

**St. Lucie West Services District  
Workshop Meeting  
March 3, 2025, 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**

Dominick Graci – Chairman – in-person  
Gregg Ney – Vice Chairman – via phone beginning at 9:34 a.m.  
Diane Haseltine – Secretary – in-person  
Rose Carvelli – Supervisor – in-person  
Kevin Dolan – Supervisor – in-person

**Staff Present**

Josh Miller, District Manager, St. Lucie West Services District ("SLWSD") – in-person  
Maddie Maldonado, Director of Office Administration – in-person  
Gerard Rouse, Public Works Director/Assistant District Manager, SLWSD – in-person  
Searg Davidian, Assistant Public Works Director, SLWSD – in-person  
Anderson "Andy" Bomjardim, Public Information Officer, SLWSD – in-person  
Jason Pierman, Special District Services, Inc. ("SDS") -- in-person  
Laura Archer, Recording Secretary, SDS – via phone  
Stephanie Brown, SDS – in-person

Also present were: Jack Doughney, Intergovernmental Liaison; Donna Rhoden of the City of Port St. Lucie; Special Counsel Nathan Nason (via phone) of Nason, Yeager, Gerson, Harris & Fumero, P.A.; and Chuck Henry and Bob Fromm from the Reserve CDD.

**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 Gregg Ney was the only absent Supervisor.

**D. Approval of Minutes**

- 1. February 3, 2025, Workshop**
- 2. February 4, 2025, 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. Miller noted that it was Ms. Holmes' standard report and indicated that he believed it was up to date.

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

Mr. Miller noted that Mr. Zanganeh's report was provided in the meeting materials and indicated that there were several projects that had been concluded and would be removed from the next report.

Vice Chairman Ney arrived at approximately 9:34 a.m. via telephone.

**H. District Manager  
Actions Items**

Item DM 2 was taken first.

**DM 2 – Consider Provision of Services Agreement with the Reserve CDD**

Mr. Miller presented a Power Point overview of the Reserve CDD and how we got to where we are today beginning with the Bulk Water & Sewer Interconnect Agreement that expires in November 2028. Also taken into consideration was the projected growth and future capacity needs of SLW by issuing an Interconnect Agreement Cancellation Notice to the Reserve CDD. Both District Boards then agreed to move forward with negotiating a new agreement and to fund an Engineering Evaluation of the Reserve CDD's systems. After the evaluation was completed, each Board approved negotiation teams, which began meeting in January 2025. A Provisional Services Agreement was negotiated by these teams for district consideration at the March meetings. Existing and proposed interconnects were reviewed along with potable water mains. A lengthy list of proposed water and sewer improvements was drafted along with who would fund what. A utility site transfer was also addressed as was a proposed timeline of project completion.

A lengthy discussion took place. Messrs. Henry and Fromm thanked Mr. Miller and staff for all the work put into this information, noting that it made sense for both the Reserve's customers as well as the SLW customers.

Mr. Doughney noted the amount of time and work Mr. Miller dedicated to this was extraordinary, noting that the Reserve was made to feel like SLW/Nate Nason were

their consultants with all their expertise and knowledge and keeping everyone on track.

### **DM 1 – Consider Selection Committee, Ranking Criteria and Advertising for Selection of District Legal Counsel**

Mr. Miller presented the item indicating that a legal advertisement for a Request for Qualifications for District Legal Counsel had been advertised on January 10, 2025. He further noted that they had received 5 responses from the following firms: Kutak Rock; Davis & Associates; Nason, Yeager; Lewis, Longman & Walker; and Weiss Serota.

Mr. Miller noted that this selection committee would meet to review the qualifications and rank no fewer than three respondents determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the required legal counsel services to the District. The selection committee will make its formal recommendation to the Board at the April 8, 2025, meeting.

Mr. Miller presented the proposed Legal Counsel Selection Committee Members as follows: Chairman Dominick Graci, Josh Miller, Gerard Rouse, Maddie Maldonado and Jack Doughney.

There was no discussion regarding this matter.

### **DM 3 – Consider Budget Amendment 2025-01 for the Utility Fund Carry Over Projects**

Mr. Miller presented Budget Amendment 2025-01 for the Utility Fund Carry Over Projects, indicating that this was for projects that will not be completed in the first quarter of this fiscal year, so staff is recommending amending the current fiscal year budget to recognize the encumbered funds from the previous fiscal year.

A brief discussion took place.

### **DM 4 – Other Items**

Mr. Miller indicated that he had spoken with Mr. Nason about presenting for Board consideration an Interlocal Services Agreement with the Reserve at the April meeting, contingent upon the approval of Item DM 2 from today's agenda – Consider Provision of Services Agreement with the Reserve CDD. This Interlocal Services Agreement would allow the District to oversee the Reserve's work at their expense.

Discussion ensued about the timing and the fact that Mr. Miller recommends that the Reserve shut off their plant now because they are under capacity and their plant is causing issues with the water.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for 2 additional Underground Division employees.

## **DM 4A – Consider Acceptance of Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Resignation**

Mr. Miller presented WD Cannon's resignation from the Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation position to an Operator position, citing personal matters. Mr. Miller noted that the Assistant Utilities Operator would temporarily function as the Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator until this position is filled.

Mr. Miller requested that the Board consider acceptance of Mr. Cannon's resignation at tomorrow's meeting.

### **I. Consent Agenda**

**CA 1 – Monthly Report on Public Works**

**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 – Public Information Officer Monthly Report**

**CA 6 – Financial Statements for January, 2025**

**CA 7 – Consider Transfer of Funds for the R&R & WCF Account**

Mr. Miller presented Consent Agenda Items CA 1 through CA 7 and asked if there were any questions.

Chairman Graci referred to Page 32 of the meeting booklet, asking if 31 Lock Offs due to non-payment was normal. He was worried about hardships. Mr. Miller indicated that the process was pretty fair – door hangars are left; staff knocks on the door to remind the customer of the payment that is due. Mr. Miller also indicated that the lock offs are primarily for the same customers every month.

Supervisor Dolan asked if there was any pushback regarding the 9% increase to which Mr. Miller indicated it was minimal. He also noted that the District had done presentations at community HOA meetings to help residents understand the reason for the increase.

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

### **J. Supervisor Requests**

Supervisor Dolan asked if the City of Port St. Lucie had reinstated the addition of fluoride into the water to which Ms. Rhoden indicated there had not been a reinstatement.

Chairman Graci noted that he keeps getting fluoride questions from residents.

There were no further Supervisor Requests.

#### **K. Adjournment**

There being no further items to be addressed, the Workshop Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m. There were no objections.

Workshop Meeting Minutes Signature Page

  
Chairman/Vice Chairman

  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 04/08/25