

BUSINESS OFFICE, 4725 MOFFETT ROAD, MOBILE, ALABAMA
September 8, 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 Commissioner Williams gave the invocation.

Committee Reports were next; Mr. McCrory addressed the Board with a brief recap of the *Human Resources Committee Meeting* held on August 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Staff and representatives from Cobbs Allen, presented documentation to the committee in regards to the *2025 Benefits Review*. No rate changes were recommended.

Staff introduced an updated structure to the existing Health Risk Assessment (HRA). The updated structure will now include an *Outcomes-Based HRA* available to employees enrolled in the health plan, and is designed to encourage our employees towards optimal health management. The targeted implementation date is scheduled for January 2026.

In conclusion, the committee briefly discussed avenues to expand the *Employee Incentive Program* with an emphasis on turnover rate reduction.

The *Finance / Risk Management Committee* met this morning, September 8th at 10:30 a.m. Topics for discussion included the results from the *2025 Cost-of-Service Study Results*; which is requested every 4-5 years, the *2026 Proposed Operating & Capital Budget (Financial Model Review)*, *Policy and Procedure Manual Changes* (Fee Schedule), *Purchasing Processes and Purchasing Card Policy Updates*, *Current Investment Updates* and the *Investment Policy / Future Cash Flows*.

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

Mr. McCrory extended warm wishes and congratulations to **MR. JERMAINE CROMWELL**, Equipment Operator II, on his retirement after 20 years of service.

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

Item 4 Consent Agenda

Bids and Purchasing

- A. IFB 25-031 Powder Activated Carbon
- B. IFB 25-032 Purchase & Installation of Six (6) Flocculators at Stickney WTP
- C. IFB 25-037 Annual Contract for Soil Materials Supply/Disposal Schedules A/B
- D. IFB 25-039 Liquid Chlorine – Annual Contract
- E. M5712-2766 Transite Pipe Replacement – PH II
- F. M5712-2673 Mobile River 16" Waterline Replacement Final Summary Change Order No. 1
- G. M5712-2816 Eight Mile Creek 18" Sewer Line Replacement MH 401-MH 407 (Subcontractor addition)

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

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Mr. Cote approached the Board with a **presentation** on the *Gaillard Raw Water Pump Station Improvements*. Detailed information was shared on the following topics:

- **Pump Station History** (Constructed in 1952 and is the sole drinking water source for the entire system)
- **Necessity for Upgrades** (Structure is 70+ years old / upgrades will provide dependability to the pump station)
- **Resiliency** (Emergency Bypass Connection Project is in design and will maintain water supply to WTPs in the case of a catastrophic event or existing pump failure)
- **Stages of Upgrades** (There will be four stages to complete the upgrades: 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B)
- **Funding Sources:**
 - Emergency Bypass Connection – Clean Water State Revolving Fund
 - Phase 1A Upgrades – Partnership with USACE (25% MAWSS/75% Federal)
 - Phase 1B Structural Improvements – Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
 - Phase 2A and 2B Upgrades – MAWSS is requesting assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Section 219 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).
- **Project Schedule for Anticipated Completion**

Mr. Cote concluded his presentation and clarified that with the replacement of the system motors, even though the current engineer is retiring, the upgraded system allows for a wider selection of trained individuals that are able to perform basic maintenance and ensure long-term system reliability.

The **Minutes of August 4, 2025** were presented for approval. Commissioner Bell moved for approval and Commissioner Williams 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 McCrory & Williams M5712-2824 2025 Annual Contract for Two-Eye Fire Hydrant Replacement

The engineers estimate for this project is \$500,000; there were five bidders. The apparent low bidder is Hughes Companies, Inc., in the amount of \$472,796.32.

Item 6B McCrory & Williams M5712-2826 Scott Dairy Loop – Dawes Lake Road Sewer Force Main

The engineers estimate is \$3,000,000; there was one bidder. The apparent low bidder is Underground, Inc., in the amount of \$3,320,295.25. Staff requests approval giving the Director the authority to award this project upon recommendation of the engineer and review by the DBE Department.

