

BENTON/WASHINGTON REGIONAL PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY
Of the State of Arkansas

April 24th, 2025 Board of Directors' Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors' Meeting for April 24th, 2025 was called to order by Chairman Boston at 0903 hours in the Authority's Board Room at the Water Treatment Plant. Opening invocation was given by Director Craft.

Directors and/or Alternates

Bella Vista POA	Charlie Holt
BCWD #1	William Putman
Centerton	Malcolm Attwood
Decatur	James Boston
Gentry	Rick Craft
Garfield/Gateway/Lost Bridge	Gary Blackburn
Gravette	Richard Sutherland
Highfill	Dustin Kahrl
Lincoln	ABSENT
Pea Ridge	Ken Hayes
Prairie Grove	ABSENT
WWA	Sarah Alonzo
Westville	Zeb Black
Tontitown	James Clark

Others in attendance included Manager Borman, Nathan Hooper, Eddie Cooper, Darrin Byrum, and Jana Wright from BWRPWA, Matt Dunn, Josh Moore, and James Martin from Crist Engineers, Jake Wagner from City of Pea Ridge, Jeremy Rawn from ESI, Stan Rodgers from Regions Bank, Jacob Davis from BCWD #1, Bob Tharp from City of Decatur, Ryan Hanson from Simmons Foods, Michael Moyer from Friday Law Firm, Gayle Combs from CISA, Bob Wright from Crews and Associates, and Kevin Lepola.

The minutes from the March 20th, 2025 Board Meeting were discussed. On a motion made by Director Kahrl, and a second by Director Attwood, the March 20th, 2025 minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurers' Report – Treasurers' Report was given by Director Craft, which included for the period of March 12th, 2025 through April 15th, 2025. Director Craft discussed the check detail with the Board, which included payroll, electronic fund transfers, and checks 20730-20782. Director Craft then discussed with the Board the financials, which included a Profit and Loss Previous Year Comparison, Profit and Loss with FY 25 Budget, and a Balance Sheet. After Board discussion of the financials, Director Holt made a motion to approve the Check Detail for payroll, electronic fund transfers, checks 20730-20782, and the financials as presented. A second was made by Director Attwood. The motion was approved unanimously.

Gayle Combs – CISA / Homeland Security – Water Utility Cybersecurity – Ms. Gayle Combs from CISA (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency) then gave her presentation to the Board. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Department of Energy (DOE) referred to as "the authoring organization" are aware of cyber incidents affecting the operational technology (OT) and industrial control systems (ICS) of critical infrastructure entities in the United States – cyber threats are targeting ICS/SCADA systems in the Energy and Transportation System Sectors. The authoring organizations urge critical infrastructure entities to review and act to improve their cybersecurity posture against cyber threat activities specifically and intentionally targeting connected OT and ICS. The authoring organizations recommend critical infrastructure asset owners and operators implement the following mitigations to defend against OT threats.

1. Remove OT connections to the public internet
2. Change default passwords immediately and often – use strong, unique passwords
3. Secure remote access to OT networks
4. Segment IT and OT networks
5. Practice and maintain the ability to operate OT systems manually.

CISA offers many resources and tools to help with cybersecurity. After Ms. Gayle Combs gave her presentation, questions were asked and answered.

Matt Dunn and Josh Moore with Crist Engineers then gave the update on current ongoing projects:
4 MG Composite Elevated Water Storage Tank

- Notice of Award issued on October 28, 2022
- Contract Time – 755 Calendar Days
- Substantial Completion Date – October 14, 2024
- Final Completion Date – December 3, 2024
- Contract Amount - \$12,726,000.00
- Change Order #1 - +\$12,233.00
- Change Order #2 - -\$15,022.00
- Current Revised Contract Amount - \$12,723,211.00
- Pay Application #25 - \$14,295.60
- Total Payment to Date - \$12,081,017.95
- Balance Remaining - \$642,193.05
- Tank is currently in service to the system. Working on final punch list items and nearing final project closeout.

