

**St. Lucie West Services District**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
October 6, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.  
450 SW Utility Drive  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986

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

**Board Members Present**

Harvey Cutler, Chairman  
Vincent D'Amico, Vice Chairman  
Gregg Ney, Secretary  
Charles Altwein, Supervisor  
Everett Child, Supervisor

**Staff Present**

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

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

**A. Call to Order**

Chairman Cutler called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Roll Call**

It was noted that all 5 Supervisors were present.

**D. Approval of Minutes**

- 1. August 31, 2015, Workshop**
- 2. September 1, 2015, Regular Board Meeting**

A motion was made by Supervisor Child, seconded by Supervisor Altwein and passed unanimously to approve the August 31, 2015, Workshop Minutes, as
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presented, and the September 1, 2015, Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as amended.

#### **E. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **F. District Attorney**

**DA 1 – Consider Proposed Amendment of Chapter 1 of the Rules of the St. Lucie West Services District – Operating Policies and Procedures for Surface Water and Stormwater Management System and Improvements**

**Consider Proposed Repeal as Superfluous of Chapter II of the Rules of the St. Lucie West Services District – Establishing Irrigation Water Rates and Charges for Utility Services**

Mr. Harrell briefly explained the purpose for this proposed amendment and revocation.

A brief discussion ensued regarding conflicts with HOAs and/or individuals.

Mr. Harrell reiterated that he was seeking approval from the Board to advertise for the Public Hearings on these matters.

A **motion** was made by Supervisor Child, seconded by Vice Chairman D'Amico authorizing the advertising of Public Hearings to consider a proposed amendment of Chapter 1 of the Rules of the St. Lucie West Services District – Operating Policies and Procedures for Surface Water and Stormwater Management System and Improvements (Resolution No. 2015-07, Amendment IV to Chapter I); and to consider proposed repeal as superfluous of Chapter II of the Rules of the St. Lucie West Services District – Establishing Irrigation Water Rates and Charges for Utility Services (Resolution No. 2015-08) for December 1, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at the offices of the St. Lucie West Services District located at 450 SW Utility Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986.

Under discussion, Secretary Ney asked if Chapter II could be removed instead of repealing it or would that require renumbering of the other Chapters? Mr. Harrell indicated that there would just be no Chapter II.

Supervisor Child's **motion** was reiterated, seconded by Vice Chairman D'Amico authorizing the advertising of Public Hearings to consider a proposed amendment of Chapter 1 of the Rules of the St. Lucie West Services District – Operating Policies and Procedures for Surface Water and Stormwater Management System and Improvements (Resolution No. 2015-07, Amendment IV to Chapter I); and to consider proposed repeal as superfluous of Chapter II of the Rules of the St. Lucie West Services District – Establishing Irrigation Water Rates and Charges for Utility Services (Resolution No. 2015-08) for December 1, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at the offices

of the St. Lucie West Services District located at 450 SW Utility Drive, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 5 to 0.

**G. District Engineer**

**DE 1 – Approval of Work Authorization No. 4B-15-1509-SU between SLWSD and Watercrest St. Lucie West, RE**

Mr. Lawson noted that this item had been thoroughly discussed at the previous day's Workshop and went over the three conditions that must be met prior to the application being approved:

- 1.) Applicant shall supply an ingress/egress easement over the property granting the District access to the water meter location. No water service will be provided until such time as the easement is reviewed, accepted by the Board of Supervisors, and recorded in the public records of St. Lucie County, Florida.
- 2.) The exfiltration pipe to be installed on site will remain the maintenance responsibility of the applicant.
- 3.) A substitute 20-foot Water Management Easement located over the new 30-inch drainage line from California Boulevard to the water management tract located east of the site will be prepared and submitted by the applicant, reviewed and accepted by the Board of Supervisors, and recorded in the public records of St. Lucie County, Florida, prior to release of the \$1,000 deposit being held on this project.

A question arose regarding a zoning change to which Mr. Lawson deferred to Todd Howder of MBV Engineering, the engineering rep for Watercrest. Mr. Howder noted that there had been a zoning change to a PUD and that it was currently in the process with the City of Port St. Lucie.

Mr. Lawson recommended approval.

