

**St. Lucie West Services District**  
**Workshop Meeting Minutes**  
June 7, 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 Workshop Meeting is available on file.)**

**Board Members Present**

Vincent D'Amico, 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  
David Miklas, Labor Attorney, Law Office of David Miklas, P.A. – 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 Workshop Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Roll Call**

It was noted that all Supervisors were in attendance except for Gregg Ney.

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

There were no revisions to either set of minutes.

**E. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

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

Mr. Pickle was not aware of any updates from Mr. Harrell.

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

Mr. Pickle was not aware of any updates from Mr. Lawson.

**H. District Manager**  
**Action Items**

**DM 3 – MBS Capital Markets, LLC Funding Option**

Mr. Pickle distributed a new Page 48 of the Meeting Booklet, indicating that there was an update to the original.

Rhonda Mossing went over the details of funding Projects 1 (Aqua Range), 2 (Lake Expansion) & 5 (Post Office Ditch Closure). She noted, if approved by the Board, the next step would be to adopt a resolution with an Engineer's Report and a Methodology and direct staff to move forward and set a Public Hearing date. A brief discussion ensued.

Ms. Mossing noted that she would call in tomorrow when Vice Chairman Ney would be so that he may ask any questions he may have.

The candidates being considered for the District Manager position then left the room. They included the following people: John Doughney, Gerard Rouse, Bill Hayden and Josh Miller.

**DM 1 – Presentation by Labor Attorney David Miklas**

Mr. Pickle then introduced David Miklas, the District's Labor Attorney, who went over the dos and don'ts of the interview process. Mr. Miklas fielded numerous questions before each candidate returned to the conference room, individually, to make their presentations and to answer any questions of the Board.

## **DM 2 – Internal Interviews for the District Manager Vacancy**

The Board decided to interview each candidate alphabetically, beginning with John Doughney.

Mr. Doughney went over his curriculum vitae and answered several questions of the Board Members.

Next, Bill Hayden returned to the conference room and went over his work history and fielded several questions from the Board Members.

Josh Miller was next and highlighted his education and work experience and again, answered several questions from the Board.

Lastly, Gerard Rouse returned to the conference room and went over his education and work experience. He also fielded several questions from the Board.

Chairman D'Amico then took a brief recess at approximately 10:35 a.m.

Chairman D'Amico called the Workshop back to order at approximately 10:43 a.m.

Mr. Pickle then indicated that the Board needed to determine if one of the 4 candidates had the qualifications they were looking for.

A discussion ensued regarding the necessity of Mr. Doughney to complete a Conflict of Interest form regarding the vote on this matter.

Discussion also ensued about not needing to go outside for other potential candidates and when the chosen candidate should begin their tenure.

Vice Chairman Ney arrived at approximately 10:50 a.m. It was noted that he would listen to the candidate presentations on the meeting recording prior to tomorrow's meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding who was the best candidate for the position. The Board agreed that all 4 candidates were qualified to fill the position.

All 4 candidates were escorted back into the conference room.

Dan Harrell left the meeting at approximately 10:57 a.m.

## **DM 4 – Assistant Utilities Director Position**

Mr. Pickle presented the item, indicating that Tom Stirtzinger had recently submitted his resignation as Assistant Utilities Director. He noted that the position was posted, internally, for 5 days and one applicant, Thomas Bayer, met the minimum qualifications for this position.

Mr. Pickle noted that Mr. Bayer was the current Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, had been with the District since 2005 and had the experience and licensing to perform the duties of the position.

Mr. Pickle indicated that the Assistant Utilities Director position was a salaried position and was approved as a Pay Grade 30 minimum salary of \$67,960.37 and a maximum salary of \$105,230.80.

Based on experience, licensing and length of service with the District, Mr. Pickle was nominating Thomas Bayer for the Assistant Utilities Director position at an annual salary of \$70,000, effective June 8, 2021.

The Board had several questions for Mr. Bayer who was in attendance.

That concluded discussion regarding this item.

### **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.**

Discussion ensued regarding when to have the new District Manager start working and how it would affect the budget. He also noted that the Public Hearing date would be August 31, 2021, so that it did not conflict with the Labor Day holiday.

Mr. Pickle then went over the minor changes made to the proposed budget and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions from the Members of the Board.

Mr. Pickle noted that the financial report had been completed by Grau & Associates and we would get copies of it to the Members of the Board.

### **DM 6 – Other Items/Updates**

Mr. Pickle indicated that the Board needed to decide if they wanted to extend the FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act). He noted that there had been 2 recent cases at the District and recommended another 30 day extension in order to give every opportunity for people to get vaccinated.

#### **I. Consent Agenda**

##### **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**

There was no discussion regarding the Consent Agenda items.

**J. Supervisor Requests**

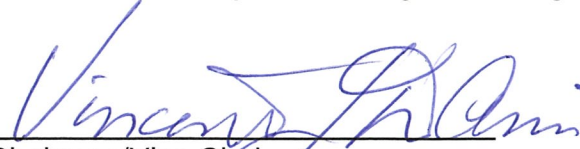
Secretary Doughney thanked the Board for the privilege of applying for the position of District Manager.

There were no further Supervisor Requests.

**K. Adjournment**

There being no further items to be addressed, the Workshop Meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m. There were no objections.

Workshop Meeting Minutes Signature Page

  
Chairman/Vice Chairman

  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 07/13/21