

WEST MADISON UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 12, 2022

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the West Madison Utility District was duly convened, held, and conducted on July 12, 2022, in the Kearney Park Community Center at 443 Livingston Vernon Road, Flora MS, as follows to wit:

The President of the Board, Larry Bennett, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The following members were present:

Commissioner Larry Bennett

Commissioner Joyce Monroe

Commissioner Carolyn Andrews

Commissioner Scott Colson

*The following person not present: Commissioner Letitia Reeves*

Commissioner Bennett opened the meeting with a prayer.

President Bennett asked for a motion to accept the Agenda. Commissioner Colson made a motion to accept the July 12, 2022 Agenda. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Monroe with all commissioners voting "aye". The Agenda for the July 12, 2022 Agenda was approved.

Commissioner Bennett asked for a motion to accept and approve the following consent agenda items:

- Ratification of Board action to increase the pay for mowing f all WMUD's properties at the rate of \$600.00 monthly.
- Acknowledgement and Acceptance of EOM RVS Report for June 2022.
- Acceptance and Approval of the June 14, 2022, Minutes
- Acceptance of the May 2022 End of the Month Financials.

Commissioner Colson made a motion of Acceptance and Approval and Commissioner Monroe seconded. All commissioners voted "aye". The Motion carried.

Several customers were present to address the board. President Bennett called customers below in the order listed on the sign in sheet.

**Mark Jordan, property owner on or near Ratliff Road (Estimate #1105)**

Mark Jordan currently resides at 135 Planters Row in Madison, MS. Mr. Jordan is in the process of building a home in the West Madison District on or near Ratliff Road. He addresses the board with an update on his current situation. He commented on contacting Chip Estes to inquire on cost share to run a water line in the area. He commented that Chip Estes was unwilling at this time. Mr. Jordan wanted to know whether the board would consider cost sharing with him to get access to water for his property. President Bennett explained WMUD does not cost share with residents to obtain water. It was discussed about

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the size of line Mr. Jordan would need to his property. Engineer Morgan Sims was asked what he recommends. Engineer Sims recommended a 2-inch line for just one customer and if other customers attach to the line, then he recommended a 4-inch line. Commissioner Andrew wanted to know how soon he plans to build. Mr. Jordan commented if he could get someone to cost share, he would build November of 2022 and if not, he would have to delay until next year in November 2023. Commissioner Andrew asked whether WMUD allow customers to pay in installments. President Bennett commented that installments would be considered. Operator K. T. Newman commented that the price is constant going up. President Bennett concluded the board did not have a concrete answer at this time. Mr. Jordan concluded his address to the board, he would continue to explore his options by contacting Pluto, the other property owner concerning cost sharing. He also stated he has been communicating with Commissioner Letitia Reeves. Finally, Commissioner Andrews asked whether others could attach to the line if Mr. Jordan incur the expense to lay the line and President Bennett replied yes.

**Annie McCree, Magnolia Heights (Estimate #1107)**

Ms. McCree lives at 103 Pine Street in Magnolia Heights. Her complaint was sewer backs up on her property. It is most noticeable during heavy rain. Engineer Sims commented the remedy is to fix the problem at the resident's property. President Bennett commented that there has been work on this project for at least five years. Also stated, Operator Newman provide a cost estimate of \$10,728.00 (*see handout provided by Operator K.T. Newman*) to install a lift to resolve the issue and President Bennett wanted to know was this the only practical solution. Commissioner Colson asked the question how would it work? Operator Newman responded it goes into a manhole. Commissioner Andrews made a motion to install lift station to fix the sewage problem at Ms. Annie McCree's property. Commissioner Monroe seconded. Motion carried.

**Marvin Ross, Representative/Member for Smith Chapel Church**

Mr. Ross addressed the board by asking the question whether the payment can be disregarded since the church was unaware and not responsible for the leak. President Bennett explained WMUD is not allowed to disregard payment for water leak but are allowed to set up installments. President Bennett stated Mr. Ross should get with Operator Newman to complete a form if he would like to pay in installments. Mr. Ross wanted to know why not and who's decision was it to not disregard the payment. Mr. Ross stated that they are a small church and could not pay the bill. Commissioner Andrews commented the rules were made prior to joining the board and she felt strongly that the payment should be disregarded. President Bennett explained WMUD is not a water association, nor a utility company; it is a utility district. Commissioner Andrews further stated she was sympathetic with the church and would like to see some type of assistance for the customer in the future. Mr. Ross asked would the issue be fixed? There was a lengthy discussion.

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President Bennett suggested relocating the pipes. *There was a discussion concerning the current and future location of the pipes.*

**Wallace and Shirley Ross, new home site at 432 Kearney Park Road (Estimate #1106)**

Mr. Ross addressed the board to request an extension to the property at 432 Kearney Park Road (site of construction for new home). It is noted Mr. Ross has already paid the deposit on the meter for his new home. Mr. Ross stated the land is heir property, therefore others may decide later to build in that area and add to the line. Commissioner Colson wanted to know whether the line is to get to his property or to get down into his property. Operator Newman stated the line can be ran to the property in which the homeowner can run the line to his own property. Commissioner Andrews wanted to know how big the line would be. *There was a lengthy discussion on the size of the line. Mr. and Mrs. Ross were given an estimate of \$3212.50 to run the line extension (see handout from Operator K.T. Newman).* President Bennett asked Mr. Ross for a copy of the land plat (copy was made and given to all board members). Finally, it was conveyed to Mr. and Mrs. Ross the meter can be set and water can be run.

**RE: Engineer's Report**

Mr. Morgan Sims, *engineer* stated they continue to find and fix leaks. Mr. Sims further stated that an additional leak was found at Southland Container. Mr. Sim's also commented there has been no communication from Waggoner Engineering

**RE: Operator's Report**

Mr. K.T. Newman, operator reports daily water production continues to go down. Operator Newman says thanks goes to Morgan for his assistance. Operator Newman says he was contacted by Mr. Gill, a resident in the area who states he has been getting an email stating that his bill is past due although he has paid it. Operator Newman says he contacted 'Next Bill' (*online vendor for making payments*) to ask about it and they stated they were unaware of such an email. President Bennett asked about status of securing the garbage cans. Operator Newman reports that he has talked with the welder and in return the measurements taken, and design discussed. However, no price has been given.

President Bennett called for Old Business. *None*

President Bennett called for New Business. *None*

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Commissioner Colson made a motion to adjourn. The board unanimously agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05

*Minutes Prepared by: Commissioner Joyce Monroe in the absence of Commissioner Letitia Reeves.*