

St. Lucie West Services District
Workshop Minutes
November 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 Workshop 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
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 Workshop 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. October 7, 2013, Workshop**
- 2. October 8, 2013, Regular Board Meeting**

Chairman Cutler asked the Board if they had any changes or corrections to the minutes presented.

There being none, Chairman Cutler moved on to the next item on the agenda.

E. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Pickle indicated that Ms. Mary Leighton of BenefitAbility would be making a presentation on the Affordable Care Act at tomorrow's meeting.

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. Pickle indicated that the proposed amendment would require a Public Hearing. He noted that the amendment would condition the payment of amounts for services of a Board Member who is absent from a meeting of the Board upon certain criteria.

Discussion ensued regarding public notice. Supervisor Mancuso requested that public notice be made in *The Voice* newspaper. Ms. Archer indicated she would look into using that publication and report back to the Board. Mr. Pickle noted that the draft amendment was in the discussion stage only at this time.

G. District Engineer

DE 1 – Status Report

Mr. Pickle noted that he believed Mr. Lawson would be bringing further information regarding the wetland modification for Lake Forest.

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 Consent Agenda Items CA 1 through CA 6. Supervisor D'Amico asked why there had been so many service calls to which Mr. Hayden replied that staff had looked at 72 structures. Mr. Pickle clarified that there were 72

Service Orders and that Service Orders were not Service Calls; Service Calls are initiated by staff.

Secretary Altwein asked about the dredging in the Cascades. Mr. Hayden noted that there was an issue at one end of the lake that they were working on. Secretary Altwein suggested that all lakes be brought to their original depths to increase storage. Discussion ensued on why increasing the depth does not work.

There was no further discussion regarding Consent Agenda items CA 1 through CA 6.

**I. District Manager
Action Items**

DM 1 - Declaration of Surplus Equipment

Mr. Hayden presented the item indicating that the items listed were old and retired equipment that staff would like to have declared surplus. He noted that all equipment would be auctioned on the governmentdeals.com website, pending approval.

There was no further discussion regarding Item DM-1.

DM 2 - Consider Resolution No. 2013-16 – Adopting an Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2012/2013

Mr. Pickle presented Resolution No. 2013-16, entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-16

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ST. LUCIE WEST SERVICES DISTRICT
ADOPTING AN AMENDED FISCAL YEAR 2012/2013 BUDGET; AND
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mr. Pickle indicated that the amend budget had been distributed to the Board and that this was a true-up of last year's budget. He noted that Florida Statute requires that an amended budget be adopted within 60 days of the end of the budget year. He also noted that it was not an actual budget because the numbers were slightly inflated because more invoices may trickle in during the next few weeks. He indicated that an actual budget would be presented to the Board after the audit had been completed. Discussion ensued regarding funds set aside for weather events. Supervisor Mancuso noted that there may come a time when the District has excess money rolling over. He asked when the District will start thinking of its residents and lower the water rate. Mr. Pickle noted that rates cannot be lowered based on the money in the reserve accounts; it is based on the bond indenture. Discussion ensued regarding the bond refinancing that was done while Supervisor Mancuso was off the Board. Supervisor Mancuso noted that the District was not getting the word out about the good things that the District does and suggested using *The Voice* publication for such. Mr. Pickle reminded Supervisor Mancuso that the District's

meetings were public but that very few District residents made it a point to attend the meetings. He also noted that we could possibly lower rates in the next 3 to 4 years; but that in the meantime, the rates should stay the same with no increases foreseen. A brief discussion ensued regarding rates.

There was no further discussion regarding DM-2.

