

## **Public Statement from the Bethany Warr Acres Public Works Authority Regarding Criminal Charges Filed Against Former Employees**

The Bethany Warr Acres Public Works Authority (“Authority”) is aware that two former employees, Glenn Brentnell and Anthony Menzie, have been formally charged with multiple felony counts, including violations of environmental laws and falsifying official reports, in connection with their prior management of the Authority’s Bluff Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

These charges stem from serious misconduct by the former General Manager and Plant Supervisor, who concealed critical information from the Authority’s Board of Trustees, falsified test results submitted to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and misrepresented the condition and compliance status of the Plant. Their actions undermined the Authority’s ability to perform its oversight responsibilities and jeopardized environmental compliance. The Authority initiated a civil lawsuit against both individuals in 2023, which remains ongoing.

Upon discovery of the true condition of the facility in December 2022, the Authority acted immediately and decisively:

- **Engaged Professional Management:** The Authority retained Wright Water Corporation, an independent, professional wastewater management company, to operate and manage the Plant. Wright Water is now under a five-year contract and provides experienced, full-time staff to ensure compliance and accountability.
- **Initiated Comprehensive Rehabilitation:** In partnership with licensed professional engineers and Wright Water, the Authority has made significant emergency repairs to the Plant, addressing urgent needs and compliance issues. Funding for comprehensive rehabilitation and improvements for the Plant has been secured from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. Engineering plans for the improvements are under development and will be submitted to ODEQ for approval this summer.
- **Collaborating with Regulators:** The Authority, together with its engineers and Wright Water, continues to work closely with ODEQ to implement all required measures for environmental compliance.
- **Strengthened Oversight and Accountability:** To ensure greater transparency and oversight moving forward:
  - The Authority’s Board of Trustees now holds quarterly meetings at the Plant to personally review operations.
  - Wright Water provides detailed monthly reports to the Board on all aspects of Plant performance and compliance.
  - In addition to working with Plant management concerning compliance issues, ODEQ now communicates directly with the Cities of Bethany and Warr Acres to ensure timely and accurate information-sharing.

The Authority is deeply committed to transparency, accountability, and restoring public trust. While the criminal proceedings are now in the hands of law enforcement and the courts, we will continue to ensure the safe and lawful operation of the Plant for the benefit of the Cities of Bethany and Warr Acres and their residents. For questions or further information, please contact the Authority’s legal counsel or administrative office.