Wing walls will be raised. It will also require grouting again, which is highly specialized work according to Mr. Flannelly. We will be challenged to protect the river during these processes. An overview of the expected construction schedule was briefly talked about, with the tree clearing beginning November 18, 2024, through March 31, 2025. Roadway construction began September 3, 2024, and will run for approximately 205 days. RCC work will then begin. Diverting water and demo of existing buttress and construction of the left side of the training wall is proposed to begin October 1, 2024, and last approximately 301 days. Other construction will run through 2028. Grouting is scheduled to take place May 29, 2026, through December 9, 2027. The valve house rehab work should be ready to commence January 4, 2027, and run through February 16, 2028. The final completion date is estimated to be April of 2028. Mr. Flannelly talked about endangered species and noted that Fish and Wildlife Services will be monitoring the lake and surrounding area. Certain species of bats and snails are endangered. A biologist will have to be onsite as well, to monitor tree removal, according to Mr. Flannelly. Various permitting requirements that the USACE requires were mentioned. AGM Murphy reminded the Committee that various state regulatory agencies are driving the project. Director Munchus asked if USACE would be sharing the cost. Director NeSmith asked the Board to hold questions until the conclusion of the presentation. Mr. Flannelly responded that some funding comes from the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA), which is essentially the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). AGM Murphy discussed access and the need for road improvements and seasonal constraints, along with the potential community impact to the Brook Highland community. A community meeting will be held prior to the commencement of the work, Mr. Murphy stated. Both AGM Muphy and Mr. Flannelly emphasized that this work is highly specialized, and they talked about pre-qualification and contractor engagement. IGM Jones exited the meeting at 1:14 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 1:16 p.m. Birmingham Water Works (BWW) did hold a pre-bid meeting. No other companies were able to get pre-qualified for various reasons. Director Ward asked how far the skirt comes out at the bottom. AGM Murphy responded that he would get those details to Director Ward. Ultimately there was a single bid from Thalle Construction, Inc., which included 26-line items, according to AGM Murphy. The original bid amount was \$88.45 million. BWW successfully negotiated with Thalle to get the bid price down to \$78.7 million, with a few design changes. The Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) participation amount of 3.46% was negotiated based on the revised bid price. The negotiated bid savings amount is \$9,751,240.00. Mr. Flannelly discussed the design changes. AGM Murphy stated 500 subcontractors were contacted and advertised by Thalle. Construction services will be managed by ARCADIS, Schnabel, and A.G. Gaston. An analysis of HUB participation was discussed along with construction management services. The workforce/labor estimates on HUB

participation are approximately 19.71%. ARCADIS' and Schnabel's HUB participation is approximately 20.02%. Director Huffman thanked AGM Murphy and Patrick Flannelly for the presentation. Director Huffman then asked if 19.71% HUB participation is the total on over a \$80 million project. AGM Murphy responded that was the percentage on only the labor/workforce related portion. Director Huffman also asked when the item went out for bid. AGM Murphy responded February 28, 2024. Director Huffman asked when the bids were tabulated. AGM Murphy responded June 13, 2024. Director Huffman asked what Birmingham Business Resource Center's (BBRC) engagement was, noting that they were brought on to expand the program in April 2024. AGM Murphy stated it was his understanding they were brought on to replace Birmingham Construction Industry Authority (BCIA), adding that they were involved in the onboarding process. Director Huffman asked if the two positions in the Purchasing Department were still vacant. Director Huffman indicated that she was not happy with the HUB participation numbers on this project. Bob Dickerson was available by phone and added that his company primarily does the same type of work that BCIA did for BWB, and that they are 100% committed to increase HUB program, which the new internal employees will be committed to. BBRC's focus is business development and finance, not construction, and not contracting. The scope when we were hired reads as follows; to provide counseling, training, technical assistance, coaching, financial literacy, elevate credit worthiness, lobby for, advocate for and introduce to banks, etc., according to Mr. Dickerson. Last week we did a workshop that Jonathan Jett participated in. Mr. Dickerson stated they were not engaged in other work, but made it clear he wanted to do all he could do to work within their scope. Mr. Dickerson stated he understood the concern on a major project was to increase the HUB numbers. Director Huffman asked Director NeSmith to see what he could do to increase the HUB percentages. Director NeSmith stated the contract bid had been extended to October 11<sup>th</sup>, adding he had gone over this with Mr. Murphy. Mr. NeSmith reminded the Committee that a \$10 million project cost increase occurred on the Shades Mountain Project due to our delay. Director NeSmith also added that this project is 70% material and only 30% is labor, making our percentage goal difficult to reach. This may need to be reported in a different form possibly, according to Director NeSmith, based on the example he gave. Some of the pre-qualifying companies were sole bidders and no HUB companies were involved. Director Ward stated he looked at the dam, and said he felt we have to do this, he then suggested that a possible increase in HUB participation could come from the timber removal phase or road construction. AGM Murphy stated he would also investigate paving opportunities. Director Huffman asked AGM Murphy to coordinate with Mr. Dickerson. Director Munchus stated he had further questions that he would put in an email. Director Munchus asked for an update and more discussion in the upcoming Board meeting. A motion was made by Director NeSmith and seconded by Director Ward, and the Committee recommended to move the Lake Purdy Dam Rehabilitation Project to the Board. An amended motion was made by Director NeSmith and seconded by Director Ward to move the referenced item to the Board with the understanding that Staff will work on increasing the HUB numbers. Director Huffman voted no. Director Huffman asked for an update by email on HUB numbers prior to the next Board meeting.

