IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA SOUTHERN DIVISION

In re:)
JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA,)
a political subdivision of the State of)
Alabama,)
Debtor.)

Case No. 11-5736-TBB-9

Chapter 9 Proceeding

ORDER ESTABLISHING NOTICE, SERVICE, AND CASE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. §§ 102(1)(A) AND 105(a) <u>AND BANKRUPTCY RULE 2002(m)</u>

THIS MATTER came before the Court for hearing on the County's Motion to Establish Notice, Service, and Case Management Procedures Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 102(1)(A) and 105(a) and Bankruptcy Rules 2002(m) and 9007 (the "Motion").¹ Based on the pleadings of record, the arguments and representations of counsel, all other matters brought before the Court, and for good cause shown, the Court finds, determines and concludes that notice of the relief requested in the Motion was good and sufficient under the particular circumstances; the relief sought in the Motion is in the best interests of the County, its creditors, and all parties in interest; the legal and factual grounds set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and the Motion is due to be **GRANTED**.

WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions of law, it is hereby

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Motion is granted; and it is further

¹ All capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that broad notice and service requirements would impose onerous expense and administrative requirements upon the County and would be unduly burdensome to the County; and it is further

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules provide this Court with authority to establish noticing and servicing procedures that are tailored to fit the specific needs of the County's case and reduce the costs of providing notice; and it is further

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that, effective as of the Filing Date, the following noticing and servicing procedures (the "Procedures") are implemented in the County's case:

A. <u>Filing Procedures</u>.

1. <u>Filing</u>. All notices, motions, pleadings, applications, other requests for relief and all documents filed in support thereof (collectively, the "Pleadings") in the County's case, and the filing of any objections ("Objections") or replies thereto (the "Replies" and together with the Pleadings and the Objections, the "Documents") shall be filed electronically with the Court on the docket of the County's Chapter 9 bankruptcy case as styled above, pursuant to the Court's Administrative Order No. 04-1 (<u>http://www.alnb.uscourts.gov/forms/admin0401.pdf</u>). The Documents shall be noticed and served in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

2. <u>Notices of Appearance</u>. Any creditor or party in interest that wishes to receive notice in this Chapter 9 case and is not otherwise entitled to notice pursuant to the procedures set forth herein shall file a notice of appearance and request for service of papers in accordance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 9010(b). The request shall include the following: (a) the party's name and address; (b) the name of the client, if applicable; (c) an e-mail address at which the

requesting party may be served; (d) an address by which the requesting party may be served by U.S. mail, hand delivery and overnight delivery; (e) the party's relationship to the County's case, i.e., trade creditor, warrant holder, interested party; and (f) a facsimile number for the requesting party. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 9019(b), no request for service filed in this Chapter 9 case shall have any effect unless the foregoing requirements are satisfied. Any individual or entity filing a notice of appearance pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 that does not maintain and cannot practicably obtain an e-mail address must include in its notice of appearance a certification stating the same. Notice will be provided to that individual or entity by U.S. mail, overnight delivery, hand delivery or facsimile, with the choice of the mode of service to be made by the County in the County's sole discretion.

B. <u>Service and Noticing Procedures</u>.

3. <u>Master Service List</u>. With respect to all matters or proceedings other than those described in Bankruptcy Rules 2002(a)(5), 2002(a)(7), 2002(b), and 2002(f), all Documents need be served only upon the following parties (the "Master Service List"):

a. The County's Chapter 9 counsel:

Patrick Darby Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP 1819 Fifth Avenue North Birmingham, AL 35203 Email: <u>pdarby@babc.com</u>

Jay Bender Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP 1819 Fifth Avenue North Birmingham, AL 35203 Email: jbender@babc.com

Kenneth Klee Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP 1999 Avenue of the Stars, Thirty-Ninth Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067-5061 Email: <u>kklee@ktbslaw.com</u>

Lee Bogdanoff Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP 1999 Avenue of the Stars, Thirty-Ninth Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067-5061 Email: <u>lbogdanoff@ktbslaw.com</u>

b. The County's special counsel, as follows:

J. F. "Foster" Clark, Esq. Balch & Bingham LLP 1901 6th Avenue North 2600 AmSouth Harbert Plaza Birmingham, AL 35203-4644 Email: <u>fclark@balch.com</u>

