

**DIAMONDHEAD WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
August 14, 2025 Regular Meeting – 4:00p.m.**

Diamondhead City Hall – Council Chambers, 5000 Diamondhead Circle, Diamondhead, MS

1. **PRESENT:** Chairman Bryon Griffith, Vice-Chairman Louis Ertel, Treasurer Mark Beisecker, Commissioner Arlen Griffey (by phone).

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Eric Nolan.

The presence of a quorum was noted, and the meeting was called to order at 4:02p.m. The public was duly notified in compliance with the District's open meeting policy.

2. **Agenda.**

**Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Griffey to amend Motion 8.1 to read, "Motion to call a Public Hearing on September 25, 2025 at 4:00p.m. regarding the discontinuation of fluoride, to authorize the public notice as required by MS Department of Health Bureau of Public Water Supply Policy Version 2.6-DLU092024, Public Notice #1, and to authorize the Chairman to execute the Discontinuation Attestation Statement, as attached hereto." Motion carried unanimously as amended.**

3. **Public Comments.** None.

4. **Minutes.**

**4.1. Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on July 10, 2025. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment A).**

5. **Executive Director's Report.**

- 5.1. **Updates of Events & Projects.**

5.1.A. The Water Main Replacement Phase 4 Project is ready to advertise for bid.

5.1.B. Bid opening for the Lift Station #3 Force Main Replacement Project is during this meeting.

5.1.C. The Basin #3 Sewer Improvement Project is ready to advertise for bid.

5.1.D. The easement on Diamondhead Drive North, Phase 2, Unit 11, Block 12, between Lots 1 and 2 were determined to be of no use to the District and approval for the abandonment of easement is recommended.

5.1.E. Bid opening for the Water Tower #1 Repaint Project is during this meeting.

5.1.F. Fluoride Discontinuation will be discussed later in this meeting.

- 5.1.G.** The District has installed 4 new water and sewer connections, 7 sewer cleanouts, 32 cleanout castings, and 1 bypass piping at Lift Station #21, repaired 4 water service lines, and 1 sewer service line, responded to 4 water after hours emergencies, 4 sewer after hours emergencies, and painted 114 hydrants.

The Water System Hydraulics Modeling updates are in progress.

The District hired Control Systems, Inc. to further investigate the cause of the June failure of Lift Station #15. Reports indicated a direct electrical power surge damaged the phase monitor and cut communication, as well as damaging the battery backup system. The parts were replaced, and the station has been under 24-hour monitoring with a new cellular-based system. A second electrical event occurred on July 9, 2025, which triggered the monitoring system and alerted operators, that were promptly dispatched. It was determined the Remote Terminal Unit (RTU) malfunctioned which was the result of the initial surge damage in the panel. The RTU was replaced, and normal communication was restored.

The Preserve Phase 2 Subdivision and The Mauna Kea Townhomes are under construction, and The Diamondhead Lakes 2 Subdivision has received final approval from the District.

Construction for The City of Diamondhead Coon Branch Project is underway in the area of Kahana Street, Koloa Street, and Ana Hulu Street. Water main interruptions are scheduled for August 18, 2025, and August 20, 2025.

The City of Diamondhead Paving Project on Bayou Drive is near completion.

On July 23, 2025, during routine project observations, Director of Operations reported to the Executive Director that MDOT and Key Construction contractors were actively driving 25 ft. x 3 ft. diameter steel pilings within 10 to 15 feet of the existing 10-inch diameter water main that crosses I-10. This activity was undertaken by MDOT and Key Construction without prior notice or communication. I immediately contacted supervisory personnel for both organizations, and the pile driving was promptly halted. Following extensive discussion, it was revealed that seismograph readings indicated unsafe levels of impact, prompting the decision to stop the work. Since that time, Key Construction informed us that they would pursue an alternative approach involving the construction of a foundation “bridge” over the existing water main.

Note: Commissioner Griffey left the meeting at 4:18p.m.

- 5.2.** Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Rate Study by Dr. Alan Barefield. (Attachment B).

6. Construction / Engineering Projects.

6.1. Tower #1 Repaint Project.

**6.1.A. Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker, to authorize Digital Engineering to open all received bids for the Tower#1 Repaint Project. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment C).**

John Stein with Digital Engineering opened the Tower #1 Repaint Project bids as follows: (i) Classic Protective Coatings, Inc. \$488,725.00; (ii) Maguire Iron, Inc. \$339,000.00; (iii) Pittsburg Tank & Tower Maintenance Company, Inc. \$585,000.00; and (iv) Viking Painting, LLC \$295,700.00.