High Service Pump Station and Electrical Upgrades

- Project in CMAR. Seven Valley's Concrete is CMAR contractor
- CMAR Phase 1 – Building and Concrete work – GMP \$6,800,000.00
 - Notice to Proceed – June 10, 2024
 - Contract Time – 295 calendar days
 - Substantial Completion Date – March 1, 2025
 - Final Completion Date – April 1, 2025
 - Original GMP - \$6,800,000.00
 - Pay Application #10 - \$239,052.29
 - Total Payment to Date - \$4,250,919.34
 - Balance Remaining - \$2,549,080.66
 - Work Underway
 - Prep work for top underway. Prepping for concrete placement
 - Building package set to deliver 1st week of May
 - Submittals and RFI's underway
 - Meter Vault construction underway
- CMAR Phase 2 – Electrical and other work – GMP \$11,700,000.00
 - Notice to Proceed – November 25, 2024
 - Contract Time – 430 calendar days
 - Substantial Completion Date – December 30, 2025
 - Final Completion Date – January 29, 2026
 - Original GMP - \$11,700,000.00
 - Change Order #1 - \$429,372.00
 - Current GMP - \$12,129,372.00
 - Pay Application #4 – \$346,313.95
 - Total payment to date - \$2,275,866.78
 - Balance remaining - \$9,853,505.22
 - Work underway

- Submittals and RFI'S on VFD/E-house underway
- Numerous electrical submittals and RFI's have been processed
- 5 large concrete manhole vaults completed. Conduit piping between manholes underway.
- Conduit should be installed in wet well top slab within the next couple of weeks
- Generator and Switchgear Procurement
 - **Nixon Power – Direct Procurement from Kohler**
 - Modified Proposal Executed – May 15, 2024
 - Generator, Load Bank Transformer, and Switchgear – all submittals approved, equipment has been ordered, and equipment is in production
 - Contract Amount - \$6,131,413.00
 - Pay Application #1 - \$613,141.30
 - Total payment to date- \$613,141.30
 - Balance Remaining - \$5,518,271.70
 - Estimated Deliveries – updated
 - ❖ Approved Submittals – September 20, 2024
 - ❖ Generator – May 18, 2025
 - ❖ Switchgear – August 12, 2026
 - ❖ Permanent Load Bank – May 5, 2025
- High Service Pumps Procurement (2 pumps w/ motors)
 - **Tencarva Machinery**
 - Notice of Award – February 22, 2023
 - Contract Time – 361 calendar days
 - Final Completion Date – February 18, 2024
 - Contract Amount - \$1,018,816.00
 - Pay Application #1 - \$916,934.40
 - Total payment to date - \$916,934.40
 - Balance remaining - \$101,881.60
 - Delivery to BWRPWA – On hold
 - Pumps built and passed testing process
 - Pumps and motors in storage in Springdale

Parallel 54" Transmission Line – Phase 1

- The project has been split into two contracts – Phase 1A and Phase 1B.
- **Phase 1A – KAJACS Construction**
 - Notice to Proceed – September 5, 2023
 - Contract Time – 450 calendar days
 - Substantial Completion Date – January 7, 2025
 - Final Completion Date – February 26, 2025
 - Original Contract Amount - \$11,820,000.00
 - Change Order #1 (yard piping) - +\$980,000.00
 - Change Order #2 (yard piping) - + \$125,000.00
 - Current Contract Amount - \$12,925,000.00
 - Pay Application #20 - \$660,792.97
 - Total Payment to Date - \$12,736,877.81
 - Balance Remaining - \$188,122.19
 - Currently working on cleanup, fence repairs, gate installs, ARV's, low point drains, etc. Cleanup between Tuck's Chapel and Cemetery Road should be seeded and mulched this week. The remainder of the job has received hydroseed, mulch, and/or erosion control blankets. Contractor putting final fences up, signage, and other items to complete project. Filling and Flushing will be completed when pipe for phase 2A is here and extended to an area that can accept a large amount of water from flushing. Phase 1A, Phase 1B and part of Phase 2A will be flushed.