J. Hobson Presley, Jr. Presley Burton & Collier, LLC 2801 Highway 280 South, Suite 700 Birmingham, AL 35223-2483 Email: <u>hpresley@presleyllc.com</u>

c. The County Attorney:

Jeffrey M. Sewell, County Attorney Room 280, Jefferson County Courthouse 716 North Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. Birmingham, AL 35203 Email: sewellj@jccal.org

- d. Counsel for any official committee appointed pursuant to Section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code (as made applicable by Section 901 of the Bankruptcy Code) or, absent and prior to the appointment of any such committee, to each of the creditors included on the list of creditors holding the twenty largest unsecured claims as filed by the County;
- e. The Bankruptcy Administrator, as follows:

Office of the Bankruptcy Administrator c/o J. Thomas Corbett, Esq. United States Bankruptcy Court Robert S. Vance Federal Building 1800 5th Ave. North Birmingham AL 35203 E-mail: Thomas_Corbett@alnba.uscourts.gov f. The Office of the Governor of the State of Alabama, as follows:

Cooper Shattuck, Esq. Legal Advisor Office of the Governor State of Alabama Office of the Governor State Capitol, Room N-104 600 Dexter Avenue Montgomery, AL 36130

David Perry, Esq. Finance Director Office of the Governor State of Alabama Office of the Governor State Capitol, Room N-104 600 Dexter Avenue Montgomery, AL 36130

g. The Office of the Attorney General of the State of Alabama:

Luther Strange, Esq. Attorney General State of Alabama 501 Washington Avenue Montgomery, AL 36130

h. ADEM, as follows:

Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management Tom Johnston Esq. General Counsel P. O. Box 301463 Montgomery AL 36130-1463 Phone: (334) 271-7855 Fax: (334) 394-4332

i. The EPA, as follows:

Environmental Protection Agency Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460 Environmental Protection Agency Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303-3104

j. The Securities and Exchange Commission, as follows:

SEC Headquarters 100 F Street, NE Washington, DC 20549

k. The Internal Revenue Service, as follows:

Internal Revenue Service Centralized Insolvency Operation Post Office Box 21126 Philadelphia, PA 19114-0326

1. The indenture trustees and paying agents for the County's warrant holders, as follows:

The Bank of New York Mellon, as Indenture Trustee c/o Gerald F. Mace, Esq. Michael R. Paslay, Esq. Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP 511 Union Street, Suite 2700 Nashville, TN 37219 gerald.mace@wallerlaw.com Mike.Paslay@wallerlaw.com

The Bank of New York Mellon, as Indenture Trustee c/o Larry Childs, Esq. Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP Regions Harbert Plaza 1901 Sixth Avenue North, Suite 1400 Birmingham, AL 35203 Email: <u>larry.childs@wallerlaw.com</u>

U.S. Bank, National Association, as Paying Agent 2204 Lakeshore Drive Suite 302 Mail Code: EX-AL-WWPH Homewood, AL 35209 Email: <u>felicia.cannon@usbank.com</u> m. Material holders of the County's non-recourse sewer warrants, as follows:

Bank of America, N.A. c/o David L. Eades Moore & Van Allen, PLLC 100 North Tryon Street, Suite 4700 Charlotte, NC 28202-4003 Email: <u>davideades@mvalaw.com</u>

The Bank of New York Mellon c/o Thomas C. Mitchell Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP The Orrick Building 405 Howard Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2669 Email: temitchell@orrick.com

The Bank of Nova Scotia and Lloyds TSB Bank PLC c/o James E. Spiotto Chapman & Cutler LLP 111 West Monroe Street Chicago, IL 60603-4080 Email: <u>spiotto@chapman.com</u>

JPMorgan Chase Bank Steve M. Fuhrman, Esq. Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP 425 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10017 Email: <u>sfuhrman@stblaw.com</u>

Lloyds TSB Bank PLC c/o James E. Spiotto Chapman & Cutler LLP 111 West Monroe Street Chicago, IL 60603-4080 Email: <u>spiotto@chapman.com</u>

Regions Bank c/o Jayna Partain Lamar Maynard Cooper & Gale, P.C. AmSouth/Harbert Plaza, Suite 2400 1901 6th Avenue North Birmingham, AL 35203-2618 Email: jlamar@maynardcooper.com

