

St. Lucie West Services District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.
VIA TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATIONS
DIAL IN TO: 1-877-402-9753 ACCESS CODE: 4411919

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

Board Members Present

Vincent D'Amico, Chairman – in-person
Gregg Ney – Vice Chairman – in-person
John Doughney, Secretary – in-person
Dominick Graci, Supervisor – in-person
Viorel Mocuta, Supervisor – in-person

Staff Present

Dennis Pickle, District Manager, St. Lucie West Services District (“SLWSD”) – in-person
Bill Hayden, Public Works Director/Assistant District Manager, SLWSD – in-person
Maddie Maldonado, Director of Office Administration, SLWSD – in-person
Josh Miller, Utilities Director/Assistant District Manager, SLWSD – in-person
Gerard Rouse, Assistant Public Works Director – in-person
Thomas Bayer, Assistant Utilities Director – in-person
Dan Harrell, District Counsel, Gonano & Harrell – in-person
Bob Lawson, District Engineer, ARCADIS-US, Inc. – in-person
Rhonda Mossing, MBS Capital Markets, LLC – via phone
Jason Pierman, Secretary/Treasurer, Special District Services, Inc. (“SDS”) – via phone
Laura Archer, Recording Secretary, SDS – in-person

Guests Present (Sign-In Sheet Attached)

A. Call to Order

Chairman D'Amico called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

It was noted that this was the first Regular Board Meeting in over a year that did not require face masks.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

It was noted that all 5 Supervisors were present in-person.

D. Approval of Minutes
1. May 3, 2021, Workshop
2. May 4, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

The minutes of the May 3, 2021, Workshop and the May 4, 2021, Regular Board Meeting were presented for consideration.

Vice Chairman Ney noted, under Item DM-3, the paragraph talking about the harvester was incorrect and needed to be revised.

A **MOTION** was then made by Secretary Doughney, seconded by Supervisor Graci and unanimously passed approving the minutes of the May 3, 2021, Workshop, as amended, and the May 4, 2021, Regular Board Meeting, as presented.

E. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

F. District Attorney
DA 1 – Status Report/Updates

Mr. Harrell had no updates at this time.

G. District Engineer
DE 1 – Status Report/Updates

Mr. Lawson had no updates at this time.

H. District Manager
Action Items

DM 3 – MBS Capital Markets, LLC Funding Option

Ms. Mossing briefly went over the funding for Projects 1 (Aqua Range), 2 (Lake Expansion) & 5 (Post Office Ditch Closure), noting that, if approved, the next steps would be approving the resolution, approving the Engineer's Report and advertising for the Public Hearing.

Vice Chairman Ney asked what had happened to Projects 3 and 4 to which Mr. Pickle responded that the District would use the current operating account to fund those, but they were not pressing items.

Discussion ensued regarding how assessments benefit certain properties and how the special assessment benefit burden was calculated.

A **MOTION** was made by Supervisor Graci, seconded by Secretary Doughney directing staff to move forward with MBS Capital Markets, LLC on the bond issuance

of one of more series of Stormwater Management Bonds, Series 2021, in order to generate funds to perform stormwater improvement Projects 1 (Aqua Range), 2 (Lake Expansion) & 5 (Post Office Ditch Closure), as described in the Engineering Report dated November 5, 2020. Upon being put to a vote, the **MOTION** carried 4 to 1 with Vice Chairman Ney dissenting.

Ms. Mossing thanked the Board for their time and dropped off the phone call.

DM 1 – Presentation by Labor Attorney David Miklas

It was noted that this item was only addressed during yesterday's Workshop Meeting.

DM 2 – Internal Interviews for the District Manager Vacancy

All 4 District Manager candidates left the meeting room at approximately 9:18 a.m.

The pros and cons of hiring each candidate for the District Manager's position were discussed at length. Each Board Member voiced their opinion of the candidates and who they would recommend for the position of District Manager.

A **MOTION** was then made by Vice Chairman Ney, seconded by Supervisor Graci selecting John Doughney as the next District Manager.

Supervisor Graci then added, "...effective October 1, 2021." to the **MOTION**.

After discussion, that addition was stricken and the following was added to the original **MOTION**: "...and for the Chairman and District Counsel to negotiate a contract with all the terms, including a start date."

Vice Chairman Ney's **MOTION** was reiterated, seconded by Supervisor Graci selecting John Doughney as the next District Manager and for the Chairman and District Counsel to negotiate a contract with all the terms, including a start date. Upon being put to a vote, the **MOTION** carried 3 to 1 with Supervisor Mocuta dissenting and Secretary Doughney abstaining.