**A motion was made by Secretary Ney, seconded by Vice Chairman D'Amico approving the application and Work Authorization No. 4B-15-1509-SU between the St. Lucie West Services District and Watercrest St. Lucie West, RE with the three conditions, as outlined above.**

Under discussion Chairman Cutler asked about the impact fees to which Mr. Lawson indicated that the connection charges would be bore by the developer and there were no impact fees to the District. Mr. Pickle indicated that the capacity fees had been paid back in 2004/2005 by the original developer and that the District would only collect meter set fees when the account is activated.

**Secretary Ney's motion was reiterated, seconded by Vice Chairman D'Amico approving the application and Work Authorization No. 4B-15-1509-SU between the St. Lucie West Services District and Watercrest St. Lucie West, RE with the three conditions, as outlined above. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 5 to 0.**

## **DE 2 - Status Reports/Updates**

Mr. Lawson then advised that the 4E-5 Canal Project had been resubmitted to the South Florida Water Management District and the City of Port St. Lucie. He also noted he was waiting for a letter from Bluefield Ranch.

Mr. Lawson indicated that he had received the Lake Harvey preliminary plans from the wetlands consultant and that he expected to submit them to the City of Port St. Lucie and the South Florida Water Management District in the next few months.

Mr. Lawson advised that he had received a Work Authorization for the College Preparatory Academy and had reviewed same. He met with their engineer rep and explained several issues and concerns of the District and noted that the plans were not acceptable at this time. He indicated he was trying to set up a meeting with the applicant, Mr. Hayden, himself and the City of Port St. Lucie regarding removal of acreage from the site. Mr. Lawson indicated he would keep the Board posted on this item.

Mr. Pickle then distributed a sketch of the Lake Harvey sign indicating that there would be two 4' x 6' signs: one on Cashmere and one on St. Lucie West Boulevard.

Discussion ensued about having more water and a possible mulched walking trail. The subject of a bandstand also came up and possibly holding events on site. Mr. Pickle reminded the Board that there was a 55 and over community not far from the site and that the residents there might not want to hear music. A possible parking problem was also brought up.

Mr. Pickle asked if any of the Board Members had any objections to the sign to please see him.

Mr. Lawson then distributed a hand out of the Wetland No. 1 Vertical Relocation Photo Journal and went through the process of the project.

The Board agreed that the photo journal was a very nice step-by-step presentation of the entire process, indicating that it was very interesting to see.

Supervisor Child asked about a family of peacocks in the Kings Isle community and if they could get them transferred to another area. He noted they were messy and noisy. Mr. Lawson suggested contacting the species people and noted that he would bring something back to the next Board Meeting on the matter.

That concluded Mr. Lawson's Status Reports/Updates.

### **H. 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 August, 2015**

**CA 6 - Consider Approval to Transfer Funds for the R&R Account, WCF Account and the UCF Account Requisitions**

**CA 7 - Surplus Items**

Consent Agenda items CA 1 through CA 7 were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Secretary Ney, seconded by Vice Chairman D'Amico approving Consider Agenda items CA 1 through CA 7, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 5 to 0.

**I. District Manager  
Action Items**

**DM 1 - Consider Approval of Final Invoice for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Project with Wharton-Smith**

Mr. Pickle presented the item indicating that it had been discussed at length at the Workshop held the day before and that it was merely a ratification of change orders. He recommended approval.

A motion was made by Supervisor Child, seconded by Secretary Ney approving and authorizing payment of the Final Pay Request from Wharton-Smith, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Project in the amount of \$399,301.58 with the overall project cost not to exceed \$6,531,664.54, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 5 to 0.

**DM 2 - Discussion Regarding Proposed Additional Employee Compensation**

It was noted that after looking further into Mr. Pickle's employment contract that the additional employee compensation proposal became very complicated. Therefore, Mr. Pickle recommends taking no action at this time.

A brief discussion ensued concerning other cities/municipalities raising rates due to the increasing costs of stormwater and sanitation management and the fact that the District, although it has not lowered rates, it has not increased rates in the last 7 years. Secretary Ney commended staff as being the only government that is not raising taxes.

Secretary Ney made a motion to table this matter indefinitely.

