

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

May 21, 2025

MEETING MINUTES

SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD OF NEW ORLEANS

ROLL CALL

The Board of Directors for the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) met on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 9:05 a.m. in the Executive Boardroom. Special Counsel, Ms. Yolanda Grinstead called the roll and confirmed the following members were present: Hon. Mayor LaToya Cantrell, Director Joseph Peychaud, Director Robin Barnes, Director Janet Howard, Director Chadrick Kennedy, Director Tyler Antrup, Director Maurice Sholas, Director Tamika Duplessis.

The following member(s) were absent: Hon. Freddie King III,

Staff present were Jamie Parker, Interim Chief of Staff; Grey Lewis, Chief Financial Officer; Stephen Nelson, General Superintendent; Yolanda Grinstead, Special Counsel; Darryl Harrison, Special Counsel; Ceara Labat, Interim Chief of Communications; Brionne Lindsey, Board Relations; Giselle Smothers, Board Relations, Susanna Kirby, Interim Director of Customer Service; Kaitlin Tymrak, Deputy GSO, Kimberly Batiste, Interim Director Human Resources, Miera Moore, Human Resources.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mayor Cantrell presented a motion to accept the minutes of the April 16, 2025, Board Meeting as amended. Director Sholas moved for approval of the minutes. Director Barnes seconded. The motion carried.

Mayor Cantrell presented a motion to accept the minutes of April 22, 2025, and April 23, 2025, Board Meeting as amended in Globo. Director Peychaud moved for the approval of the minutes. Director Duplessis seconded. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AD HOC

Director Chadrick Kennedy reported on the summary and actions taken by the Ad Hoc Committee. The Report for the month of May was presented and recommended for approval.

- **Mayor Cantrell asked for a motion to adopt the Ad Hoc report. Director Barnes moved to adopt Ad Hoc minutes as proposed. Director Howard seconded. The motion carried.**

Audit Committee

Director Sholas reported on the summary and actions taken by the Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc Report for the month of May was presented and recommended for approval.

- **Mayor Cantrell asked for a motion to adopt the Ad Hoc Report. Director Cole moved to adopt the Audit minutes as proposed. Director Duplessis seconded. The motion carried.**

Pension Committee

Director Chadrick Kennedy reported on the summary and actions taken by the Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc Report for the month of May was presented and recommended for approval.

- **Mayor Cantrell asked for a motion to adopt the Ad Hoc Report. Director Sholas moved to adopt the Pension minutes as proposed. Director Peychaud seconded. The motion carried.**

Finance & Administration Committee Report

Director Janet Howard reported on the summary and actions taken by the Finance and Administration Committee. The Finance Report for the month of May was presented and recommended for approval.

- **Mayor Cantrell asked for a motion to adopt the Finance report. Director Barnes moved to adopt Finance minutes as proposed. Director Antrup seconded. The motion carried.**

Operations Committee

Director Janet Howard did not report on the summary and actions taken by the Operations Committee. The Operations Committee Report for the month of May was recommended for deferral.

- **Mayor Cantrell asked for a motion to defer the Operations Report. The report was deferred until next meeting. Director Kennedy moved to defer the Operations minutes as proposed. Director Sholas seconded. The motion carried.**

Mayor Cantrell rendered her remarks and formally welcomed Mr. Ron Spooner as the Interim Director of the Sewerage and Water Board. The Utility appreciates Mr. Spooner's willingness to come out of retirement to ensure that the Water Board remains focused and committed to the resilience of ongoing projects and priorities, especially in the lead-up to hurricane season. Mr. Spooner has quickly adapted to the role, effectively advancing all utility priorities. Additionally, in late July, the utility will be welcoming Mr. Randy Hayman to the team as the Executive Director.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Interim Executive Director Ron Spooner, P.E. expressed his sincere appreciation and gratitude to the staff of Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and to the members of the Board of Directors welcoming his return in his remarks. Mr. Spooner said he is glad to be back. After devoting 32 years of service with the utility, being called out of retirement to take on this role, Mr. Spooner emphasized his commitment to fulfilling his responsibilities as a public servant. He continued, it is his duty to step up during this time. The employees / staff are the boots on the ground and that's what makes things happen. Mr. Spooner proceeded to deliver a slide show presentation.

