

**BUSINESS OFFICE, 4725 MOFFETT ROAD, MOBILE, ALABAMA**  
**June 16, 2025**

The Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners of the City of Mobile met this Monday in their regular session at  
1:30 p.m. at MAWSS' Park Forest Plaza.

**PRESENT:**

Ms. Barbara Drummond, Chair  
Ms. Linda St. John, Vice Chair  
Mr. Jay W. Weber, Secretary-Treasurer  
Mr. Thomas Zoghby, Commissioner  
Mr. Raymond L. Bell, Jr., Commissioner  
Ms. Maria Gonzalez, Commissioner  
Mr. John C. Williams, Commissioner

Mr. Bud McCrory, Jr., Director  
Mr. Bradley Dean, Attorney  
Mr. Douglas L. Cote  
Mr. Daryl Russell  
Ms. Calressia Clark  
Ms. Fatima Washington

Chair Drummond called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

There were no **Committee Reports** or **Visitors** present requesting an audience with the Board.

Mr. McCrory extended warm wishes and congratulations to **MR. EUGENE DANDRIDGE**, Crew Chief, on his retirement after 27 years of service to the Board and **MRS. MONICA WOODS – MOORE**, Administrative Support Assistant, on her retirement after 18 years of service to the Board.

Chair Drummond presented the **Consent Agenda Items** for approval, and they are as follows:

**Item 4                      Consent Agenda**

Bids and Purchasing

- A. IFB 25-009 Annual Contract – Easement Herbicide Treatment
- B. IFB 25-018 Annual Contract – Custodial Services
- C. IFB 25-020 Annual Contract for Aggregates – Various Size Limestone
- D. Sole Source Purchase of Two (2) Instrument Air Compressors for C. C. Williams WWTP
- E. Jacobs D3521300 Myers WTP SCADA Upgrades
- F. Jacobs D3788300 Halls Mill Lift Station Surge Tank
- G. McCrory & Williams M5712-2813 Smith WWTP Entrance Road Improvements
- H. Volkert Project No. 1201846.002 C. C. Williams S1 Digester Repairs CO #1

Commissioner Williams moved for approval of the **Consent Agenda**. Commissioner Bell seconded and the motion then carried with the unanimous vote of the Board.

April Boudreaux and Mark Chapman, representing Smith Dukes, approached the Board with a condensed **presentation** of the **2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report**. In conclusion, the following statements were highlighted:

- ‘In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type and fiduciary activities of the Board as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.’
- ‘In our opinion, the supplementary information and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.’
- ‘...during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.’
- ‘The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

‘In our opinion, the Board complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2024.

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Board June 16, 2025**

The **Minutes of May 5, 2025** were presented for approval. Commissioner Bell moved for approval and Commissioner Gonzalez seconded. The motion then carried with the unanimous vote of the Board.

**Bid Openings** were next, Mr. Cote read the bid tabs as follows:

### **Item 6A            Jacobs D3887600 – C. C. Williams WWTP Chlorine/SO2 Building and Digester Modifications**

The engineers estimate for this project is \$4,536,000\*; there was one bidder, Robert J. Baggett, Inc. The SSO Notification Form was not completed in the submittal packet. The bid amount was \$10,231,737.

**Legal** was next and Attorney Dean stated there are three potential litigation matters appropriate for discussion in an Executive Session.

There were no items of **Unfinished Business**.

**New Business** was next and they are as follows:

### **Item 9A            Mobile County – Right of Way Request for Natchez Trace Road as needed to construct paving and drainage improvements as part of the MCR-2022-207 “Pay As You Go” Project**

Mr. Russell stated that the request, as received from the County, is recommended for approval. It is an extension of an ongoing project in the referenced area and will prove beneficial to the organization as having the roads paved will provide easier access, prevent run-off and discourage vandalism.

Commissioner Williams moved for approval; Commissioner Bell seconded and the motion then carried with the unanimous vote of the Board.

### **Item 9B            2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report**

Mr. Shepard presented for acceptance the report as reviewed in depth during the April 29, 2025 Finance/Risk Management Committee Meeting and shown in a condensed version during the presentation portion of today's agenda.