**6.1.B. Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker to acknowledge receipt of all Tower#1 Repaint Project bids, to take all bids under advisement, and authorize Digital Engineering to review and return a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment D).**

**6.1.C. Motion by Commissioner Beisecker, second by Commissioner Ertel to approve Digital Engineering Invoice# 3 in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the period of June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025, leaving a remaining balance of \$14,500.00 on this contract. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment E).**

6.2. Water System Rehabilitation Ph.4 Project.

**6.2.A. Motion by Commissioner Beisecker, second by Commissioner Ertel to approve Digital Engineering Invoice# 7 in the amount of \$18,660.00 for the period of June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025, leaving a remaining balance of \$198,120.00 on this contract. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment F).**

6.3. Water Model Update Project.

6.3.A. None.

6.4. Lift Station #3 Force Main Project.

**6.4.A. Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker to authorize Seymour Engineering to open all received bids for the Lift Station #3 Force Main Project. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment G).**

Matthew Kirkland of Seymour Engineering opened the Lift Station #3 Force Main Project bids as follows: (i) Bottom 2 Top Construction, LLC. \$515,199.76; (ii) DNA Underground, LLC. \$877,145.00; (iii) Miller Enterprises, LLC \$556,889.00; (iv) SCI, LLC. \$648,966.50; and (v) Twin L. Construction, Inc. \$650,963.12.

**6.4.B. Motion by Commissioner Beisecker, second by Commissioner Ertel to acknowledge receipt of all Lift Station #3 Force Main Project bids, to take all bids under advisement, and to authorize Seymour Engineering to review and return a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment H).**

6.5. Sewer Improvements Ph. 3 Project (GOMESA).

6.5.A. None.

6.6. Miscellaneous Construction/Engineering Projects.

6.6.A. Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker to approve Digital Engineering Invoice#25 in the amount of \$5,417.50 for the period of June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 for the GIS Integration and Maintenance Project, leaving a remaining balance of \$5,667.50 on this contract. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment I).

7. Financial.

7.1. Docket of Claims & Financial Reports.

7.1.A. Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker to approve payment of the Docket of Claims in the total amount of \$553,283.15, as attached hereto. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment J).

7.1.B. Motion by Commissioner Beisecker, second by Commissioner Ertel to acknowledge payment of the Unapproved Docket of Claims as detailed in Section 6., in the total amount of \$26,077.50, as attached hereto. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment K).

7.1.C. Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker to approve payment of the Customer Deposit Refund Register in the total amount of \$6,006.94, as attached hereto. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment L).

7.1.D. Treasurer's Report – 07/31/2025. (Attachment M).

7.1.E. Revenue & Expense Report – 07/31/2025. (Attachment N).

7.1.F. The Director of Administration presented the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Draft Budget. (Attachment O).

8. Old Business.

8.1. Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker to call a Public Hearing on September 25, 2025 at 4:00pm regarding the discontinuation of fluoride, to authorize the public notice as required by the MS Department of Health Bureau of Public Water Supply Policy Version 2.6 - DLU092024, Public Notice #1, and to authorize the Chairman to execute the Discontinuation Attestation Statement, as attached hereto. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment P).

9. New Business/Discussion Items.

9.1. Motion by Commissioner Beisecker, second by Commissioner Ertel to approve the abandonment of utilities easement for property located at 73661 Diamondhead Drive North, Phase 1, Unit 2, Block 8, between Lot 12 & 21, per the Diamondhead Water & Sewer District Water Use Ordinance, Page 10, Section 9.8.1. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment Q).

9.2. Motion by Commissioner Beisecker, second by Commissioner Ertel to approve the abandonment of utilities easement for property located on Diamondhead Drive North, Phase 2, Unit 11, Block 12, between Lots 1 & 2, per the Diamondhead Water & Sewer District Water Use Ordinance, Page 10, Section 9.8.1. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment R).

10. Adjourn.

Motion by Commissioner Ertel, second by Commissioner Beisecker to adjourn at 5:00p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled for August 28, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at Diamondhead City Hall Council Chambers, 5000 Diamondhead Circle, Diamondhead, MS.



  
Chairman

  
Date