

**St. Lucie West Services District  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Minutes  
August 17, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.  
Sunlight Community Church  
477 S.W. Cashmere Boulevard  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986**

RECEIVED  
SEP 21 2010  
SLWSD

(Please note: This is not verbatim. A CD recording of the Board Meeting is available on file.)

**Board Members Present**

Harvey Cutler, Chairman  
Everett Child, Vice Chairman  
Sal Mancuso, Secretary  
Charles B. Altwein, Supervisor  
David Kessner, Supervisor

**Staff Present**

Dennis Pickle, District Manager, St. Lucie West Services District ("SLWSD")  
Bill Hayden, Public Works Director/Assistant District Manager, SLWSD  
Lisa Beans, SLWSD  
Bob Lawson, District Engineer  
Jason Pierman, Assistant District Treasurer, Special District Services, Inc. ("SDS")  
Laura Archer, Recording Secretary, SDS

**Guests Present (Sign-In Sheet Attached)**

**A. Call to Order**

Chairman Cutler called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Invocation**

**D. Roll Call**

Ms. Archer took roll and it was noted that all 5 Supervisors were present.

**E. Approval of Minutes -**

**1. June 15, 2010, Board of Supervisors' Regular Board Meeting**

It was noted that the minutes should reflect that Chairman Cutler called the meeting to order, not Vice Chairman Child.

A **motion** was made by Supervisor Altwein, seconded by Secretary Mancuso to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2010, Board of Supervisors' Regular Board Meeting, as amended. The **motion** carried 5 to 0.

#### **F. Public Comment**

Chairman Cutler noted that Mr. Tony Stachewicz, a resident of Sun Terrace at the Lakes, had mistakenly signed up for Public Comment, thinking it was the Meeting Sign-In Sheet.

#### **G. Consent Agenda**

**CA 1 - Monthly Report on Public Works Operations**

**CA 2 - Monthly Report on Utilities Operations**

**CA 3 - Monthly Report on Capital Improvement Projects**

**CA 4 - Monthly Report on Billing and Customer Service**

**CA 5 - Financial Statements for July, 2010**

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Supervisor Kessner to approve Consent Agenda items 1 through 5, as presented.

Secretary Mancuso requested that Consent Agenda items 2, 4 and 5 be pulled.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Supervisor Altwein to approve Consent Agenda items 1 and 3, as presented.

Under discussion Secretary Mancuso asked for clarification of the 54 lock-offs for non-payment referred to on page 14 of Consent Agenda item CA-2. Mr. Pickle explained that 54 customers were turned off for non-payment and confirmed that some may be due to foreclosure and others are for non-payment.

Chairman Cutler asked Secretary Mancuso if his questions were brought to the attention of the District Manager prior to the meeting. Secretary Mancuso responded that he wished for these matters to be brought up "on the record". Chairman Cutler suggested that Secretary Mancuso clear up any questions he has about Consent Agenda items prior to the meeting.

Secretary Mancuso then asked about page 24 of Consent Agenda item CA-4, noting that the numbers do not match the balances noted on page 21. Mr. Pickle explained that the reason for the discrepancy is due to impact fee (ERC) money that does not show in revenue and noted that it would be easier for him to go over the numbers in the office with Secretary Mancuso.

Secretary Mancuso then asked about page 47 of Consent Agenda item CA-5, noting that not all the checks written reference an invoice number in the Memo section. Mr. Pickle explained that many of these payments are for multiple invoices and cannot fit in the Memo section of the check.

Chairman Cutler then advised Secretary Mancuso that he will not accept Consent Agenda items be pulled, unless he has previously spoken to Mr. Pickle about the matter.

Supervisor Altwein indicated that he had questioned a payment made to Blue Cross/Blue Shield and contacted Mr. Pickle via e-mail regarding it. Supervisor Altwein noted that not only did Mr. Pickle respond, but he also received information from Mr. Pierman on the matter.

Vice Chairman Child noted that on one hand he did not disagree, but on the other hand he felt it was not in the Chairman's authority that Supervisors not be allowed to pull Consent Agenda items.

Supervisor Kessner noted that the Board should work with Mr. Pickle and his staff prior to meetings. He went on to state that if the matter is not resolved prior to the meeting, then the item may be pulled.

A **motion** was made by Supervisor Altwein, seconded by Supervisor Kessner approving the Chairman's right to deny pulling Consent Agenda items, unless discussed prior to the meeting and not resolved.

Under discussion, Vice Chairman Child respectfully suggested that the matter be referred to District Counsel regarding the Chairman's authority.

Secretary Mancuso noted that he was clarifying specific items for public record.

Supervisor Altwein's **motion** was reiterated, seconded by Supervisor Kessner approving the Chairman's right to deny pulling Consent Agenda items, unless the item is questioned and is not resolved prior to the meeting. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 3 to 2 with Secretary Mancuso and Vice Chairman Child dissenting.

A **motion** was made by Supervisor Altwein, seconded by Supervisor Kessner approving Consent Agenda items 2, 4 and 5. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

Chairman Cutler referenced Secretary Mancuso and stated that it is admirable that he does his homework, but that it becomes time consuming to the Board, Staff and the public.

