

DESOTO COUNTY REGIONAL UTILITY AUTHORITY
Board of Directors
Special Meeting
January 22, 2025
9:00 A.M.

- A. OPENING PRAYER – Wayne Spell
- B. CALL TO ORDER

The Directors present at the meeting were:

Director Andy Swims
Director Barry Bridgforth
Director Pete Scott
Director Chris Wilson
Director Joe Frank Lauderdale
Director Steven Boxx

The January 22, 2025 Special Meeting of the DeSoto County Regional Utility Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Director Swims, DCRUA President. He announced there was a quorum.

- 1. New Director Swearing In: The swearing in was handled by Mary Jane Thornton for Chris Wilson and Steven Boxx.

- C. APPROVAL OF REGULAR & EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Director Andy Swims made a motion to approve the regular minutes of December 18, 2024. Director Steven Boxx seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes
***Exhibit C ***			

- D. APPROVAL OF INVOICES

- 1. After reviewing the list of invoices for payment and discussion of various invoices,

Director Joe Lauderdale made a motion to approve invoices for payment and Director Chris Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes
Exhibit D1			

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. SouthGroup Insurance Review – Davy Hunt & Sarah Edmiston provided an overview of DCRUA Insurance, which addressed pipe coverage. Mr. Hunt noted a few companies who cover utility restrictions from pipe outside 1,000 ft. from the plant, but it would cost up to six figures to cover more than the first 1,000 ft.. It was noted that the largest exposure is when contractors break pipes. Also, it was noted that Pollution Coverage is included in DCRUA's Policy. Barry Bridgforth asked about Umbrella coverage. Nick Manley said, there is a state cap for state claims against DCRUA under the MTCA, but generally not federal for lawsuits. DCRUA currently has \$1 million dollars of liability coverage. Insurance rates have increased over the last 4 to 5 years. Mrs. Edmiston will look at \$5 million dollars for pollution coverage.
2. Camp Creek Drainage Issue – Ross Horton provided an update on this issue. He noted that there was an application being reviewed by DeSoto County whereby Mendrop Engineering was looking at crossing DCRUA's utility easement. The Board discussed the current location and possible elevation of the storm drainpipe. It was noted by Mr. Horton that Mr. Greg Smith with Mendrop Engineering stated the drainpipe from the subdivision cannot tie into the ditch West of Camp Creek. Ross Horton will get the available information to Andy Swims and Joe Lauderdale for review and further discussion among the board members and engineering. It was noted that a site visit is needed for Andy Swims, Barry Bridgforth, and Joe Lauderdale. Andy Swims suggested having a technical meeting. Wayne Spell can set up a meeting with Andy Swims, Youngblood (DeSoto County Engineer), Greg Smith (Engineer), Blake Mendrop (Engineer), Butch Davis (Developer) and Ross Horton.
3. Johnson Creek WWTF Upgrade – Greg Brown gave information update. Mr. Brown provided a good set of samples results with 220 mil per liter and solids are in line. Also, he provided discharge results and aerial photos of proposed facilities. Eddy

Russell to send a permit to Greg Brown as limits at Johnson Creek have been revised. Greg Brown continued explaining proposed facilities for headworks, tanks, clarifiers, disinfection station. Wayne Spell asked about inframark input into the design process. Greg Brown said he and Eddy Russell talked about the design process. Andy Swims wants to know how the inflow and infiltration events will be handled. Greg Brown said inflow and infiltration will be managed at the pumping stations. Wayne Spell offered to arrange and lead a field trip to look at another facility in Rankin County. There was discussion regarding obtaining an easement from the current landowners, which easement is needed for the future expansion and operation of the Johnson Creek Plant. In addition, Wayne Spell and Greg Brown discussed Class A and Class B Sludge in context of costs and removal. After discussion, it was noted that Greg Brown will bring cost back to the board for sludge removal upgrades to Class A.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Executive Director Updates – Wayne Spell

- Mr. Spell attended the Mississippi Economic Council (MEC) Board of Governors meeting in Jackson. The board was addressed by both the Lt. Governor and the Speaker of the House. Both men addressed their plans for income tax changes and the resulting impacts on sales taxes.
- The MEC conducts Amplify Tours across the state where they survey business leaders on the most pressing needs, last year in 20 cities. Top concerns include: Not having access to affordable/quality childcare continues to be a barrier to entering the workforce. There is a continuing need to prioritize investments in transportation, particularly on roads and bridges. K-12 accountability would have the most impact on bridging the gap between education and the state's workforce.
- Other news: MEC is engaged in early discussions w/MMA and BIPEC Business and Industry Political Education Committee about consolidating into one organization for more effective use of resources and influence.
- Mayor Latimer, Mayor Musselwhite, Steven Boxx, Nick Manley, Mary Lee Brown, Manning McPhillips and Wayne met with legislative leadership in Jackson. Speaker Jason White is aware of our needs of \$75 million. He knows it will be done over time.
- Chris Wells, DEQ and Nick Manley talked about the funding and would like to see the county funding. The funding will be \$10 to \$20 million, which was discussed for this year with a three-year commitment.
- Wayne Spell requested permission to renew DCRUA annual MEC membership at \$2,000. A motion was made by Director Steven Boxx and secondly by Director Barry Bridgforth. Motion passed unanimously by all directors present.
- Mr. Spell participated in a Zoom call on the Wedgewood Golf Course survey/Nolehoe gravity flow project. More details to follow next month.