- Yard Piping project – Change Order \$980,000.00
 - All large diameter piping installed including into the clearwell. Small diameter (12”) to new HSPS to be installed when HSPS project has pipe stubbed out from under the slab of the north side of the wetwell.
 - Working on one valve that is leaking in the yard piping. American is involved with this issue.
- **Phase 1B – KAJACS Construction**
 - Notice to proceed – September 5, 2023
 - Contract Time – 450 calendar days
 - Substantial Completion Date – October 9, 2024
 - Final Completion Date – February 26, 2025
 - Original Contract Amount - \$11,820,000.00
 - Change Order #1 (lagoon maintenance) - +\$856,125.00
 - Change Order #2 (lagoon maintenance) - +\$624,950.00
 - Change Order #3 (lagoon maintenance) - +\$195,500.00
 - Change Order #4 (linework) - +\$50,130.00
 - Change Order #5 (linework) - +\$165,000.00
 - Current Contract Amount - \$13,711,705.00
 - Pay Application #20 - \$673,231.51
 - Payment from Bond Funds - \$586,727.76
 - Payment from BWRPWA Funds - \$86,503.75
 - Total Payment to Date - \$13,527,280.01
 - Balance Remaining - \$184,424.99
 - Final payment of retainage has been paid on Lagoon Maintenance project
 - Currently working on final cleanup, hydroseeding, mulching, fence repairs, gate installs, ARV's, low point drains, paving of road crossings, etc. Contractor putting final fences up, signage, and other items to complete project. Filling and Flushing will be completed when pipe for phase 2A is here and extended to an area that can accept a large amount of water from flushing. Phase 1A, Phase 1B and part of Phase 2A will be flushed.
 - Lagoon Work – All work completed on Lagoon portion of contract. Retainage released.

Parallel 54” Transmission Line – Phase 2A

Phase 2A – Complete Project

- Notice to Proceed/Prep Work – November 20, 2024
- Contract Time – 300 calendar days
- Substantial Completion Date – August 17, 2025
- Final Completion Date – September 16, 2025
- Original Contract Amount - \$29,896,355.00
- Current Contract Amount - \$29,896,355.00
- Pay Application #5 - \$308,411.03
- Total payment to date - \$3,976,233.45
- Balance remaining - \$25,920,121.55
- Construction progressing – tree clearing completed. Contractor currently burning piles of brush now that the burn ban has been lifted. Staging of bedding partially complete. Currently prepping for bore contractor to begin tunnelling under Highway 72 and working west. Bore pipe being delivered daily – 700’ total.
- Route for first 7.25+/- miles, plans 99% complete
- All easements in hand except 3 with Bentonville and one temporary bike trail easement. Bentonville easements (3) to go through City Council for approval.
- Comment letter sent back to ADOH.
- Remerscheid trial date - January 15, 2026. Terrell trial date - February 26, 2026
- Geotech work completed on I-49. No rock found to 25’ deep

- *Environmental, Corp permitting underway. At Corp for final review*
- *Project in final stages with Bentonville for LSD – a meeting was held with City Engineer. Some items were resubmitted. Bentonville water and sewer signed off on plans to be sent to ADOH. Bentonville is working with us to get contingent approvals pending COE so work can continue. Road crossings for A Street and N. Walton BLVD should be worked out soon.*
- *Pipe scheduled to be produced in April with delivery end of April.*
- *GMP is \$29,896,355.00 and was awarded at the September 2024 Board Meeting*
- *Construction Price Amendment has been signed. Notice to Proceed has been issued to begin prep work phase of construction only. Notice to Proceed for construction phase to be issued soon*

Parallel 54" Transmission Line – Phase 2B & 2C

- *Phase 2B – Design underway. Surveying completed. Working on potholing existing utility crossings. Designing 75% complete. Around 17 easement exhibits prepared and being merged with easement documents. Acquisition agent will begin work on contacting property owners within the next few weeks. Appraisals in the que to be completed in June.*
- *Phase 2C – Route from Centerton to Decatur will soon follow*

Decatur Tank Farm Expansion Improvements

- *Task order signed last month*
- *Geotech work for tank sites – currently drilling on tank site for all four tank sites.*
- *Currently in design process*
- *Currently plan to complete this in three work packages*
 - *Sitework and grading*
 - *Yard piping and relocations*
 - *Tank construction*