Societe Generale c/o Mark J. Fiekers Ashurst LLP 1725 I Street NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20006 Email: <u>mark.fiekers@ashurst.com</u>

Societe Generale c/o Joyce T. Gorman Ashurst LLP 1725 I Street NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20006 Email: joyce.gorman@ashurst.com

Societe Generale c/o Jack Rose Ashurst 7 Times Square New York, NY 10036 Email: Jack.rose@ashurst.com

State Street Bank and Trust Company c/o William W. Kannel Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C. One Financial Center Boston, MA 02111 Email: wkannel@mintz.com

n. Material holders of the County's general obligation warrants, as follows:

Bayern LB c/o Joseph Campagna Vice President 560 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10022 E-mail: jcampagna@bayernlbny.com

Bayern LB c/o Edward A. Smith Venable Rockefeller Center 1270 Avenue of the Americas Twenty-fifth Floor New York, NY 10020 Email: EASmith@Venable.com

Bayerische Landesbank 560 Lexington Avenue 18th Floor New York, NY 10022

JPMorgan Chase Bank Attn: Michael Mak 60 Wall Street New York, NY 10260

o. The liquidity agent for certain of the non-recourse sewer warrants, as follows:

JPMorgan Chase Bank, as Liquidity Agent c/o Steve Fuhrman Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP 425 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10017 Email: <u>sfuhrman@stblaw.com</u>

p. Insurers of warrants issued by the County, as follows:

Assured Guaranty Municipal Corp. c/o Winston & Strawn LLP Lawrence A. Larose, Esq. Samuel S. Kohn, Esq. Sarah L. Trum, Esq. 200 Park Avenue New York, New York 10166-4193 <u>llarose@winston.com</u> <u>skohn@winston.com</u> <u>strum@winston.com</u>

Assured Guaranty Municipal Corp. c/o Mark P. Williams Norman, Wood, Kendrick & Turner Financial Center – Suite 1600 505 20th Street North Birmingham, Alabama 35203 E-mail: <u>mpwilliams@nwkt.com</u> Financial Guaranty Insurance Company c/o H. Slayton "Slate" Dabney, Jr. King & Spaulding 1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036-4003 Email: <u>sdabney@kslaw.com</u>

Financial Guaranty Insurance Company c/o Richard Patrick Carmody Adams and Reese, LLP 2100 3rd Ave N Ste 1100 Birmingham, AL 35203-3385 E-mail: <u>richard.carmody@arlaw.com</u>

Syncora Guarantee, Inc. c/o Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP Jonathan E. Pickhardt Jake M. Shields 51 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor New York, NY 10010 jonpickhardt@quinnemanuel.com jakeshields@quinnemanuel.com

National Public Finance Guarantee c/o Adam Berganzi Chief Risk Officer 113 King Street Armonk, NY 10504 Email: <u>adam.berganzi@nationalpfg.com</u>

q. Receiver of Jefferson County Sewer System, as follows:

John S. Young, Jr. LLC, as Receiver c/o Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C. Timothy M. Lupinacci, Esq. W. Patton Hahn, Esq. 1600 Wachovia Tower Birmingham, AL 35203 Email: <u>tlupinacci@bakerdonelson.com</u> Email: <u>phahn@bakerdonelson.com</u>

r. The Jefferson County Personnel Board, as follows:

Jefferson County Personnel Board c/o Lee R. Benton Benton & Centeno, LLP 2019 3rd Avenue North Birmingham, AL 35203 Email: <u>lbenton@bcattys.com</u>

- s. Creditors and parties in interest who file with the Court and properly service on the County's Chapter 9 counsel a request for special service and notice; and
- t. Any party against whom direct relief is sought by motion or otherwise, such as the non-debtor counterparty to an executory contract or unexpired lease that the County may propose to assume or reject.

4. <u>Updating of Master Service List</u>. If counsel for any of the parties on the Master Service List is to be added or replaced, the additional or replacement counsel may report this to the County by both filing with the Court and serving on the County's Chapter 9 counsel a request for special notice, including such counsel's e-mail address. Parties listed in the Master Service List for whom e-mail addresses are not listed above shall, to the extent available, promptly advise the County's Chapter 9 counsel in writing of their e-mail addresses to which notices should be sent. The County shall maintain and update from time to time the Master Service List, and file the same from time to time with the Court.