Following AGM King read into the record, in summary, Items 2 through 7, which were Engineering and Maintenance Division items; a request to recommend to the Board to approve expenditures with Mohawk Lifts, for a tire changing machine, at a cost of \$59,617.66, an award bid to Consolidated Pipe & Supply Company, Inc., for annual quantities of MJ retainer glands, at a cost of \$165,845.00, an award bid to Empire Pipe & Supply Company, Inc., for estimated quantities of MJ valve adapters, at a cost of \$272,676.00, expenditures with Tractor and Equipment

Company for the purchase of one dozier, at an estimated cost of \$314,900.00, expenditures with Tractor and Equipment Company, for six Komatsu mini excavators, at an estimated cost of \$327,030.00, and a bid option to extend a one-year agreement with Empire Pipe and Supply, for estimated quantities of water meters, at an estimated cost of \$6,000,000.00. 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. Director Burbage exited the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

Next, AGM King read into the record, in summary, Items 8 and 9, which were Finance and Administration Division items; a request to recommend to the Board to approve a three-year agreement with C-Spire, for network switch replacement and Meraki license, support and maintenance, at a cost of \$257,770.75, and to approve a three-year agreement with Palo Alto Firewall licenses for network security support for BWW's network, at a cost of \$544,065.00. 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. Director Munchus exited the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

Following, AGM King read into the record Items 10 through 16, which were Operations & Technical Division items; a request to recommend to the Board to exercise its bid option with Chemrite, Inc., for estimated quantities of Potassium Permanganate, at an estimated cost of \$30,872.00, to exercise its bid option with Univar, USA, Inc., for estimated quantities of Hydrofluosilicic Acid, at an estimated cost of \$320,400.00, to exercise its bid option with Harcos Chemical, for estimated quantities of Liquified Chlorine, at an estimated cost of \$546,000.00, to exercise its bid option with Burnett Lime Company, Inc., for Liquid Calcium Hydroxide, at an estimated cost of \$835,840.00, to exercise its bid option with USALCO, for estimated quantities of Liquid Aluminum Sulfate, at an estimated cost of \$882,000.00, to extend a one-year agreement with Allied Universal Security (with no increase), and to provide security services at various sites referenced in the contract, at a cost of \$949,577.00, and to exercise its bid option with Allied Universal Corporation, for estimated quantities of Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite, at an estimated cost of \$1,552,500.00. 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. Director Henderson exited the meeting at 1:56 p.m.

As there was no further business before the Committee, a motion was made by Director Ward and seconded by Director Huffman, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 1:57 p.m..

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Darryl R. Jones  
Interim General Manager

/S/

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Dalton NeSmith  
Engineering and Maintenance Committee Chair

/S/

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Tereshia Huffman  
Director

/S/

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Larry Ward  
Director