2. Travel Authorization to DC – Nick Manley

Funding purposes for meeting in February recommended by Cornerstone Lobbyist, Manning McPhillips with technical/committee staff. The approval for Travel was made by a motion from Barry Bridgforth and secondly by Chris Wilson. The motion passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes
Exhibit F2			

G. PERMITS

1. Neighborhood at Pebble Ridge (On-Site Treatment) – Audrey Lewis
Joe Lauderdale recused. The motion for approval was made by Barry Bridgforth and seconded by Director Chris Wilson. The motion passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Recused	Director Lauderdale	Recused
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes
Exhibit G1			

2. C-Store at Church and Craft Rd (Olive Branch) – Audrey Lewis
Joe Lauderdale recused from meeting. This item was tabled to next meeting so it could be further reviewed.
3. Delta Landing S/D (Greenway/Easement) –
It was noted that the easement requested by DCRUA as part of the permit was recorded for this subdivision. No action required.

H. ENGINEERING REPORT

1. Ross Horton presented report for Metro WWTF Upgrade
After discussion, Mr. Horton recommended to release remaining retainage in amount of \$150,000. A motion was made by Joe Lauderdale and seconded by Barry Bridgforth. The motion passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

Ross Horton will send a closeout letter approval for Wayne Spell to sign and approval is needed for the letter. The motion was made by Joe Lauderdale and seconded by Barry Bridgforth. The motion passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

2. Short Fork and Ross Road Rehab Project – Ross Horton gave update. Mr. Horton recommended to pay application # 8 in the amount of \$886,903.50. A motion was made by Director Steven Boxx and seconded by Andy Swims to approve the payment to Hemphill. The motion passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

3. Camp Creek Pipeline – Ross Horton

Barry Bridgforth recused. The final P.O. with Cleveland Construction is \$13,260.00 was considered by the Board. Ross Horton explained the price includes levee being brought up on the downside and some elevation. Ross explained more in detail on the pipeline erosion repair. A motion was made by Director Joe Lauderdale and seconded by Steven Boxx to approve the final P.O. The motions passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Recused	Director Bridgforth	Recused
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes
Exhibit H1, H2 and H3			

I. OPERATIONS REPORT

1. Inframark Report (Ross Road, Short Fork, and Western Facility) – Eddy Russell and Scott Cleven stated a sole source purchase is needed for Etec in the amount of \$14,960.00. A motion was made by Director Andy Swims and seconded by Joe Lauderdale for the purchase.

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Absent	Director Bridgforth	Absent
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes
Exhibit I1			

Wayne Spell asked about the life of equipment. Eddy said it had a long life and noted it is a good upgrade. A motion was made to authorize quote amount if needed by Director Steven Boxx and seconded by Director Chris Wilson. The motion passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Absent	Director Bridgforth	Absent

Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

Exhibit I1

Scott Cleven informed the board of violations at the plants. Both Plants had E-coli violations and Short Fork also had a flow violation. Steven Boxx said Lake Forest metering amounts were high. Why? Eddy due to 4" flume. The reason for the spiking in Lake Forest.

Johnson Creek experienced power quality issues. The generator would not switched out. A technician was called to current the problem. The issue was with Entergy for the generator technician costs. Director Andy Swims made a motion to submit a damage claim to Entergy and to add Pete Scott's name to the letter. It was seconded by Director Chris Wilson. The motion passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

Exhibit I1

2. Mitchell Technical Services, Inc. (Metro WWTF and Fox Creek) – Mr. David Karr presented the December report. Test on January 6th has no results at this time. Issue with metals now and looking to resolve it. The Mixer and Reactor broke and working on getting it back up and running. Wayne Spell requested that David Karr and Eddy Russell update and send in their annual chemical budget estimates. Andy Swims requested status with Mitchell Technical to help solve these issues as superintendent. Nick Manley will follow up with Jim Mozingo regarding contract proposal for superintendent.
- J. Flow Report - Audrey Lewis reviewed report and noted the New meter at Walls was installed. As part of report, Audrey presented a flow Allocations for the members and needs Wayne Spell to sign letter = A motion was made by Barry Bridgforth and seconded by Joe Lauderdale for Mr. Spell to sign the letter. The motion passed as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes

Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

Exhibit J

K. Executive Session –

In accordance with Section 25-41-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, a motion was made by Director Bridgforth to go into executive session to discuss land purchase and seconded by Director Boxx. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Absent	Director Lauderdale	Absent
Director Tucker	Yes	Director Tucker	Yes
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

1. Land Acquisition for future Eastern Treatment Plant –. After considering the appraisal for the DePriest Property and the counter-offer by DePriest, A motion was made by Andy Swims to offer \$1,000,000.00 to purchase the property and send a signed contract, which includes 270 days for due diligence and rezoning of the property, to Depriest for the purchase. The motion was seconded by Barry Bridgforth. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Yes	Director Bridgforth	Yes
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

Exhibit K1

A motion was made to close Executive Session by Director Andy Swims and seconded by Joe Lauderdale. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

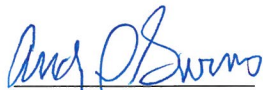
Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes

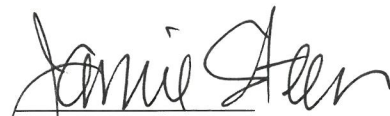
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Absent	Director Bridgforth	Absent
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes

L. ADJOURN/RECESS

Director Pete Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Joe Lauderdale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Full		Flow	
Director Swims	Yes	Director Swims	Yes
Director Wilson	Yes	Director Wilson	Yes
Director Bridgforth	Absent	Director Bridgforth	Absent
Director Lauderdale	Yes	Director Lauderdale	Yes
Director Tucker	Absent	Director Tucker	Absent
Director Scott	Yes	Director Scott	Yes
Director Boxx	Yes	Director Boxx	Yes


Board President


Board Clerk