5. <u>E-mail Service by the County</u>. The County may serve Documents upon the parties identified in the Master Service List by e-mail in accordance with the procedures set forth herein.² All Documents served by the County by e-mail shall include access to an attached file containing the entire Document, including, as may be applicable, the proposed form(s) of orders and any exhibits, attachments, and other relevant materials, in ".pdf" format, readable by Adobe Acrobat or an equivalent program. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Document cannot be annexed to an e-mail (because of its size, technical difficulties, or otherwise), the County may, in its sole discretion, (a) serve the entire Document by U.S. mail or overnight delivery, including

 $^{^{2}}$ A printed copy of the order approving these Procedures shall be served upon all parties on the Master Service List on the date the order approving the Procedures is entered.

the proposed form(s) of orders and any exhibits, attachments, and other relevant materials, or (b) email the party being served and include a notation that the Document cannot be annexed and will be mailed only if requested. Service by e-mail shall be effective as of the date the Document is sent by e-mail to the address provided by a party. If service is done by e-mail, the County shall not be required to serve a paper copy of Documents on interested parties by fax or regular mail. Except as otherwise provided herein, e-mail service shall satisfy the Court's rules for service.

6. <u>Alternative Methods of Service</u>. If a party entitled to notice of a Pleading does not have an e-mail address or if the e-mail address of a party is not known by the County or if service is initially attempted by email but returned or "bounced" due to an incorrect e-mail address, that party shall be served by U.S. first class mail, overnight delivery, facsimile, or hand delivery (the choice being in the County's sole discretion).

7. <u>Additional Notice through Website</u>. The Clerk of the Court shall establish and maintain a website accessible through the Court's website located at <u>www.alnb.uscourts.gov</u> through which material pleadings, orders, notices, lists and other documents regarding the County's Chapter 9 case and the proceedings before this Court will be available for review by the public. The County shall provide a link to the clerk's website on the County's main website, <u>www.jeffcoonline.jccal.org</u>.

8. <u>Affidavits of Service</u>. Upon the completion of noticing any particular matter, the party seeking relief shall file with the Court within (3) business days thereof either an affidavit of service or a certification of service annexing the list of parties that received notice.

9. <u>Confidentiality</u>. Nothing in these Procedures shall prejudice the right of any party to move the Court to request relief under Section 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code to protect any

entity with respect to a trade secret or confidential research, development, or commercial information or to protect a person with respect to scandalous or defamatory matter contained in a Document filed in this case.

10. <u>Scope of Modification of Notice and Service Requirements</u>. These procedures do not modify the notice requirements set forth in Bankruptcy Rules 2002(a)(5), 2002(a)(7), 2002(b), and 2002(f). The County maintains its right to request notice and service on different terms and conditions with respect to any particular matter.

C. <u>Hearings and Related Procedural Matters</u>.

11. <u>Omnibus Hearings</u>. The County shall be authorized to schedule, in cooperation with the Court, periodic omnibus hearings ("Omnibus Hearings") at which Pleadings shall be heard. If Omnibus Hearings are scheduled, the following guidelines shall apply:

a. <u>Matters that may be Scheduled for Hearings other than Omnibus Hearings</u>.

Hearings in connection with (i) claims objections, (ii) pre-trial conferences and trials related to adversary proceedings, (iii) approval of the disclosure statement, (iv) plan confirmation, and (v) any other Pleadings filed by the County may be scheduled for dates other than the Omnibus Hearing dates. However, initial pre-trial conferences scheduled in connection with adversary proceedings shall be set on the next available Omnibus Hearing date that is at least 45 days after the filing of the complaint. Hearings on all other Pleadings filed by a party other than the County must be scheduled for an Omnibus Hearing, except as provided in subsection (b) of this paragraph. b. <u>Emergency Relief</u>. In the event that a matter is filed for which the filing party desires expedited relief prior to the next Omnibus Hearing Date, said party may request an emergency hearing for good cause shown in addition to or in lieu of the Omnibus Hearing Date.

