

St. Lucie West Services District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 8, 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
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
Molly Rottinghaus, 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 Regular Board Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Ms. Archer took roll, noting that Secretary Altwein was the only Board Member not present.

D. Approval of Minutes

- 1. September 9, 2013, Workshop**
- 2. September 10, 2013, Regular Board Meeting**

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico approving the minutes of the September 9, 2013, Workshop, and the September 10, 2013, Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried 4 to 0.

E. Public Comment

Mr. Gregg Ney, a resident of the District, thanked SLWSD n behalf of the Presidents' Council for hosting the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) meeting regarding storm water related issues.

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

Ms. Rottinghaus had no updates at this time.

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

Mr. Lawson indicated that the SFWMD presentation had been informative and he believed it was well received.

Mr. Lawson then proceeded to distribute to the Board Members an aerial of the eastern portion of the District along with a chart that outlined the peak levels and recovery times of the proposed models. Mr. Lawson explained that the models were prepared based on having a storm water pump in the various situations to see how much water would be moved out during an event. Mr. Lawson noted that 20 different models had been run. In order to prepare these models, he indicated that his office had to identify how the lakes were interconnected and the size of the pipes for each lake. He stated that their goal was to determine what combination gave us the lowest stages with the quickest recovery time. Based on all the information gathered, Mr. Lawson suggested removing the WL1 (Wetland 1) control structure and adding a 48 inch pipe to the 2C LF8 which would be the most cost efficient and give the District the “most bang for their buck.” Due to amount of information being presented, Mr. Lawson offered to stay after the meeting today to go over the comparisons, if needed.

Mr. Lawson indicated that he had spoken with someone at SFWMD about permitting prospects and that they indicated to him that it was a good improvement, valid and provable, but that it would need to go into review for a more thorough evaluation. He noted that the wetland conditions were poor, not healthy, and in speaking with an EPA representative, they also felt the solution was very good.

At approximately 9:20 a.m., Chairman Cutler acknowledged that Mayor Faiella had joined the meeting.

Chairman Cutler then noted that the difference between Models 7 and 8 was \$350,000. Mr. Lawson reminded the Board that the recovery times are most important because of water getting stacked up during rain events. In Mr. Lawson's opinion, Model #7 would be a good investment. It would turn a wetland into a separate waterway with littoral shelves. Mr. Pickle indicated that the District could utilize the current Arcadis contract to create the construction and bid process, but that the contract would have to be amended. Chairman Cutler asked for confirmation that

the new structures would be in place before the next hurricane season to which Mr. Lawson agreed wholeheartedly.

Discussion ensued about funding the project to which Mr. Pickle indicated that, currently, there was \$800,000+/- in the R&R Fund and that a revised budget would be presented in November with the true dollar amount. It is his expectation that there will actually be between \$900,000 and \$1 Million which will be more than enough for this project.

Supervisor Mancuso asked if there was any information on The Crossing at Cashmere and St. Lucie West Boulevards. Mr. Lawson indicated he had not seen any formal submittals. Supervisor Mancuso indicated that the project would involve a drugstore, restaurant, bank, etc. with approximately 791 parking spaces. He is concerned because the District is involved with the water and sewer and we should be aware of what's going on and stay on top of things. Mr. Lawson reminded Supervisor Mancuso that the District has no planning and zoning authorities on projects. Mr. Lawson did, however, indicate he would be in the City's offices today and would stop by the Planning Department to see who the engineer is for the project.

Mr. Pickle indicated he had recently seen a building official because of the matters surrounding Golden Corral and the change to the permit use. Mr. Pickle requested that the District be advised of these matters in the future. Mr. Pickle did note, however, that The Crossings was not at this point yet in which notification to the District would be necessary. Supervisor Mancuso expressed his concern with whether the District would have the capacity to serve The Crossings and noted that the District had good communication with the City and that previously we would send a letter to the City acknowledging that the District had the capacity to handle a certain project's water and sewer needs. Mayor Faiella indicated that The Crossings project had not yet been put on the agenda and it has not come to Planning & Zoning as of yet. Mayor Faiella asked Mr. Pickle if there were communication issues with the City to which Mr. Pickle indicated that everything had already been sorted out.