## H. District Engineer

### DE 1 - Project WM004 4A - Control Structure Replacement - Additional Cost

Mr. Lawson presented the item and explained that the additional \$14,000 to Sunline Engineering Contractors, Inc. takes into account the necessity for expedited work in order to get the pipe installed and the roadway back open within the one week time frame as requested by the City. He went on further to state that the one week period will include work within the right of way, but additional work outside the right of way will continue to take place as the new control structure and gates are fabricated and delivered. Mr. Lawson further stated that it was a 75 day contract. Mr. Lawson noted that Staff has reviewed the additional costs and recommends approval.

A **motion** was made by Supervisor Altwein, seconded by Vice Chairman Child approving the additional costs of Project No. WM004 in the amount of \$14,000 to Sunline Engineering Contractors, Inc.

Supervisor Kessner was confused by the 75 day contract if the City was requiring that it be completed by the time school opens on August 23, 2010. Mr. Lawson stated that the road needed to be re-opened before the start of school and that the entire project would take longer.

Chairman Cutler noted that he has always had the ability to go to Mr. Pickle/Staff to get answers and that Mr. Pickle contacted each Supervisor to advise them of this additional cost item so that if there were any questions, they could be answered and expedite the approval.

Supervisor Altwein's **motion** was reiterated, seconded by Vice Chairman Child approving the additional costs of Project No. WM004 in the amount of \$14,000 to Sunline Engineering Contractors, Inc. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

## I. District Manager Action Items

### DM 1 - District Manager's Annual Evaluation

Mr. Pickle presented the item asking for approval of his duties.

Vice Chairman Child made a **motion**, seconded by Supervisor Altwein, approving Mr. Pickle's evaluation as exemplary and awarding a 2.7% increase.

Under discussion Supervisor Altwein clarified that Mr. Pickle is an employee, not a contractor and requested a larger increase of 3% because of his greater

responsibility. Supervisor Altwein made a **motion** to amend Vice Chairman Child's motion to reflect the 3% increase. The **motion** died for lack of a second.

Secretary Mancuso recommended Mr. Pickle receive a 5% increase based on his evaluation and amended the **motion** to increase Mr. Pickle's salary by 5%. The **motion** died for lack of a second.

Supervisor Altwein restated his case for the 3% increase, noting that it is a mere .3% over the general population of District employees and that Mr. Pickle has greater responsibilities, works 24/7 and deserves more. He asked for reconsideration.

Secretary Mancuso noted that Mr. Pickle's position is higher than that of an employee.

Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Pickle's responsibilities and the current financial situation.

Supervisor Kessner noted that the increase has to be per the contract, which states he gets the same increase as District employees.

The Board was polled on ending the debate and passed on a vote of 4 to 1 with Supervisor Altwein dissenting.

Vice Chairman Child's **motion** was reiterated, seconded by Supervisor Altwein, approving Mr. Pickle's evaluation as exemplary and awarding a 2.7% increase. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

Supervisor Kessner wished for clarification by asking District Counsel if the District can deviate since there is a contract with Mr. Pickle.

## **DM 2 - Other Items**

Mr. Pickle had no other items.

## **J. Supervisors' Requests**

Secretary Mancuso noted that he was troubled by Supervisors having the ability to go to the District Manager and agree on something without other Supervisors agreeing to same without a public record. Secretary Mancuso also recommended that pages 26 through 39 of Consent Agenda item CA-4 be deleted.

Supervisor Altwein asked about the grounding study at the water plant and how it may affect the telemetry system. Mr. Pickle noted that telemetry has its own grounding rods. He then asked about the new building to which Mr. Lawson responded that they are waiting for South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) permit. Mr. Pickle added that once SFWMD approves it, they will need to get the building permit from the City. It was noted that a best case scenario would be

a December move-in date. Supervisor Altwein then asked about the solar panel grants for gates to which Mr. Pickle replied that the District has applied for grants for solar power at the gates. He further noted that if it works, the District will move on to solar panels on the roof.

Vice Chairman Child noted that being in the business of supplying potable water, that obtaining potable water is a worldwide problem. He asked if any of the Board or Staff had any thoughts on addressing the water shortage problem and that millions are without fresh water. He further stated that this is a humanitarian issue and that any suggestions could possibly resolve the issue.

Vice Chairman Child then noted that the District should publicize a disaster recovery program on back of an upcoming bill.

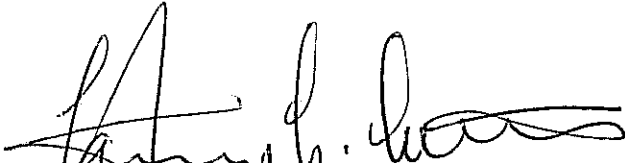
Supervisor Kessner asked Staff to give the Members of the Board a "heads up" on any billing notices that will be going out. He noted that customers do not necessarily call the District office about these items; they call the Board Members who are not advised when this information is going out. Regarding the Consent Agenda issue, Supervisor Kessner feels that just because the matter is resolved with Mr. Pickle, Secretary Mancuso should be able to educate the public on the record.

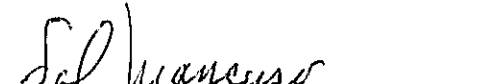
Chairman Cutler had no requests.

#### **K. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a **motion** was made by Supervisor Altwein to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 10:25 a.m. There was no opposition.

Meeting Minutes Signature Page

  
Chairman/Vice Chairman

  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 09/07/10