POWER COMPLEX

- Anticipated to come online in summer 2025 (Phased approach)
- All major equipment delivered (CTG7, SFCs, Auxiliaries)
- Final water line completed
- Finalizing connections to Entergy
- Commissioning planning underway
- Formal application submitted for \$34M DOE grant, via DNR
- No concerns regarding funding; application period was opened by DNR in April 2025



The Power Complex

WPC Program - Phase 1 Completion Schedule - May 2025											
Element	WPC Schedule	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25
Preparation Activities	1418 (Utility Rack)	Complete									
	1415 Piling, Underground Ductbank, Foundations, Retaining Wall	Complete									
1420 Install & Commission Equipment	1420 Install SFC 1 / Interconnect Modules / Set Ancillary Eqpt (1417)			Complete							
	1420 Install SFC 2 / Interconnect Modules / Set Ancillary Eqpt (1417)			Complete							
	1420 Install SFC 3 / Interconnect Modules / Set Ancillary Eqpt (1417)				Complete						
	1420 Install Interim Switchgear PDC 2 (1427)			Complete							
	1420 Install Switchgear PDC 1 (1427)			Complete							
	Interconnect Cables from SFC's to Central Control										
	Interconnect to Entergy Sullivan Substation										
	Design / Implement PDCS Control System										
	Startup/Commission individual SFC's & PDC's							★	★	★	
	1420 Set/Assemble GSU6/GSU7 Transformers (1440)			Complete							
	1420 T250 CTG 7 / FGC / EER / XFMR Installation (1438)										
	1420 FO Day Tank Area Equipment Installation										
	Startup/Commission CTG T7 and ancillary equipment								★		

INSTALLATION PROGRESS

- Over 110,000 meters installed (>78% of population)
- Over 31% of customers have had a continuous usage event since installation
- Proactively notifying customers
 - 44% have repaired their leaks
 - Saving over 69 million gallons of water and more than \$1 million on customer bills.

DRAINAGE CONSOLIDATION Act 763

- CES has awarded the cleaning contract; NTP anticipated by the end of the month
- Repairs contract in place and 16 projects completed
- Initial engineering/management contract with consultant executed

Internal Efforts

- 5 of 5 DPW vac trucks received and operable
- Cleaned over **54,539 linear feet** of drain lines and **770 storm drain structures**
- **977,820 pounds** of debris collected
- Initial assessments showing 50% of lines require cleaning
- Assessments and cleanings based on 311 data ongoing
- Ongoing workforce development by hiring and training staff continues and four (4) new employees to be added in May

HURRICANE SEASON



Hurricane Season

Ongoing Partnerships

- Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority (SLFPA)
- New Orleans Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Protection (NOHSEP)
- Utility Partnerships with Entergy New Orleans and AT&T

SWBNO partners with NOHSEP prior to any event that might impact the city especially during storm season

SWBNO works with NOHSEP to request resources from the state (GOHSEP).

We meet with NOHSEP throughout storm season to ensure all our coordination efforts are in sync.

Preparing Infrastructure

- Monthly testing of drainage pumps
- All drainage generators in service except at Station 14, which has a portable generator
- SWBNO will rent three to four additional pumps and five additional generators
- Ongoing canal cleaning – currently working on 35 miles of open canal
- Wastewater treatment plant generators have been tested

2024 WATER SYSTEM GRADES



2024 Water System Grades

Algiers Water Treatment Plant



Improved from 2023 (B)

Carrollton Water Treatment Plant



Improved from 2023 (D)

CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were discussed at the May 14, 2025, Finance and Administration Meeting:

- Resolution (R-075-2025) Amendment No. 2 to Agreement for Armed Security Guards at Board Facilities for Renewal
- Resolution (R-077-2025) East Bank Treatment Plant MWPP Environmental Audit
- Resolution (R-078-2025) West Bank Treatment Plant MWPP Environmental Audit

General Superintendent Recommendations

Contract Awards/Renewal

- Resolution (R-051-2025) Second Renewal of Contract 30246 – Restoration of Gravity Flow Sanitary Sewer Mains by Point Repair at various sites throughout Orleans Parish between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Wallace C. Drennan.

