

**St. Lucie West Services District**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
July 1, 2014, 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  
Everett Child, Vice Chairman  
Charles B. 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, 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 Regular Board Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Roll Call**

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

**D. Approval of Minutes**

1. June 2, 2014, Workshop
2. June 3, 2014, Regular Board Meeting

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Secretary Altwein approving the minutes of the June 2, 2014, Workshop, as amended, and the June 3, 2014, Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 5 to 0.

## **E. Public Comment**

Tony Stachewicz, a resident of the District, asked for the total bond debt, including the new one that was recently issued. Mr. Pickle indicated he would have to research the matter, but that the 2010, 2013, Water Management, Cascades and 2004 Series Bonds were still outstanding. He further noted that they were looking into refinancing the 2004 Series Bonds. Chairman Cutler asked that Mr. Stachewicz get in touch with Mr. Pickle who would provide that number to him.

Mr. Stachewicz then noted that the Board held 3 meetings during the month of June and had been compensated \$600 for their attendance. He indicated that he believed that was absurd and would like to see only one meeting held per month. Mr. Stachewicz noted that he believed that one meeting would take no more than 3 hours to go over the items on the agenda. He then asked for a reply from the Board.

Chairman Cutler indicated Mr. Stachewicz would not be satisfied with his answer and believed that he was campaigning from the podium.

There was no further discussion regarding this matter.

## **F. District Attorney**

### **DA 1 – Consider Draft Proposed Amendment to Chapter A-II, Rules of Board of Supervisors of the St. Lucie West Services District – New Section 13**

Mr. Harrell presented the item indicating that he had located only one other district which allows Supervisors to be paid for a missed meeting when they are attending to other district business. Mr. Harrell indicated that he believed the subject of modifying the amount which Supervisors are paid had come up at yesterday's Workshop. He noted that statute sets the amount which can only be changed if voters agree, through a public referendum, to a different compensation schedule.

Vice Chairman Child mad a motion to accept the proposed amendment.

Mr. Pickle clarified that this item was not up for a vote today, but rather was only for informational purposes and would be the subject of the August 5<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing.

Supervisor D'Amico asked if the Public Hearing had already been published to which Mr. Pickle indicated that it was scheduled for publication. Supervisor D'Amico asked if changes could be made to the proposed amendment to which Mr. Pickle indicated that changes could be made between today and the Public Hearing date. Mr. Harrell indicated that he did not believe anything could be added to it because it would have to be re-advertised. Mr. Pickle indicated that the language could be made more restrictive, but could not be loosened up.

Discussion ensued about Rule Development and how the process for obtaining the proper excuse for a Board Member's absence would be structured.

There was no further discussion regarding this item.

**G. District Engineer  
DE 1 – Irrigation Report**

Mr. Lawson presented the item indicating that the report gave a detailed overview of the findings and each community's needs. He noted that it would cost the District approximately \$500,000 to replace every non-working valve within the District and his suggestion was not to replace all of them at once. He also recommended that the filter continue to be the responsibility of each individual HOA. He also noted that, if the Board accepted responsibility for the additional maintenance, additional costs might have to be charged.

Supervisor Mancuso noted that the responsibility of the District is to provide irrigation water to the perimeter only; it is then up to the HOA/Developer to install an irrigation system from that point.

Chairman Cutler responded to Supervisor Mancuso's comment by stating that the District has evolved to assuming responsibilities not assumed before based on the fact that the District could do so more efficiently and at a lesser cost to the residents. Chairman Cutler asked Mr. Lawson's opinion to which he indicated that his personal opinion was that because the District is not in the business of making a profit, creating one source for service would be, overall, more effective. Mr. Pickle indicated that the District taking over this responsibility would be more efficient from a time standpoint as well and noted that District employees are currently handling middle of the night calls regarding broken water lines.

Discussion ensued regarding the current policy and how the District would cover the additional costs. Mr. Pickle indicated that additional charges would be passed on to the residents through the monthly irrigation bills. He further noted that the fiscal year 2014/2015 proposed budget includes additional funds for an Underground Utilities Worker, if the Board approves this additional responsibility. He noted that the question now is if the District should move forward, noting that it is staff's recommendation to do so by initiating a report on how many valves need to be addressed, if any. Mr. Lawson indicated, if approved by the Board, he would like to establish an atlas/map of the location and size of the valves.

Chairman Cutler allowed resident, Tony Stachewicz to speak about a recent leak in front of his house. Mr. Pickle indicated he believed Mr. Stachewicz was speaking of a potable waterline break, not an irrigation break. Mr. Pickle indicated that the District does not repair irrigation lines; the District is only responsible for potable water.

It was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Lawson move forward with preparing an atlas/map of the valves throughout the District.

Mr. Lawson then updated the Board on the Wetland #1 project noting that it was moving forward and is now before the City.

