

Mobile Area Water & Sewer System (MAWSS)

News Advisory

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Judge Orders MAWSS to Assume Control of Prichard Water

Mobile Circuit Court Judge Michael Youngpeter today ordered Mobile Area Water & Sewer System (MAWSS) to take over the day-to-day operations of the Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Prichard (PWWB). It's the second time this week the judge has ruled that MAWSS should take over the operation.

On Tuesday, the Judge ruled in MAWSS' favor, upholding the constitutionality of Amendment 5, which was overwhelmingly approved in the November election statewide and by customers of both utilities. That amendment called for the Prichard Water and Sewer Board to be dissolved and for MAWSS to take over the operation. The Prichard Board asked for a stay to allow them to appeal the ruling, claiming the amendment was unconstitutional.

Today's ruling says the PWWB can retain its corporate existence only for the sake of filing an appeal with a higher court. The Prichard Board can no longer meet and Board members cannot receive any compensation.

The order also prohibits MAWSS from making any permanent or irreversible interconnection between the systems pending the outcome of the anticipated appeal.

MAWSS is asking Prichard customers to continue paying their bills as they have been while a smooth and orderly transition takes place.