Commissioner Zoghby moved for acceptance; Commissioner Williams seconded and the motion then carried with the unanimous vote of the Board.

### **Item 9C            Proposed Tier II Conversion Resolution**

Mr. McCrory stated that staff has worked extensively over the last few years providing data to the Board in favor of the possible conversion of Tier II benefits to Tier I benefits for all Tier II members within the organization. At this time, there are 829 agencies that fall under the RSA umbrella; 624 have converted since the initial conversion offering, including 36 local agencies.

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, staff received an updated actuarial cost to MAWSS in the amount of \$1,700,000. Staff is of the opinion that this conversion will improve recruitment efforts and enhance motivation while preserving internal knowledge.

Commissioner Bell moved for approval of the Tier II to Tier I Conversion Resolution as entered below; Commissioner Gonzalez seconded.

#### ***RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE TIER I BENEFITS TO TIER II PLAN MEMBERS***

***WHEREAS***, under the provisions of Act 2022-348, employers who participate in the Employees' Retirement System pursuant to Ala. Code § 36-27-6 may elect to provide Tier I retirement benefits to Tier II plan members, and

***WHEREAS***, The Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners participates in the Employees' Retirement System pursuant to Ala. Code § 36-27-6 and wishes to improve retirement benefits for its Tier II plan members;

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY [THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT]***, that The Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners elects to provide Tier I retirement benefits to its Tier II plan members, subject to approval by the

## Minutes of the meeting of the Board June 16, 2025

*Employees' Retirement System Board of Control; that, if approved, such election shall be effective the following fiscal year and is irrevocable.*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners has reviewed the actuarial cost estimates provided by the Employees' Retirement System for such election and agrees to pay any resulting increases in the employer contribution rate.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that beginning in the month that such election is effective, October 1, 2025's Tier II plan members shall contribute 7.5% of their earnable compensation to the Employees' Retirement System and [the local government]'s Tier II plan members who are firefighters or law enforcement officers, as defined by Ala. Code § 36-27-59(a), shall contribute 8.5% of their earnable compensation to the Employees' Retirement System, as required by Act 2022-348.

Commissioner Zoghby expressed that the current benefits as offered by the organization are stellar and he is uncomfortable voting to expend rate payer funds to further enhance benefits that are already very good. Commissioner Weber questioned if staff has an updated 'catch-up provision' annual cost. Mr. McCrory stated at this time it remains at \$60,000 as approved by RSA.

Commissioner Zoghby voted nay, Commissioner Weber voted nay, Commissioner Williams voted nay; Commissioner St. John voted nay. The motion did not carry, with two members of the Board voting for and four members of the Board voting against.

### Item 10 Information Only Items:

- A. IFB 25-017 Roofing Overlay for EOC/Central Lab
- B. IFB 25-021 Annual Contract for Safety Shoes
- C. Professional Services – Public Relations Assistance for Big Creek Lake and Prichard Water
- D. Purchase of a 2010 Combee Airboat for Big Creek Lake
- E. Service of Fifty (50) Diesel Driven Auxiliary Pumps
- F. Sole Source Purchase of Parts for ADS Flow Monitors
- G. Sole Source Repair Labor for Pump #3 at Eslava LS156
- H. Sole Source Purchase of a Wilo Pump for Old Military LS092
- I. HDR 10195981 Stickney 50MG Reservoir Improvements Project Owners Allowance Allocation #5
- J. M5712-2727 Tennessee Street Water Relocation Project FINAL Summary Change Order #
- K. M5712-2774 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave Sewer Repair FINAL Summary Change Order #1
- L. M5712-2798 / M5712-2800 Moffett Road 36" Water Valve Improvements (Base Bid) & Springhill Avenue Connection of 36" to 30" Water Line (Additive Alternate) FINAL Summary Change Order #1
- M. June 2025 LifeSouth Blood Drive Memo
- N. Consultant Project Status – April 2025

There being no further business to come before the Board at 1:45 p.m., Chair Drummond stated the Board will move into Executive Session.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **July 7, 2025** at 1:30 p.m.

  
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Jay W. Weber, Secretary-Treasurer