12. <u>Hearings</u>. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court (and except as provided below with respect to stay relief motions), all Pleadings shall be noticed for hearing on the next available Omnibus Hearing date that is at least twenty (20) days after such Pleading is filed and notice thereof is served on the appropriate parities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Pleading requests relief pursuant to Bankruptcy Rules 2002(a) and (b), the Pleading shall be scheduled for the next available Omnibus Hearing date following the expiration of the time period set forth in the rule.

13. <u>Telephonic Participation</u>. Unless the Court determines otherwise, telephonic appearance at all hearings should be authorized, except that those appearing telephonically may not examine witnesses. All requests for telephonic appearances should be made to the Court's chambers at least one business day before the hearing.

14. <u>Objection Deadlines</u>. Except as specifically provided otherwise herein, the deadline to file an Objection (the "Objection Deadline") to any Pleading shall be (a) noon prevailing central time on the sixth (6^{th}) business day prior to the hearing date for such Pleading or (b) any date otherwise ordered by the Court. The Objection Deadline may be extended with the consent of the movant or applicant. The Objection will not be considered timely filed unless filed with the Court and received by the Master Service List on or before the applicable Objection Deadline.

15. <u>Deadline for Filing Reply</u>. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, a reply to an Objection shall be filed with the Court and served in accordance with these Procedures on or before noon prevailing central time on the day that is two (2) business days before the hearing date for the Pleading with respect to which the Objection was filed.

16. <u>Examination of Witnesses at Hearings</u>. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, no party, other than the County, will be permitted to examine a witness at any hearing on a contested matter in the County's bankruptcy case unless the party has timely and properly filed and served a Pleading, Objection, Reply or other Document, in accordance with the procedures set forth herein, that directly relates to such contested matter. Furthermore, parties appearing telephonically for hearings on contested matters may not examine witnesses.

17. <u>Agenda</u>. By approximately 4:00 p.m. prevailing central time on the second business day before a scheduled hearing, the County shall file with the Court an agenda setting forth each matter to be heard at the hearing, the objections filed, and whether such matter is contested, and shall serve the agenda by email on all parties on the Master Service List for whom the County has e-mail addresses. Agendas shall not be required where the County has less than forty-eight (48) hours' notice of the hearing. The matters listed on the agenda shall be limited to matters of substance and shall not include administrative filings such as notices of appearance and affidavits of service.

18. <u>Settlements</u>. This paragraph 18 shall apply only to contested matters where the amount in controversy is more than \$100,000.00. In the event a matter is properly noticed for hearing and the parties reach agreement on a settlement of the dispute prior to the final hearing, the parties may announce the settlement at the scheduled hearing. In the event the Court determines that the notice of the dispute and the hearing is adequate notice of the effects of the

settlement (i.e., that the terms of the settlement are not materially different from what parties in interest could have expected if the dispute were fully litigated), the Court may approve the settlement at the hearing without further notice of the terms of the settlement. In the event the Court determines that additional or supplemental notice is required, the County shall serve such notice in accordance with the Procedures set forth herein and a hearing to consider such settlement shall be on the next hearing day deemed appropriate by the Court.

D. <u>Automatic Stay Proceedings</u>.

19. <u>Hearings and Objection Deadlines</u>. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, motions for relief from the automatic stay filed pursuant to Section 362 or Section 922 of the Bankruptcy Code shall be noticed for consideration for the Omnibus Hearing that is at least twenty-five (25) days after the motion is filed and notice is served upon the County. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the objection deadline for the County shall be the later to occur of (i) twenty (20) days after the date of filing and service of the motion, or (ii) two (2) business days before the scheduled hearing.

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry; and it is further

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that this Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or relating to the implementation of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that this Order is without prejudice to the rights of the County pursuant to Section 904 of the Bankruptcy Code, and nothing herein is intended as or shall be deemed to constitute the County's consent pursuant to Section 904 of the Bankruptcy Code to this Court's interference with (1) any of the political or governmental

powers of the County, (2) any of the property or revenues of the County, or (3) the County's use or enjoyment of any income-producing property.

Dated: November 11, 2011

<u>/s/</u> Thomas B. Bennett Thomas B. Bennett U.S. Bankruptcy Judge