Mr. Lawson indicated that he was in process of receiving proposals for Gates 2C and 3B and that a grant submittal is being prepared for the wetland project.

**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 May, 2014**

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

Mr. Pickle presented Consent Agenda Items CA 1 through CA 6, noting that the correction to the abstract for Consent Agenda Item CA 6 had been made and had been distributed to the Board for their information.

A **motion** was then 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.

**I. District Manager  
Action Items**

**DM 1 - Consider Contract Amendment between the Department of Corrections and the St. Lucie West Services District – Contract #WS828 – Amendment #2**

Mr. Hayden presented the item indicating that it had been fully described at yesterday's Workshop.

A **motion** was made by Secretary Altwein, seconded by Vice Chairman Child approving the Contract Amendment between the Department of Corrections and the St. Lucie West Services District, Contract #WS828, Amendment #2 in the amount of \$57,497, as presented. Available Project Budget: \$60,180; This Project: \$57,497; Leaving an Available Balance of \$2,683. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

**DM 2 - District Manager and Staff Goals and Objectives for Fiscal Year 2014/2015**

Mr. Pickle presented the item noting that the matter had been thoroughly discussed at the prior day's Workshop and he recommended approval.

A **motion** was made by Secretary Altwein, seconded by Vice Chairman Child approving the District Manager's Goals and Objectives for Fiscal Year 2014/2015, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

**DM 3 – Consider Resolution No. 2014-03 – Adopting a Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Propose Annual Budget and Setting a Public Hearing Date**

Resolution No. 2014-03 was presented, entitled:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-03**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE ST. LUCIE WEST SERVICES DISTRICT APPROVING A PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015.**

Mr. Pickle indicated that the budget had been discussed at yesterday's Workshop and that he recommended approval of Resolution No. 2014-03, setting the Public Hearing for September 9, 2014.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Secretary Altwein adopting Resolution No. 2014-03, as presented, setting the Public Hearing for September 9, 2014. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

**DM 4 – Supplement to the SunGard Public Sector Inc. Service Provider Agreement**

Mr. Pickle presented the item indicating that the topic had been discussed at yesterday's Workshop. He reminded those present that SunGard provides the billing software and storage system for the District's utility bills.

Chairman Cutler asked if a caveat could be attached to the one percent (1%) annual increase for the five year term, providing that should the CPI fall in any given year, we could void the annual increase. Mr. Harrell indicated that there are risks with any contract and noted that Mr. Pickle had done a great job negotiating the risk to a one percent (1%) annual increase. He also noted that this service was necessary to the District's day to day operations and if the Board so desired, it could go back on the street for another provider, but that would take the chance that other proposals could come in higher.

Chairman Cutler handed the gavel to Vice Chairman Child.

A **motion** was made by Supervisor Cutler, seconded by Secretary Altwein approving the Supplement to the SunGard Public Sector Inc. Service Provider Agreement, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 5 to 0.

Chairman Child then returned the gavel to Supervisor Cutler.

Mr. Pickle had no other updates.

## **J. Supervisor Requests**

Secretary Altwein had no requests.

Supervisor Mancuso asked what the approximate cost was to advertise a public notice in the newspaper. Mr. Pickle indicated approximately \$200. Supervisor Mancuso noted that he believed it would be worthwhile to make a recommendation for a COLA raise, speaking as an employee of the District. Mr. Harrell noted that there are 2 ways in which the District can change compensation for Supervisor Services; one would be by changing legislation and the other would be by holding an election which would require several notice publications.

Supervisor Mancuso he had no further comments.

Vice Chairman Child had no comments.

Chairman Cutler indicated he had no comments

Supervisor D'Amico indicated that he philosophically opposes Section 13 and believes that counsel did an excellent job in its research; he believes the language is too loose. He further noted that he agreed to do a job and to give back to the community; compensation is secondary for him. He indicated that Supervisors should be physically present at meetings or via conference call in order to be compensated or for special circumstances, the excuse should be approved by the other 4 Members of the Board.

Chairman Cutler agreed with Supervisor D'Amico's comments.

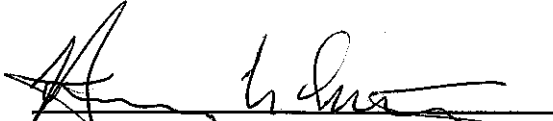
Discussion then ensued about changes to Section 13, to wit: removing (d) (i), (iii), and (iv). Supervisor D'Amico noted that jury duty and National Guard duty should also be removed since the individual is paid for both of these scenarios.

It was suggested that since the Public Hearing Notice had already been published that the Board wait to make any changes until they have had the opportunity to hear what the public has to say.

## **K. Adjournment**

There being no further items to be addressed, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m. on a **motion** made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico. There were no objections.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes Signature Page

  
Chairman/Vice Chairman

  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 08/05/14