DM 3 – Consider Approval of SW075 Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project

Mr. Pickle explained the electrical modifications due to DEP provisions and noted that the District had only received 2 bids for the project; one from Wharton-Smith, Inc. in the amount of \$11,476,000 and one from WPC, Inc. in the amount of \$12,835,000. Mr. Pickle noted that Baskerville-Donovan had prepared a Memo in the form of an Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost, along with its recommendation for actions to be taken. Based on that Opinion Memo, Mr. Harrell prepared 3 conditions to Baskerville-Donovan's recommendation that the Board accept the Wharton-Smith, Inc. base bid, to wit:

(a) Conditionally accept the Wharton-Smith, Inc. base bid together with Alternative Bid Items #6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17, for a total project cost not to exceed \$10,830,500, subject to the Contractor and the District negotiating additional deductions mutually acceptable to the parties;

(b) Delegate to the District Manager authority to negotiate such additional deductions on behalf of the District; and

(c) Direct that District staff either (1) issue a Notice of Award and request that Performance and Payment Bonds be submitted for contract preparation, if and when the Contractor and the District Manager reach agreement upon acceptable scope reductions and final project cost, or (2) if the parties do not reach agreement on scope reductions and final project cost, reject all bids received and proceed to rebid the project.

Mr. Pickle distributed a summary of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project Costs and Funding and discussion then ensued regarding the funding for the project. Chairman Cutler remarked that the Board's approval would be, essentially, "in the blind", so to speak, to which Mr. Pickle responded that the Board was being asked to approve a contract in the amount of \$10,830,500 and then Change Orders would come to the Board for ratification. Discussion ensued about approving the base bid so as not to further delay the project.

There was no further discussion on item DM-3.

DM 4 - Approval of SW071 Change Order #1 for the Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project

Mr. Pickle presented the item indicating that Change Order #1 for the Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project was due to Baskerville-Donovan requesting a proposal from Wharton-Smith to provide additional work not originally included in the initial proposal. It includes the replacement of the existing RO membranes, engineering certification of the new cartridge filter platforms and a credit for certification of the Skid 2 supports. Mr. Pickle noted that Baskerville-Donovan had reviewed the Change Order and recommends its approval. The Change Order is for an amount not to exceed \$18,058, which brings the total project cost from \$932,000 to \$950,058. Mr. Pickle noted that this project is funded out of the Water Connection Fee Fund for the current fiscal year.

There was no discussion regarding item DM-4.

Mr. Pickle had no further updates.

Chairman Cutler asked Mr. Pickle if Mr. Lawson was prepared to come to the Board tomorrow with a final recommendation regarding the upland mitigation matter. Mr. Pickle indicated that he believed so.

I. Supervisor Requests

Chairman Cutler asked about the Florida Association of Special District (FASD). Mr. Pierman indicated FASD information had been provided to staff and will be distributed to the Board. He also noted that the District's application and membership fee had already been submitted for processing.

Mr. Pickle distributed information on "Keeping it Green!" The St. Lucie West Fertilizer Recommendations for their review.

Chairman Cutler asked how exotics were going to which Mr. Hayden indicated that they were an ongoing issue and that the District currently has a 3 year rotation of clearing them with the inmate program recently put into place.

Chairman Cutler suggested getting together with the Audubon Society to inquire as to the wildlife situation. He noted that he was disappointed that he does not see any woodpeckers, blue jays or cardinals in the area and surmised that it could be due to bobcats in the area.

Supervisor Mancuso asked about the Presidents' Council and if it was incorporated. Gregg Ney, a resident of the District and a member of the Presidents' Council, indicated that the Presidents' Council was not incorporated, noting that it was a loose confederation of people with no officers. He noted that their meetings were open to any President/Director of an HOA of the District, but that they had no political stance whatsoever. He indicated that their meetings were merely a forum for sharing information with no other agenda.

Supervisor Mancuso then brought up the subject of paying Supervisors even if they miss a meeting and indicated that he had not changed his position since the last

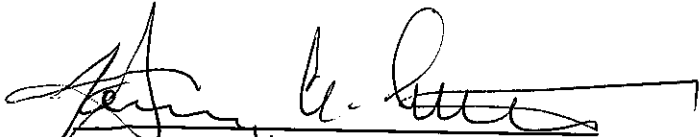
meeting; he believed it was illegal to do so and that he did not intend on changing his mind on the matter. His bringing up the subject was to advise the Board of his intentions. Chairman Cutler indicated Supervisor Mancuso might possibly change his mind after Mr. Harrell's presentation on the matter tomorrow.

There were no further comments from the Board.


J. Adjournment

There being no further items to be addressed, the Workshop was adjourned at 11:03 a.m. There were no objections.

Workshop Minutes Signature Page



Chairman/Vice Chairman



Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 12/03/13