New Beaver Lake Intake Structure and Raw Water Line

- *New raw water line and powerline route walked out for first 1.25 miles +/-*
- *Route has been flown with LIDAR drone for aerial imagery and topographic information to begin laying out the route for the water line and parallel power line.*
- *Coordinating with Carroll Electric on easements and new substation site at the south end of the water plant facility.*

New Board Room / Training Facility

- *Notice to Proceed – June 3, 2024*
- *Contract Time – 330 calendar days*
- *Substantial Completion Date – March 30, 2025*
- *Final Completion Date – April 29, 2025*
- *Original Contract Amount - \$1,664,500.00*
- *Pay Application #10 - \$192,920.40*
- *Total Payment to Date - \$1,315,146.89*
- *Balance Remaining - \$349,353.11*
- *Project is currently behind schedule – Anticipated completion by the end of May.*
- *Currently working on finalizing mechanical, AV work, acoustic panels, and outside grading. Lightning protection has to be completed before sitework can be completed. They are currently completing all of the inside then lifts can be moved out. Concrete floor polishing is scheduled for the first week of May, then millwork, appliances, fixtures, etc., will be installed.*

Power Substation Land Acquisition

- *Carroll Electric sent an updated site plan for review of the substation on the 5-acre site – SE corner of BWRPWA's property*

BWRPWA 36" J Street Relocation

- Bentonville requesting the existing 36" line be relocated for J Street expansion and new interchange on Interstate 49
- Research of existing easements/condemnations completed
- Working on layout and discussions with Bentonville on the route - then the cost estimate can be finalized.

Operations' Report for March – April 2025 – Manager Borman then gave the Operations' and Managers' report for March – April 2025, which is herein included as part of the official minutes.

2025 Rate Study Findings / Discussion / Possible Board Action – Chairman Boston made a recommendation to the Board to pass/adopt the 2025 rate study as presented, with the caveat that it be revisited in 3 years (new rate study). Director Kahrl mentioned that City of Highfill would have their rate study back within the month and would like to table board action on the rate study until May's board meeting. After board discussion of the rate study, Director Kahrl made a motion to table the 2025 Rate Study to May's board meeting. A second was made by Director Sutherland. Motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Boston announced that this was the date and time established for a public hearing on the issuance of revenue bonds. The meeting was then opened at 1045 hours in the Authority's board room for a hearing of all persons desiring to obtain further information regarding the bonds and the development of all projects to be financed with the bonds and to present comments, suggestions, or objections to the issuance of bonds. After hearing all those desiring to be heard, Chairman Boston then declared the public hearing closed at 1049 hours.

2025 Bond Resolution and 2025 Bonds – Michael Moyer from Friday Law firm then presented the 2025 Bond Resolution to the Board. BWRPWA proposes to undertake the third phase of a multi-phase infrastructure improvement plan consisting of acquitting, constructing, and equipping extensions and improvements to the Authority's water system. The Authority can provide all or a portion of the necessary monies to finance costs of the Project with the proceeds of revenue bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$50,000,000.00 to be designated as "Benton Washington Regional Public Water Authority State of Arkansas Revenue Bonds, Series 2025". Chairman Boston then mentioned that consideration should be given to the resolution authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds, confirming rates for wholesale water customers, and authorizing the project to be financed with the bonds. Such resolution was introduced, thoroughly discussed, and upon a motion made by Director Kahrl and seconded by Director Attwood, the motion was adopted with all voting aye and none voting nay.

Change of Dates for October 2025 Board Meeting – Manager Borman then discussed with the Board on changing the October Board meeting from October 23rd to October 30th. After a brief discussion, Director Attwood made a motion to approve the change in dates for the October Board meeting. A second was made by Director Kahrl. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business before the Board, Director Kahrl made a motion to adjourn at 1101 hours. A second was made by Director Craft. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – MAY 22ND, 2025

Rick Craft, Secretary/Treasurer – Benton/Washington Regional Public Water Authority
SKK: JKW