

**St. Lucie West Services District  
Workshop Meeting  
May 6, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.**

**(Please note: These minutes are not verbatim. A CD recording of the Workshop Meeting is available on file.)**

**Board Members Present**

John Doughney – Chairman – in-person  
Dominick Graci – Vice Chairman – in-person  
Gregg Ney – Secretary – via phone  
Viorel Mocuta – Supervisor – in-person  
Diane Haseltine- Supervisor – in-person

**Staff Present**

Bill Hayden, District Manager, St. Lucie West Services District (“SLWSD”) – in-person  
Josh Miller, Utilities Director/Assistant District Manager, SLWSD – in-person  
Gerard Rouse, Assistant Public Works Director, SLWSD – in-person  
Thomas Bayer, Assistant Utilities Director, SLWSD – in-person  
Searg Davidian, Stormwater Manager, SLWSD – in-person  
Lorrie Bush, Aquatic Maintenance Manager, SLWSD – in-person  
Michael McElligott, Special District Services, Inc. (“SDS”) – in-person  
Laura Archer, Recording Secretary, SDS – in-person  
Stephanie Brown, SDS – in-person

Also present was Attorney Nate Nason of Nason Yeager Gerson Harris & Fumero, P.A. (via phone); Deane Piekara, a District resident; and Donna Rhoden of the City of Port St. Lucie.

**Guests Present (Sign-In Sheet Attached)**

**A. Call to Order**

The Workshop Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Roll Call**

It was noted that all 5 Supervisors were in attendance.

**D. Approval of Minutes**

- 1. April 1, 2024, Workshop**
- 2. April 2, 2024, Public Hearing & Regular Board Meeting**

Vice Chairman Graci noted under Supervisor Requests in the Public Hearing & Regular Board Meeting minutes, Secretary Ney is incorrectly referred to as "Vice Chairman."

That was the only correction.

**E. Public Comment**

Mr. Piekara congratulated the Board for choosing Josh Miller as the District Manager upon Mr. Hayden's retirement. He also congratulated Mr. Miller on the promotion.

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

Mr. Hayden noted that Ms. Holmes had provided her monthly report within the meeting materials and would go over same with the Board at tomorrow's meeting.

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

Mr. Hayden noted that Mr. Zanganehl had provided his monthly report within the meeting materials and would go over the details at tomorrow's meeting.

**H. District Manager  
Actions Items**

**DM 1 – Consider Chief Assistant District Manager/District Manager Agreement with Josh Miller**

Mr. Hayden presented the item, indicating that both Ms. Holmes and Mr. Miklas, the Labor Attorney, had reviewed the agreement and had very minor revisions.

It was pointed out that Items "N" and "O" within the Exhibit were duplicated.

**DM 2 – Consider Second Amendment to Current District Manager Agreement with William Hayden**

Mr. Hayden presented the document and noted that the agreement puts into place his employment from District Manager to Chief Assistant District Manager.

**DM 3 – High Ranking Position – Public Works Director/Assistant District Manager**

Mr. Hayden presented the item indicating that Mr. Rouse had applied for the position.

Mr. Hayden advised he would bring Mr. Rouse in at the end of the meeting.

**DM 4 – 2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

Mr. Hayden presented the report indicating that it was required by the State Department of Environmental Protection and would be included in the June 18, 2024, monthly billing to customers.

### **DM 5 – Fiscal Year Ending 2025 Budget Workshop**

Mr. Hayden noted that the draft budget had been provided to the Board for their review and comments.

### **DM 6 – Other Items**

Mr. Miller advised that the bond process was moving along well and he anticipated a presentation from Ryan Smith after either the June or July meeting.

Mr. Miller advised of receiving correspondence from the Reserve CDD in response to the District's separation letter.

Mr. Nason saw the letter and noted that the Reserve CDD wishes to negotiate an agreement with the District.

Discussion ensued regarding the benefits to the existing customer base without the Reserve CDD versus with the Reserve CDD. Mr. Nason noted that a larger customer base was better than a smaller one and recommended entering into further discussions with the Reserve CDD. He furthered that their response shows that they are willing to talk about the available options.

Mr. Miller indicated that the Reserve CDD wishes to keep attorneys out of it for now to keep costs down. Mr. Nason is okay with general discussion with staff, but when the agreement is drafted, all attorneys will be involved.

Mr. Nason brought up the need for public outreach to assure of continued service and recommended holding a Workshop.

Discussions ensued.

Mr. Nason agreed to be available for a phone call tomorrow at approximately 9:40 a.m. during the Regular Board Meeting.

### **DM 3 – High Ranking Position – Public Works Director/Assistant District Manager**

Mr. Rouse went over his qualifications and goals for the future.

The Board Members each had the opportunity to ask Mr. Rouse questions.

### **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 March, 2024**

**CA 6 – Consider Approval to Transfer Funds for the R&R Account Requisition**

**CA 7 – Surplus Items**

There were no questions regarding Consent Agenda Items CA 1 through CA 7.

**J. Supervisor Requests**

Vice Chairman Graci requested that the ethics training not be scheduled for October, as he will not be here.

**K. Adjournment**

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

Workshop Meeting Minutes Signature Page

  
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Chairman/Vice Chairman

  
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Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 06/04/24