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

Legal was next and Attorney Dean stated there are several litigation matters and one property matter 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 Facilities for Acceptance: Colony Woods Townhomes (Sewer Facilities Only)

Mr. Russell addressed the Board, requesting approval of the sewer facilities of the referenced item in the amount of \$23,889. The property is located on the east side of Dawes Road, south of Airport Boulevard and will contain 64 residential units. Staff has reviewed the project and the close-out documentation and recommends acceptance of the sewer facilities as noted above.

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

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Item 9B Gaillard Pump Station Project – Federal Funding Request to delegate authority to designee to execute the agreement on the Board's behalf.

Approval is requested to designate Mr. Cote as the official representative to execute the agreement with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. Commissioner Zoghby moved for approval and Commissioner Gonzalez seconded. The motion then carried with the unanimous vote of the Board.

Item 9C Proposed Updates and Changes to MAWSS Purchasing Policies: i. MAWSS Purchasing Policy 92-6 ii. MAWSS Purchasing Card Program Policy HR 08-03

Mr. Shepard approached the Board and requested approval of the proposed changes to the referenced policies as reviewed during the Finance / Risk Management meeting conducted on September 8, 2025. Supporting documentation detailing the changes is included in the Board packet.

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

Item 10 Information Only Items:

- A. IFB 25-034 Purchase of a Skid Mounted Backup Pump for Wright Smith WWTP
- B. IFB 25-036 Cranes & Hoists Testing and Inspection Services – Annual Contract
- C. Budget IFB 25-038 Installation of Flow Meters at Myers WTP
- D. Annual Service Agreement Fire Protection Inspection Renewal
- E. Annual Subscription and Kiosk Lease (Y3)
- F. Budget Increase Request for Annual Contract MAWSS 22029 – Cast Iron Valve Boxes & Risers
- G. Co-op Annual Agreement for the Purchase of Employee Uniforms
- H. Ext 2 MAWSS 23020 Annual Contract – Wire Fencing at Big Creek Lake (Y3)
- I. Professional Service – Bill Print Modification in Capricorn
- J. Purchase and Installation of Chlorine Building Doors at Wright Smith WWTP
- K. Purchase of OpenFlows WorkSuite Software
- L. Purchase of Twenty (20) Portable Radios
- M. Sole Source Purchase of an ABS Pump for Florida St LS032
- N. Sole Source Purchase of an Endress + Hauser Flowmeter for Eslava LS156
- O. Sole Source Repair of Hydra-Stop Insertion Valves
- P. Sole Source Repair of Twelve (12) ADS Flow Monitors
- Q. Stantec Consulting Service Inc. Project No. 175578363 Big Creek Lake Dam Toe Berm & Drainage Improvements OAA #1
- R. McCrory Williams Project M5712-2650 Phase III (S) CWSRF Project CS010281-16 *Final Summary Change Order No. 1*
- S. McCrory Williams Project M5712-2799 Mobile Amtrak Station Water Line Relocation *Final Summary Change Order No. 1*
- T. Azalea Landing Apartments (*Water Meters/Easements Access Only*)
- U. The Pines at Dawes Subdivision (*Water Meters/Easements Access Only*)
- V. Consultant Project Status Reports – July 2025

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There being no further business to come before the Board at 1:55 p.m., Commissioner Bell motioned to move into **Executive Session**; Commissioner Williams seconded and the motion then carried with the unanimous vote of the Board.

*Commissioner Williams left at 1:56 p.m.

At 3:15 p.m. the Board reconvened into regular session. Attorney Dean requested the Board approve, as discussed during Executive Session, for the Director to act pursuant to Alabama Code Section 13A-7-43 (1975). Approval was granted with the unanimous vote of the Board present.

Attorney Dean continued and requested approval, as discussed during Executive Session, for himself and the Director to pursue appropriate action with the Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources in determining the status of J B Converse Reservoir (*Big Creek Lake*).

Commissioner Bell moved for approval and Commissioner St. John seconded. The motion then carried with the unanimous vote of the Board present.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **October 6, 2025** at 1:30 p.m. and will be held at the **Clifton C. Williams Wastewater Treatment Plant** (1600 Yeend Street Mobile, Alabama 36603).



Jay W. Weber, Secretary-Treasurer