

St. Lucie West Services District
Regular Board Meeting
May 7, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

(Please note: These minutes are not verbatim. A CD recording of the Regular Board 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
Maddie Maldonado, Director of Office Administration – 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
Lisa-Marie Beans, Human Resources Specialist, SLWSD – in-person
Ruth Holmes, District Counsel, Torcivia, Donlon, Goddeau & Ansay, P.A. – in-person
Fairborz Zanganehl, District Engineer, Infrastructure Solution Services. – in-person
Jason Pierman, Secretary/Treasurer, Special District Services, Inc. (“SDS”) – in-person
Laura Archer, Recording Secretary, SDS – in-person
Stephanie Brown, SDS – in-person

Also present was Donna Rhoden of the City of Port St. Lucie.

Guests Present (Sign-In Sheet Attached)

A. Call to Order

Chairman Doughney called the Regular Board Meeting 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**

The minutes of the April 1, 2024, Workshop and the April 2, 2024, Public Hearing & Regular Board Meeting were presented for consideration.

Supervisor Haseltine did not like the word “perplexed” on Page 5 of the Workshop minutes and requested its removal.

Vice Chairman Graci’s correction to the Public Hearing & Regular Board Meeting minutes was reiterated.

A **MOTION** was made by Vice Chairman Graci, seconded by Supervisor Haseltine and unanimously passed approving the minutes of the April 1, 2024, Workshop, as amended, and the minutes of the April 2, 2024, Public Hearing & Regular Board Meeting, as amended.

E. Public Comment

Deane Piekara asked how the Board addressed questions from members of the public outside of the Public Comment portion of the meeting agenda.

Ms. Holmes advised that some Boards/Chairs allow public comment throughout the meeting.

F. District Attorney DA 1 – Status Report/Updates

Ms. Holmes went over her monthly report and answered several questions of the Board Members.

Ms. Holmes advised that Seats 4 and 5 were up (Mocuta & Doughney, respectively) and the Qualifying Period runs from noon on June 10, 2024, to noon on June 14, 2024.

Mr. Pierman advised that the Form 1 would only be accepted electronically beginning this year.

Ms. Holmes advised of the ethics training after one of the District meetings. Discussion ensued and it was decided that the ethics training should occur after the June 4, 2024, Board Meeting. Ms. Holmes indicated her firm would have people here for that training and noted that it would be open for others to attend as well.

G. District Engineer DE 1 – Status Report/Updates

Mr. Zanganeh presented his report provided in the meeting materials and noted that there were no changes. The Board had no questions.

**H. District Manager
Action Items**

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

Mr. Hayden presented the item and recommended approval.

There were several questions from the Board Members.

A **MOTION** was made by Vice Chairman Graci, seconded by Supervisor Haseltine approving the Chief Assistant District Manager/District Manager Agreement with Josh Miller, including adhering to Executive Officer and all applicable state laws, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the **MOTION** carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Hayden presented the agreement and asked if the Board had any questions. There were none.

A **MOTION** was made by Vice Chairman Graci, seconded by Supervisor Haseltine and passed unanimously approving the Second Amendment to the current District Manager Agreement, as presented.

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

A **MOTION** was made by Supervisor Haseltine, seconded by Vice Chairman Graci and passed unanimously approving the District Manager's nomination of Gerard Rouse for the Public Works Director/Assistant District Manager position at an annual salary of \$116,500, effective July 1, 2024.

DM 4 – 2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

A **MOTION** was made by Vice Chairman Graci, seconded by Supervisor Haseltine and passed unanimously approving the 2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, as presented.

DM 5 – Fiscal Year Ending 2025 Budget Workshop

There was a Board consensus to hold the Budget Workshop during the June 3, 2024, Workshop Meeting.

DM 6 – Other Items

Chairman Doughney advised of receiving an e-mail from Joseph Marino of Skyline Pinnacle Development Group who is interested in undeveloped lands the District owns that are not presently in use as drainage retention or wetlands. Members of the Board thought it might be something to consider.

Mr. Nason came on the line and indicated that the Reserve CDD was open to exploring a resolution. Mr. Miller indicated that it was a good idea to have the Reserve as a customer.

Chairman Doughney requested a substantial plan by the August meeting.

Mr. Miller advised that a meter change out had started yesterday and he expects it to be completed by July.

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

<p>A MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Graci, seconded by Supervisor Haseltine approving Consent Agenda items CA 1 through CA 7, as presented. Upon being put to a vote, the MOTION carried unanimously.</p>

J. Supervisor Requests

Vice Chairman Graci requested an updated Emergency Management Plan. Mr. Miller advised it was currently being updated.

Secretary Ney advised of a neighbor of his complaining that the District does not communicate well and brought up the meter switch outs. It is Secretary Ney's belief that the District needs a PR person.

Chairman Doughney noted that we could discuss the possibility of hiring someone when we look at the budget next month.

K. Adjournment

There being no further items to be addressed, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Doughney. There were no objections.

Public Hearing & Regular Board Meeting Minutes Signature Page



Chairman/Vice Chairman



Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 06/04/24