

Pendleton Water Association
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting
98 Poplar Drive
Many, LA 71449
June 20, 2025

I. Call to Order

The Executive Board meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Board President Charln Stewart. Board directors in attendance were Charln Stewart, Gloria Thompson and Jerry Burnaman. Bub Sepulvado and Carl Jeanise participated on speakerphone. Charlie Heino and Jeff Staples were on the phone during specific discussions. Also present were Treasurer Tina Barrett and Secretary Tony Laska. Proof of quorum was confirmed.

2. EOM/Cenla Environmental Operations Contract Discussion

The latest revisions of the draft Operations Service Agreement were distributed to PWA Board members. Board President Charln Stewart led a discussion addressing justification for the proposed partnership and a few specifics in the document:

- Cenla and OEM have already been helpful to PWA, a proven resource. Their proposed resource management system addresses documented, long-deferred maintenance and is expected to save money through preventive maintenance.
- The initial price for the contract was reduced while maintaining all needed services through a good working relationship between PWA Board and Cenla/EOM.
- References that were checked confirmed the professionalism and value of Cenla/EOM's contractual work serving jurisdictions.
- The exception that allows for reducing staff by one operator where SCADA is installed has been codified in Louisiana law. The PWA Board requires that, prior to signing a contract with Cenla, this exception for PWA be acknowledged in writing by Barbara so that there would be no doubt that PWA will earn these specific ten (10) points on its path to a higher score.
- Effective July 1, 2025, or date of contract signing, all current employees will serve at Cenla/EOM's discretion.
- PWA would be paying for SCADA over time. Therefore, in the event that PWA wished to cancel the contract, PWA would be obliged to pay the balance of its cost.
- The possible alternative to a management contract might be partnering with an adjacent water system. That said, PWA finds that there are insufficient benefits to outweigh the negatives. PWA would still have the existing dysfunctional personnel situation. And among other nonstarters, City of Many's score is a "C", Ebarb's score is "F"; South Toledo Bend scores "D".

Path Forward

- Accounting. Tina Barrett agreed to prepare a simplified summary of the financial aspects of the proposed agreement, to be compared with recent financial reports.
- Synopsis. Tony Laska agreed to draft a couple paragraphs summarizing the history of the developing agreement and a draft press release to be distributed after the meeting.

3. Adjournment

- This meeting was adjourned at 5:15 by acclamation.