

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the South Indian River Water Control District
Held on December 9, 2021**

The regular meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District was held on December 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Work Center, 15600 Jupiter Farms Road, Jupiter, Florida, and via Zoom video conferencing. Present in person were Supervisors John Jones, Michael Howard, John Meyer, and Susan Kennedy. Also present in person were Amy Eason, engineer; Charles Haas, treasurer; Mike Dillon, manager of operations; Seth Behn, attorney; Donna DeNinno, public information; and Jane Woodard, secretary. Five landowners were present in person. Attorney Terry Lewis and one landowner were present via Zoom.

Mr. Howard called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

Certification of the election results for Supervisor was presented by Mr. Behn. The two seats were uncontested; Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Meyer will retain their seats on the Board. Both were sworn in by Mr. Behn. Ms. Kennedy then nominated Mr. Meyer for president, Mr. Howard for vice-president, and Ms. Woodard for secretary. There was unanimous agreement by the Board. Mr. Meyer thanked Mr. Powell for filling in as interim president.

The following committee appointments were made: Mr. Powell and Mr. Jones, Budget Committee; Ms. Kennedy, Communication Committee; Mr. Jones, Parks Committee; Mr. Meyer and Mr. Howard, Policies and Procedures Committee. Mr. Howard then passed the gavel to Mr. Meyer

Mr. Meyer opened the floor to landowner comments. Mr. Matt Gitkin, landowner, reminded the Board that a workshop was to be scheduled with the appropriate parties regarding fill permits. He wants the County to know that the landowners consider this to be an important issue. Mr. Meyer agreed to discuss this matter in detail later in the meeting.

Mr. Howard made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ms. DeNinno presented the public information report. She is working on the next newsletter which will be sent out at the end of January. The approved 2021-22 budget is available on the website. Ms. DeNinno recently attended an online webinar and will send highlights to the staff regarding preparation of documents for the website. She noted that updating the District's video will become a priority. Ms. Kennedy expressed the need for something to be available to new landowners and also to be sent to cooperating organizations to better inform them what the District does. Ms. Eason noted she has graphics available, and her company has the ability to animate graphics as well. Ms. Kennedy will work with Ms. DeNinno and the engineer on this matter and present ideas to the Board in January.

Mr. Haas presented the treasurer's report, stating there is nothing that requires Board action at this time.

Mr. Dillon presented the manager of operations' report. He requested that the John Deere backhoe/loader be taken out of inventory and declared surplus. **Mr. Howard made a motion declaring the backhoe as surplus. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

Mr. Dillon reported he met with Ranger and Hardrives construction companies regarding OGEM roads that need an overlay. Ranger presented the best estimate. They will start work on 159th Court North on Tuesday, and on Haynie Lane after Christmas. Once the roads are finished, fill will be brought in for the low areas and sod will be placed. He will place the appropriate signs advising residents of the road work.

Ms. Kennedy reported that South Indian River Water Control District won an award for the best decorated tractor in the annual Christmas parade. She delivered the trophy and participation ribbons for the staff.

Mr. Meyer announced that this is the last South Indian River Water Control meeting for Ms. Eason. Her replacement, Ms. Karen Brandon, was introduced. Ms. Eason presented the engineer's report, noting that everything will be discussed under Old Business on tonight's agenda. She suggested that in the future, any old business items related to engineering should come under her report so an update can be prepared for the meeting.

Mr. Behn presented the attorney's report. He presented a resolution regarding the final judgment in the Mellinger right-of-way case. He briefly reminded the Board of the history of the case and its settlement. The resolution gives consent to enter the Final Judgment in the case. **Ms. Kennedy made a motion to accept the resolution. Mr. Howard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

