

1. Call to Order. The September 16 PWA Regular Board meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Board President Charln Stewart. Board directors in attendance were Charln Stewart, Bub Sepulvado, Gloria Thompson and Jerry Burnaman. Also, present were Board Treasurer Tina Barrett and Board Secretary Tony Laska. Mike Stewart and Mike Meyer, Board Advisors, were also in attendance.

2. Proof of notice of meeting was confirmed. A motion by Gloria Thompson to remove the item "LRWA visitors" from the agenda, to add under Old Business responses to items brought forth in the last meeting, to add a report on Ballots and Counting, to include an Executive Session after adjournment, and then to set the agenda was approved unanimously.

3. The September 2, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes were approved as written following a motion by Gloria Thompson, seconded by Jerry Burnaman, and unanimously approved

4. PWA Board President Charln Stewart expressed the PWA Board's appreciation to guests in attendance for their interest and participation. She reminded attendees that time for comments is reserved for the end of the meeting. Those wishing to speak need to sign up at the registration table; time is limited to 3 minutes per speaker, and no "sharing of time" is permitted.

5. Directors' Reports

President:

- Ballot distribution. Charln Stewart reported that errors by our mailing contractors caused PWA members to receive more than one blank ballot. She described the differences between them, the requirements for a valid ballot to be counted and mailing instructions. A complete protocol will be available to everyone on the PWA website by September 18.
- Ballot Counting. Charln Stewart announced that Virginia Burkett of Many will accompany Tony Laska, Secretary, in the counting process. The person chosen by members and submitted by Al Drewett is Larry Alford. President Charlan Stewart confirmed that the members present were satisfied with this unbiased team serving as official vote counters in October.

Treasurer:

- PW Treasurer Tina Barrett distributed current and comparative financials. With the Cenla contract in place, several categories (such as salaries, postage, communications, etc.) will no longer appear on our sheets since those costs are included within Cenla's obligations as part of the operations contract.
- Tina Barrett is still correcting categories of coding, so the July financials aren't the same as the August ones. She assured that these figures will be correct by the time PWA's financials are reconciled at the end of 2025.
- The current PWA Board has been trying to be more conscientious about managing operating expenses but acknowledges that until the previous operators took leave of the plant, the Board has not examined any of the on-site records in depth. Following their departure, a review of transaction records, subscriptions, receipts and related financial documents has revealed financial irregularities to the membership in the order of \$100,000, requiring a criminal investigation.

A few examples include:

- Starlink subscription at \$120/month
- Cell phone contract for Operator Tony Farrell's wife since 2011
- Residential water bill for Operator remained unpaid since 2018.
- Evidence has been provided to Sheriff Aaron Mitchell and District Attorney Don Burkett who have been investigating the case for a month and have passed it on to the presiding Judge.
- A few questions from membership and clarifying answers from the Treasurer ended this discussion.
- With a motion by Charln Stewart and second by Gloria Thompson, the August financial report was approved by all Board members present.

6. Operator's Report

- Regarding staffing, there are three licensed operators assigned to the plant: William Dunham, James Hardy and James Mahala. Two others are working toward their licenses: Tommy Gordy and Dan Pogue.
- Status of the pond and repairs was discussed. Cenla is handling the LDEQ permit process.
- Water losses were discussed; Cenla reported on leaks being repaired. In some cases, shutoff valves are not found where they should be, making temporary shutoff impossible. As sites are discovered valves are being ordered to be installed.
- In August, 6 million gallons of lake water were purchased at \$1,066.07. PWA sold a total of 2.2 million gallons.
- Five new meters were installed; six leaks were repaired and response completed on site for three complaints.
- The Board and membership expressed their appreciation for the work that has been done in just a few weeks by the contractors.
- An meter issue at 90 Robinhood Circle was brought up and William Dunham agreed to go take a look.

7. Old Business

- A question raised at the previous meeting requires public clarification. Jerry Burnaham had reported that a check accompanied an invoice from Cenla for "environmental work". However, others did not witness this check, and it appeared that the document was actually a statement for an invoice that would have been tendered only if the contract for operations support had not been approved and signed. It would have compensated Cenla for the emergency repair work done on two line breaks.
- The way complaints and calls can be made was reviewed by Cenla staff. There was an issue with the phone system but that has been corrected.
- The 811 system was sending location notifications to Tony Farrell and that has now been corrected.

8. New Business / Membership comments

- The Board responded to public comments by 7 members and committed to following up as needed.
- Regarding public information, State law allows utilities such as PWA to provide names and addresses of its members to any person who requests it, but no other details.
- On October 7th Mayor Hable will pick up the ballots at the Post Office, accompanied by at least one of the counting team.
- Ballots will be taken to a secure site where only the counting team will follow the protocol to tally the votes.
- The Secretary will certify the count and write a letter of validation. Results will be announced at the October 21st meeting.
- New and current remaining Board members have ten days to determine and announce officers.
- No one outside of the counting team will be allowed to witness, interfere with, or participate in ballot counting.

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 6:42 P.M.
- The Annual meeting of the PWA Board will be held at the Toledo Town Venue on October 21st.