Contract Amendments

- Resolution (R-050-2025) Authorization of Amendment No. 13 to the Agreement between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Arcadis U.S. Inc. for Design and Engineering Services for the Water Line Replacement Program.

- Resolution (R-068-2025) Authorization of Amendment No. 10 to the Agreement between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Integrated Logistical Support, Inc. for Design and Engineering Services for the Water Line Replacement Program.

Contract Change Order by Ratification

- Resolution (R-052-2025) Ratification of Change Order No. 1 for Contract 2165 – Transmission Main Replacement – South Claiborne Avenue (Louisiana Avenue to Third Street) - TM011 - Per FEMA JIRR Project Worksheets 21031 & 21032 between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Cycle Construction Company, LLC.
- Resolution (R-063-2025) Ratification of Change Order No. 4 for Contract 30228 – Mid City Basin No. 2 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Fleming Construction Company, LLC.
- Resolution (R-064-2025) Ratification of Change Order No. 3 for Contract 30233 – Carrollton Basin No. 4 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Hard Rock Construction, LLC.
- Resolution (R-065-2025) Ratification of Change Order No. 4 for Contract 30236 – Carrollton Basin No. 6 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board and BLD Services LLC.
- Resolution (R-066-2025) Ratification of Change Order No. 2 for Contract 30255 – Carrollton Basin No. 14 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Fleming Construction Company, LLC
- Resolution (R-067-2025) Ratification of Change Order No. 2 for Contract 30256 – Carrollton Basin No. 15 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board and Hard Rock Construction, LLC.
- Resolution (R-070-2025) Ratification of Change Order No. 4 for Contract 1420 – Power Complex Phase 1 Equipment Installation and Commissioning between Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Frischhertz Barnes a Joint Venture.

Final Acceptance

- Resolution (R-071-2025) Authorization of Final Acceptance for Contract 30228 – Mid City Basin No. 2 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Fleming Construction Group, LLC.
- Resolution (R-072-2025) Authorization of Final Acceptance for Contract 30236 – Carrollton Basin No. 6 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and BLD Services, LLC.

Resolution (R-042-2025) Authorization of Final Acceptance of Contract 1415 – West Power Complex Foundations and Underground Package between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and

M.R. Pittman Group, LLC. *(Previously approved and deferred in April's Finance & Administration Committee meeting).*

Mayor Cantrell asked for a motion to approve Corresponding Resolutions in Globo. Director Barnes moved to accept Corresponding Resolutions as proposed. Director Duplessis seconded. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Pursuant to La.R.S. 42:17(A)(2), the Board of Directors of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans will meet in Executive Session to discuss: LuAnn Ellis White v. Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, Civil District Court, Parish of Orleans, Case No.: 2018-05235, Division D.
- B. Pursuant to R.S. 42:17 (A)(1), the Board of Directors of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans will meet in Executive Session to discuss the character, professional competence, and fitness of Interim Executive Director appointee, M. Ron Spooner, P.E.

Mayor Cantrell presented a motion to enter executive session. Director Howard moved. Director Peychaud seconded. The motion carried at 09:40 a.m.

Director Duplessis presented a motion to exit the executive session. Director Duplessis moved. Director Sholas seconded. The motion carried at 09:49 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Resolution (R-061-2025) Declaration of Vacancy on the Board of Directors for Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, Council District E.

- **Director Duplessis asked for a motion to approve Resolution R-061-2025. Director Sholas moved to accept the Resolution as proposed. Director Barnes seconded. The motion carried.**

B. Ratification of Interim Executive Director Salary and Related Matters.

- **Director Duplessis asked for a motion to accept the salary set at \$320,000.00 for Interim Executive Director, M. Ron Spooner. Director Kennedy moved to accept the motion as proposed. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried. +**

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were submitted for informational purposes only:

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| A. CFO | March 2025 Report |
| B. GSO | April 2025 Report |
| C. Legal | April 2025 Report |
| D. Safety | April 2025 Report |
| E. HR | April 2025 Report |
| F. FEMA | April 2025 Report |
| G. EDBP | April 2025 Report |

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, Director Barnes moved to adjourn. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 09:53 a.m.