The Board and staff discussed an update regarding fill permits. Revisions from the County modify the Flood Damage Prevention Code under the Unified Land Development Code. There are two categories. The first is single family lots less than one acre that have a slope for swale of 0.3%, a berm around the perimeter, storage for runoff from a 3-year 24-hour storm event in dry detention, and no additional fill allowed other than fill needed for the building and septic tank. It sets the criteria for single family lots greater than one acre and addresses fill for existing lots. The second category is single family lots greater than one acre with a slope for swale of 0.3%, a berm around the perimeter, storage for runoff from a 10-year 24-hour storm event in dry detention, area between building and septic tank remaining at a natural grade, with additional fill for existing lots meeting the above regulations. Ms. Eason noted this is more in line with what the District wants. She will meet with Ms. Brandon to bring her up to speed. Ms. Eason noted that bringing in fill to get rid of water is not allowed. After further discussion, Mr. Meyer stated he would like more clarification on the County's proposals. Ms. Eason requested Board comments as soon as possible so they can be consolidated into one consistent message to the County. Mr. Meyer was concerned with how much staff time will be involved. Ms. Eason stated there has been time spent evaluating the discharge rate. The District can tell the County what that rate is, which is to be applied to everything, or the Board can decide rates on each individual item. The Board needs to decide on its level of involvement. Mr. Meyer noted that County enforcement could be a problem. Ms. Kennedy was concerned about the County's plan. Mr. Gitkin, landowner, noted that the District should not have to voice the concerns of the landowners to the County. The Board was considering a workshop on this matter; Ms. Eason noted that the County is only required to have public hearings, not workshops. The Board agreed to address this issue again in January.

The Board and staff discussed the Section 7 project. Ms. Eason attended a meeting with Florida Department of Environmental Protection on November 3rd to discuss the contract. The contract expiration date is June 30, 2023, even though the work plan states August 21, 2022. Staff is moving

forward to prepare construction documents for the outfalls. Three risers will be installed. Staff is preparing three phases of constructions: riser construction by the contractor, easement clearing by the contractor, and swale grading and pipe upsizing by the District. Ms. Eason believes the \$353,650 grant money will be spent quickly. She discussed informing the landowners by going door-to-door and placing road signs. Mr. Meyer asked if construction will cover one riser at a time. Informing the landowners about what is to be accomplished was discussed.

The Board and staff discussed the plan for dedication of the Work Center. Ms. DeNinno noted that previously the Board had discussed having a small number of people on Landowner's Day in March, with a dedication to Mr. Hinkle. Food provided by a caterer was discussed, but it may be difficult to get servers due to Covid. The following year will be the larger event and again include families and activities for children, catered food, and a band. Ms. Kennedy volunteered to help Ms. DeNinno organize the event. The Board agreed to keep attendance down to 100, plus Board and staff, and to also invite Mrs. Hinkle and her guests. Mr. Lewis noted this event will be considered a public meeting and therefore anyone who wants to attend may do so. There was discussion about the guest list and requiring invitees to respond. Ms. DeNinno suggested the event be referred to as a dedication of the Work Center and a memorial to Mr. Hinkle. Food and refreshments will be available. **Mr. Jones made a motion to name the work center complex the Stephen J. Hinkle Work Center. The motion was seconded by Mr. Howard and carried unanimously.**

Ms. Kennedy discussed the level of service being provided throughout the District. She noted the need for education regarding what is done as a drainage district. She felt the Board needs to look at establishing a base level of service district-wide. She attended a climate change forum and is concerned with how the sea level rise is going to affect the District. She questioned if road elevations need to be raised, and if ground water is draining as expected. Mr. Meyer commented that there needs to be an inventory but was concerned about the expense. Ms. Kennedy suggested preparing a list to identify "hot spots." Ms. Eason pointed out that the original permit for the District considered all natural road elevations; the District already has the necessary information and certain areas have already been identified. Ms. Kennedy requested a work plan in writing, to be used as a maintenance plan. Mr. Meyer asked Ms. Brandon for her thoughts on this matter by the next Board meeting. Ms. Kennedy asked that the engineer look at how a sea level rise will affect the District 10 miles inland. Ms. Eason noted South Florida Water Management District is already looking at this issue.

There was no further business to come before the Board at this time. Mr. Howard made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ADJOURNED.