

Accepted by:


Chairman, Daphne Utilities



APPROVED MINUTES

Utilities Board Meeting

Council Chambers, Daphne City Hall ♦ April 30, 2025 ♦ 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

The regular April 2025 Board meeting for the Utilities Board of the City of Daphne was held on April 30, 2025, in the Council Chambers at Daphne City Hall and called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairwoman Selena Vaughn, followed by the Roll Call:

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Selena Vaughn, Chairwoman
Tim Patton, Vice Chairman
Billy Mayhand, Secretary/Treasurer
Councilman Joel Coleman, Board Member

Members Absent: Mayor Robin LeJeune, Board Member

Others Present: Scott Polk – CEO/General Manager
Alex Godfrey – Chief Operations Officer
Lexus Carlee – Chief Finance Officer
Samantha Coppels – Chief Communications Officer
Kelly DeLaney – Customer Service Manager
Lori Wilson – Executive Assistant

Others Absent: Jerry Speegle – Board Attorney

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairwoman led the Board and meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Utilities Board Meeting Minutes March 26, 2025

The Chairwoman requested any additions, corrections, or deletions for the submitted minutes of the regular Daphne Utilities Board meeting of March 26, 2025.

With no additions, deletions or corrections, the Chairwoman declared that the submitted minutes of the regular Daphne Utilities Board meeting of March 26, 2025, would stand approved.

V. OLD BUSINESS –

A. None

VI. NEW BUSINESS –

A. Resolution 2025-01 MWPP – Resolution to Adopt and Approve the MWPP (Municipal Water Pollution Prevention) Program (**Board Action: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution 2025-01**)

CEO/GM Scott Polk explained that this was a part of the annual report to ADEM relating to Daphne Utilities' collection system and protection of the watershed. He noted that there was one change in the report that would be corrected before submitting to ADEM and that GMC was a consulting engineering company and would answer any questions the Board had.

MOTION by Mr. Tim Patton to accept the presented MWPP including the Resolution [2025-01] that is a part of it ; the Motion was seconded by Mr. Billy Mayhand.

AYE: Coleman, Mayhand, Patton, Vaughn **NAY:** **ABSENT:** LeJeune **ABSTAIN:** **MOTION CARRIED**

VII. BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT

In Mr. Speegle's absence, Scott Polk announced that there was originally a deposition scheduled in approximately a week that had been cancelled due to travel/medical reasons and both parties agreed to extend a deadline to set a trial past October 15 of this year and submitted as such to the legal system for approval and we have not heard anything further.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Manager Lexus Carlee highlighted for the Board: increase in total assets, revenue slightly under projections, expenses slightly under budget, net income increase above estimates, and a review of significant cash payments.

Mr. Polk noted a recent approval for budgeted truck purchases that will be reflected in the coming month.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. GM Report

CEO/GM Scott Polk reported to the Board regarding: the Pollard Road and CR64 intersection continued shut-down with coordination with the City ongoing; the first meeting with the consulting engineer to discuss the Preliminary Engineering report for the Water Reclamation facility recently occurred and they indicated that when getting closer to providing deliverables, they would be willing to provide a board report and/or attend a board meeting to answer any questions the Board may have; the rehab of Well #15 is finalizing and have confirmed that Wells #15 & #1 can run together to provide back up if Well #13 goes down which was an initial goal; beginning the process of investigating a new well in the vicinity of Trojan Plant, originally looking around the Douglas Road area though stronger pockets of iron was revealed in that area and now investigating the facility in or around Trojan Plant which may be more beneficial; notes from the public recognizing of our efforts to keep things under control during the past two weekends of heavy rain.

Communications Officer Samantha Coppels reported on the grant winner school projects.

B. Operations Report

Chief Operations Officer Alex Godfrey confirmed Mr. Polk's comments regarding the storm and also praised the employees' dedication. He notified the Board of several projects ongoing with all the departments. He advised the Board members of a topic mentioned last month of the new answering system, Daupler, had been activated and no issues yet. He also informed the Board that the annual Public Service Commission natural gas inspection is currently underway with good reports at his exit interview with the Commission.

Chairwoman Vaughn asked about calls regarding brown water in Olde Town. Mr. Polk responded that there is less frequency of discolored water in Olde Town than in other parts of the system, noting that most calls received now are traceable to a contractor hitting a line or someone filling off of a fire hydrant

Mr. Tim Patton commented that while he was attending the water conference, the 811 representative mentioned that Daphne Utilities was one of the best groups to work with across the state.

Chairwoman Vaughn asked how the creek restoration project held out during the recent rain storms. Mr. Godfrey noted that the repair and restoration was holding up well and that our wastewater collection employees monitors it on a regular basis.

She also asked about last month's discussion regarding the issues surrounding the property project on AL181. Mr. Polk stated as he understood it that the IDB owns the pipes, the Church of the Highlands failed the flow test and did not pass for fire flow, there was a meeting between the City and Belforest Water and as told Belforest Water indicated that it was not in their agreement to provide fire flow and only to provide potable water for businesses. He stated that the City attorney has had a conversation about this with Mr. Speegle. He stated that as he knew, the project was on hold and volunteered Daphne Utilities to provide fire flow as long as Daphne Utilities was given the pipes. He also mentioned that Belforest still does not have a franchise agreement with the City of Daphne, meaning the Daphne Utilities customers are still paying a tax and or franchise fee or impact fee, which hopefully will be addressed soon.

C. Engineering & Consulting Reports – nothing to add to the submitted reports

IX. BOARD ACTION – previously addressed.

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – At 5:17pm, Chairwoman Vaughn opened and closed public participation noting that there was no participation.

XI. BOARD COMMENTS –

No comments from Councilman Joel Coleman; Mr. Mayhand commented that he thought everyone was doing a great job and get ready for a busy summer; and Mr. Tim Patton appreciated looking ahead investigating for another well instead of not waiting until it's needed. Mr. Polk added we are also working with the City regarding a few parcels of land in a possible trade; Mr. Patton noted the additional training that is ongoing for employees is really good along with the additional GPS points and appreciated that information.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

With no additional comments, the Chairwoman Vaughn called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Joel Coleman made the Motion to Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:38am.

Preceding minutes submitted to the Daphne Utilities Board by:


Lori Wilson, Executive Assistant, Daphne Utilities