Mr. Harrell advised that this subject had been sent to staff for their recommendation and that tabling the item indefinitely was not necessary.

**Secretary Ney withdrew his previous motion.**

There were no objections to Mr. Pickle's recommendation of taking no action at this time.

**DM 3 – Consider Approval for the Purchase of Equipment to Upgrade the Odor Control System at the Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Mr. Pickle presented the item indicating that it had been discussed the previous day. It was his and staff's recommendation to purchase the Odor Control System for the Wastewater Treatment Plant from Evoqua of Sarasota, Florida in the amount of \$75,000.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Child, seconded by Vice Chairman D'Amico and passed unanimously approving the purchase of the new Zabocs Model 5000 Biological Ordo Control System from Evoqua of Sarasota, Florida, in the amount of \$75,000.**

Supervisor Altwein excused himself from the meeting at approximately 10:20 a.m.

**DM 4 – Consider Acceptance of Annual Engineering Certification of the Utility Systems**

Mr. Pickle then presented Baskerville-Donovan's 2015 Annual Engineering Certification of the Water and Wastewater Utility System for acceptance by the Board.

**A motion was made by Secretary Ney, seconded by Supervisor Child accepting the 2015 Annual Engineering Certification of the Utility System from Baskerville-Donovan, Inc., as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 4 to 0.**

The Regular Board Meeting was then recessed at approximately 10:21 a.m. and the Audit Selection Committee, consisting of the current Board Members, convened.

**DM 5 – Consider Auditor Selection Committee**

- **Ranking of Proposals/Consider Selection of an Auditor**

Mr. Pierman reminded the Board that 4 firms had responded to the RFP for auditing services. He referred to the internal rankings in the meeting books and outlined the evaluation criteria.

Supervisor Altwein returned to the meeting at approximately 10:22 a.m.

Mr. Pierman noted that, based on the adopted evaluation criteria, Special District Services, Inc. had given the firms the following suggested ranking: #1 - Grau & Associates; #2 - Rehmann Robson; and #3 - HBK CPAs.

Chairman Cutler asked why the District should mess with something that is working.

A motion was made by Audit Selection Committee Member Ney, seconded by Audit Selection Committee Member D'Amico to select Grau & Associates as their recommendation to the Board of the St. Lucie West Services District, as presented by Special District Services, Inc. There were no objections.

The Audit Selection Committee was adjourned and the Regular Board Meeting was reconvened.

A motion was made by Supervisor Child, seconded by Vice Chairman D'Amico to accept the recommendation of the Audit Selection Committee as to the ranking of the auditor proposals, as presented by Special District Services, Inc, and to direct staff to execute the audit agreement. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 5 to 0.

#### **DM 6 – Other Items/Updates**

Mr. Pickle then presented the paperwork necessary in order to change the authorizations for the safe deposit box for the District. He recommended approval.

A motion was made by Secretary Ney, seconded by Supervisor Altwein approving the change in authorizations for the District's safe deposit box, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 5 to 0.

Mr. Pickle gave several updates. He indicated he would be on vacation beginning Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, returning to the office on October 19<sup>th</sup>. He noted that he would be accessible by computer and/or cell phone.

Mr. Pickle indicated that he expected Maddie back in the office on Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Pickle noted that they would have a new water and sewer customer, Pet Supermarket.

Mr. Pickle advised that he was not sure what was going in next to LA Fitness, but that there is a fence surrounding the property.

Mr. Pickle noted that Cheddar's was moving along quickly, as was Tijuana Flats.

Chairman Cutler noted that the gas station near the bridge sold gasoline over the weekend for \$2.09 per gallon. He indicated that the station was crowded and that it sold out in no time. He indicated that he could not get out of the station lot and had to go a good half mile in order to make a U-turn. Chairman Cutler believes that the

District did a real service to the community when it decided to put Lake Harvey in, noting that if it had been used for commercial purposes, it would have only added to the traffic nightmare.

**J. Supervisor Requests**

There were no Supervisor Requests.

**K. Adjournment**

There being no further items to be addressed, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m. There were no objections.



Workshop Minutes Signature Page

  
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Chairman/Vice Chairman

  
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Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 11/03/15