Mr. Lawson had no further 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, 2013

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

Mr. Pickle presented the item noting that the all conditions remain the same as the last agreement. He recommended approval.

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico approving the First Amendment to Utility SCADA System Service Agreement, as presented. The **motion** carried 4 to 0.

DM 3 - Consider Annual Renewal for Auditor Engagement

Mr. Pierman presented the item, noting that all conditions remain the same. Chairman Cutler noted that he was happy to hear that the renewal would have no additional costs.

A **motion** was then made by Supervisor D'Amico, seconded by Vice Chairman Child approving the Annual Renewal for Auditor Engagement, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 4 to 0.

Vice Chairman Child asked if the fixed asset issued had been resolved to which Mr. Pierman indicated it was being worked on with the auditors.

Mayor Faiella left at approximately 9:58 a.m.

DM 4 - Other Items/Updates

Mr. Pickle referred to the Certificate of Resolution (2013) which had been discussed at yesterday's Workshop. He noted that Ms. Leighton had been called for jury duty and would be at the November meeting to answer questions related to Obamacare. Mr. Pickle recommended approval of Certification of Resolution (2013).

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Child, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico approving the Certificate of Resolution (2013), as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the **motion** carried 4 to 0.

Mr. Pickle indicated he had nothing further.

J. Supervisors' Requests

Supervisor D'Amico had no requests.

Supervisor Mancuso referred to the Affordable Care Act, asking if District employees were aware of their responsibilities. Mr. Pickle indicated that all the information required to be distributed to employees had already been given to them.

Vice Chairman Child had no requests.

Chairman Cutler directed his inquiry to Jason Pierman and Laura Archer regarding the Florida Association of Special Districts (FASD) and whether it would be a good idea for the District to join that organization. Both Mr. Pierman and Ms. Archer agreed that the FASD would be a good organization to join and noted that Mr. Todd Wodraska of Special District Services served on that Board.

Chairman Cutler then made a **motion** that St. Lucie West Services District become a member of the FASD, seconded by Supervisor Mancuso.

Mr. Pickle reminded Chairman Cutler that he would have to pass his gavel to Vice Chairman Child in order to make a motion. Chairman Cutler did, in fact, pass his gavel.

Supervisor Mancuso indicated that he had attended an FASD seminar in 2003 at his own expense and thought membership was a good idea.

Supervisor Cutler then brought up that who on the Board would represent the District at FASD meetings and noted that would be something to discuss at a later date.

Mr. Pierman asked for clarification of the motion and what action should be taken. After discussion, it was decided that action could be taken for SLWSD to join the FASD for a not to exceed amount of \$2,500.

A **motion** was made by Chairman Child, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico for SLWSD to join the Florida Association of Special Districts for a not to exceed amount of \$2,500. Upon being put to a vote, that **motion** carried 4 to 0.

Supervisor Cutler then advised that he believed Secretary Altwein should be paid for the Workshop and Board Meeting because he had a legitimate medical excuse.

A **motion** was made by Supervisor Cutler, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico that Board Members be paid for meetings missed so long as the Board Member has a legitimate excuse and the \$4,800 annual maximum is not exceeded.

Discussion ensued as to the legality of the matter.

Secretary Mancuso requested that the conversation be stricken from the record as he was not comfortable with the discussion.

Ms. Rottinghaus stated that she would be happy to put together a legal outline as to what is acceptable as compensation.

Vice Chairman Child asked if the maker of the motion would withdraw the motion and wait until legal counsel comes back with a recommendation.

Supervisor Cutler withdrew his motion and Supervisor D'Amico withdrew his second.

Supervisor Cutler asked that staff look into the matter very carefully.

There were no further comments.

K. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a **motion** was made by Supervisor Mancuso, seconded by Supervisor D'Amico to adjourn at the meeting at 10:16 a.m. There were no objections.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes Signature Page


Chairman/Vice Chairman


Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 11/05/13