The 4 candidates were then brought back into the meeting room at approximately 9:39 a.m. and Ms. Archer re-read the **MOTION** for the benefit of the 4 candidates.

Secretary Doughney was congratulated for being selected to be the next District Manager.

DM 4 – Assistant Utilities Director Position

Mr. Pickle went over the item, indicating that he was nominating Thomas Bayer for the Assistant Utilities Director position at an annual salary of \$70,000, effective June 8, 2021.

A **MOTION** was made by Vice Chairman Ney, seconded by Supervisor Graci and passed unanimously selecting Thomas Bayer as the Assistant Utilities Director at an annual salary of \$70,000, effective June 8, 2021.

DM 5 – Consider Resolution No. 2021-02 – Adopting a Fiscal Year 2022 Proposed Annual Budget and Setting a Public Hearing Date

Resolution No. 2021-02 was presented, entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE ST. LUCIE WEST SERVICES DISTRICT APPROVING A PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022.

A **MOTION** was made by Vice Chairman Ney, seconded by Supervisor Graci and passed unanimously adopting Resolution No. 2021-02, as presented, setting the Public Hearing for August 31, 2021.

DM 6 – Other Items/Updates

Mr. Pickle requested that the Board accept the Grau & Associates' financial report for the fiscal year ended 2020.

A **MOTION** was made by Vice Chairman Ney, seconded by Secretary Doughney and passed unanimously accepting the Grau & Associates' financial report for the fiscal year ended 2020, as presented.

Mr. Pickle then asked that the Board decide whether or not to extend the terms of the FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act) for an additional 30 days.

There was a consensus of the Board to extend the terms of the FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act) for an additional 30 days.

That concluded Mr. Pickle's updates.

I. Consent Agenda

Mr. Pickle presented Consent Agenda items CA 1 through CA 6 and recommended approval.

CA 1 – Monthly Report on Public Works Department

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, 2021

CA 6 – Consider Approval to Transfer Funds for the R&R Account Requisitions for Fiscal Year 2022

A **MOTION** was made by Secretary Doughney, seconded by Supervisor Mocuta and passed unanimously approving Consent Agenda items CA 1 through CA 6, as presented.

J. Supervisor Requests

Supervisor Mocuta noted that one is not permitted to be an employee of the District as well as a Board Member. He suggested gathering information for a seniority list.

There was some disagreement to his suggestion.

Vice Chairman Ney noted that he was impressed with the candidates who applied for the District Manager position and congratulated Mr. Doughney on his selection. He also suggested that the other 3 candidates take advantage of Mr. Doughney's mentoring abilities during his tenure.

Vice Chairman Ney also noted the dissenting votes on several items. He indicated it made him feel good that all the Board Members do not think the same.

Supervisor Graci praised the 4 candidates for their impeccable credentials and urged the candidates to learn from Mr. Doughney.

Secretary Doughney thanked those in attendance to be given this opportunity and hopes to live up to all the expectations.

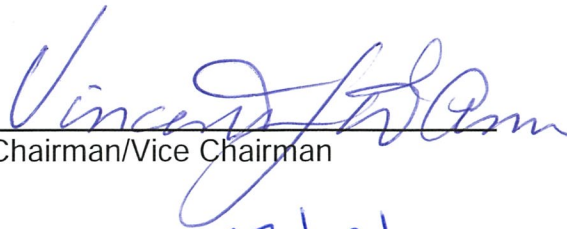
Chairman D'Amico congratulated Mr. Doughney and noted that he was proud of this District and its wonderful staff. He congratulated all.

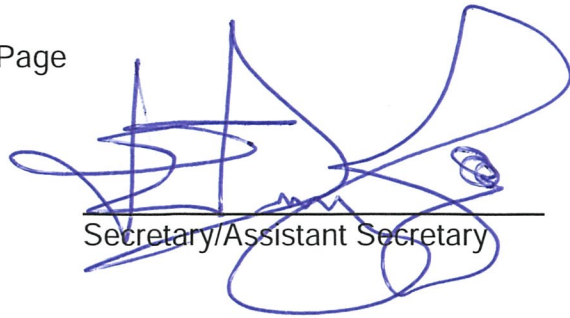
That concluded the Supervisor Requests.

K. Adjournment

There being no further items to be addressed, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m. There were no objections.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes Signature Page


Chairman/Vice Chairman


Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 07/13/21