

**St. Lucie West Services District**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
June 4, 2013, 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 Board Meeting is available on file.)

**Board Members Present**

Harvey Cutler, Chairman  
Everett Child, Vice Chairman  
Charles Altwein, Secretary  
Vincent D'Amico, Supervisor  
Sal Mancuso, Supervisor

**Staff Present**

Dennis Pickle, District Manager, St. Lucie West Services District ("SLWSD")  
Bill Hayden, Public Works Director/Assistant District Manager, SLWSD  
Maddie Maldonado, Office Manager, SLWSD  
Dan Harrell, District Counsel, Gonano & Harrell  
Bob Lawson, District Engineer, ARCADIS-US, Inc.  
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. Roll Call**

Ms. Archer took roll, noting that all 5 Supervisors were present.

**D. Approval of Minutes**

- 1. May 6, 2013, Workshop**
- 2. May 7, 2013, Regular Board Meeting & Public Hearing**

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico approving the minutes of the May 6, 2013, Workshop, as amended at yesterday's Workshop Meeting, and the May 7, 2013, Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 5 to 0.

**E. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**F. District Attorney  
DA 1 - Status Report**

Mr. Harrell reminded the Board Members to complete and submit to the St. Lucie Supervisor of Elections' Office the 2012 Form 1 – Statement of Financial Interest forms by the July 1, 2013, deadline.

**G. District Engineer  
DE 1 – Consider Approval of Work Authorization No. 2C-14-0213-SU  
between SLWSD and Sunlight Community Church**

Mr. Lawson presented the item noting that this was an application for an additional building and paved parking which was previously grassed parking. Mr. Lawson indicated that this construction would have no significant impact on the system and recommended approval.

A **motion** was made by Secretary Altwein, seconded by Vice Chairman Child approving Work Authorization No. 2C-14-0213-SU between the St. Lucie West Services District and Sunlight Community Church, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

Mr. Lawson then reported that he had received the permit from the Turnpike Authority for removing the twin culverts. He also reported that the N1 pipe had been laid and is complete. Mr. Lawson advised the Board that he was looking at open space which could be considered to be offered as mitigation land and explained the process, which would take several weeks to complete.

Chairman Cutler advised the audience that a lengthy discussion had taken place at yesterday's Workshop Meeting on the mitigation issue with the City and that options were being discussed. Mr. Lawson indicated that the information on the open space tracts within the District could be completed in 1 to 2 weeks.

- 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 April, 2013**

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

A **motion** was made by Secretary Altwein, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico approving Consent Agenda Items CA 1 through CA 6, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

**H. District Manager  
Action Items**

**DM 1 - 2012 Financial Report**

Mr. Pickle presented the report, as submitted by Grau & Associates and recommended acceptance, as presented. Secretary Altwein asked if the District could go to another agency to get the audit findings corrected. Although Mr. Pickle was disappointed in the findings, he advised that SDS had already corrected one of the findings. He noted that the fixed assets issue is more problematic and going to another auditing firm will not change anything. He further indicated that the District could hire an engineering and appraisal firm to correct the issue by trying to come up with a dollar amount of the fixed asset at the time it was incurred. He assured the Board that fixed asset issues pop up with government agencies throughout the State, if no good tracking system is in place. He also assured the Board that the District currently has a good tracking system in place, but that the findings in the audit report were from 1988 and 1989. He indicated our options were to either wait 20 years when the items come off the depreciation schedule or to sit down and try to work out a system to eliminate the old fixed assets.

A **motion** was made by Secretary Altwein, seconded by Vice Chairman Child accepting the 2012 Financial Report, as presented by Grau & Associates.

Under discussion, Chairman Cutler noted that we were aware of the correspondence from the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee approximately one month ago. He indicated that it was his belief that SDS was requested to reply to this letter and that he asked to be copied with it. He indicated he had not seen any progress on a response. Mr. Pierman indicated that the only correspondence to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee from SDS thus far had been an e-mail acknowledgement of receipt of their correspondence. He noted that a formal response to the actual inquiries had not yet been prepared because the audit was forthcoming. Mr. Pierman indicated that he would draft and distribute of a formal response letter to the Auditing Committee by the end of the week.

Secretary Altwein's **motion** was reiterated, seconded by Vice Chairman Child to accept the 2012 Financial Report, as presented by Grau & Associates. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

Chairman Cutler advised the audience that there would be no Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Budget Workshop discussion, as it had previously been discussed at yesterday's Workshop.

## **I. Supervisor Requests**

Secretary Altwein had no requests.

Supervisor D'Amico apologized for not bringing the following topic up during yesterday's Workshop, but the meeting ran late. Supervisor D'Amico brought up that the Board had previously discussed the Interlocal Agreement between the District and the City of Port St. Lucie. He would like for the Board to make a decision on whether we will approach the City to reduce the 25% retention of the stormwater assessments. It is his belief that it is time to reassess the fact that the City retains over \$500,000 per year and has done so for the past 17 years.

**A motion was made by Supervisor D'Amico, seconded by Secretary Altwein to discuss the reduction of the City's 25% retention of stormwater assessments.**

Under discussion, Supervisor Mancuso noted that the District was obligated to give the City the 25% and asks now, for what?

Vice Chairman Child asked for clarification of who will do the negotiating and directed his question to the maker of the motion.

Supervisor D'Amico indicated that he believes Mr. Pickle and Chairman Cutler are in the prime position to do the negotiating.

Mr. Pickle indicated that right now it's just under discussion, but that it could be combined with the mitigation issue.

Chairman Cutler indicated that bringing the Interlocal Agreement to the City's attention is a matter of timing and expressed his concern over it becoming an adversarial matter.

Chairman Cutler indicated that the mitigation situation could be the right time to bring the subject up with the City.

Mr. Pickle suggested tabling the motion for now to allow Staff to obtain more information regarding open tract space and bring the matter to the City at a later date.

Secretary Altwein agreed with Mr. Pickle's suggestion of tabling the motion and using it as the District's ace in the hole during mitigation discussions.

Mr. Pickle indicated that the tabling of the motion would only be for one month.

Supervisor D'Amico agreed to table his motion for one month. Chairman Cutler asked Mr. Harrell if the motion could be tabled or should it be withdrawn. Mr. Harrell indicated that the motion needed to be withdrawn.

Supervisor D'Amico withdrew his **motion** to discuss the reduction of the City's 25% retention of stormwater assessments. Secretary Altwein withdrew his second.

Chairman Cutler asked for Mr. Harrell's comments on the matter to which Mr. Harrell believes that Mr. Pickle's suggestion is correct; wait to see what information Mr. Lawson brings back to the Board with regard to the open space tracts within the District.

Tony Stachewicz, a resident of Sun Terrace, commented that 17 years ago he came to Board Meetings and that everyone was brainwashed as far as the 25% retention by the City. He stated that the residents were told to be thankful for the retention only being 25%.

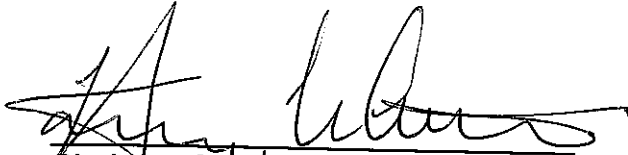
Supervisor Mancuso had no requests.


Vice Chairman Child had nothing further to add, indicating that the subject had been amply covered.

#### **M. Adjournment**

There being no further items to be addressed, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m. There were no objections.

Workshop Minutes Signature Page

  
Chairman/Vice Chairman

  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 07/02/13