

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SOUTH INDIAN RIVER WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HELD ON FEBRUARY 21, 2019

The regular meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District was held on February 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Jupiter High School, 500 N. Military Trail, Jupiter, Florida. Present were Supervisors Steve Hinkle, Tom Powell, John Meyer, Michael Howard and John Jones. Also present were Amy Eason, engineer; Charles Haas, treasurer; Seth Behn, attorney; Matt Wood for Mike Dillon, manager of operations; Laura Bender, public information; and Jane Woodard, secretary. Six landowners were also present.

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

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

Ms. Bender presented the public information report. The newsletter is in production. She reminded everyone that March 16th is Family Day.

Mr. Haas presented the treasurer's report.

Mr. Matt Wood presented the manager of operations' report. Operator Arie Raz just celebrated 20 years with the District. Another Level 2 operator has been hired. North Florida Emulsions has completed two miles of overlay. Mr. Wood requested approval for the purchase of a Volvo loader. He noted that the John Deere 2005 loader is limited in what it can do. The Volvo loader is smaller with more availability for attachments; it is safer and easier to use. Mr. Meyer inquired if the purchase is within the budget. Mr. Haas stated there is some carryover from the previous year; there will not be much remaining after this purchase. Mr. Howard made a motion authorizing the purchase of the Volvo loader at a purchase price not to exceed \$135,000. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Jones made a motion to sell the used John Deere loader. Mr. Howard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ms. Eason presented the engineer's report. Regarding the 19th Plan, she is still waiting for the utility pole to be relocated. The culvert at 175th has now been installed and the contractor is moving to 176th to install that culvert.

Petitions were accepted for a proposed plan on 74th Avenue North and the referendum was sent out. The results were eight in favor and six opposed so consequently the referendum failed. New petitions will be accepted until April 30th.

Ms. Eason discussed the new workshop construction. The contractor, Triple Crown, is not able to fulfill the contract so she is looking for new estimates. Two bids were received and are within \$5,000 of each other. The low bid is \$249,000, which is less than previously authorized. Ms. Eason will continue to evaluate the bids, and requested authorization to proceed with a contractor if their bid does not exceed the previously authorized bid of \$273,000. Mr. Powell stated it does not make sense to go strictly by the lowest price since they are so close. Attorney Behn confirmed that the Board is not obligated to go with the low bid. Mr. Jones made a motion authorizing Ms. Eason to proceed with the selection of a contractor under these terms. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Ms. Eason clarified that the Board does need to have estimates in order to satisfy the auditors.

Ms. Eason presented an update on NRCS. The final documents have been submitted.

It is anticipated that the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative application will be submitted to SFWMD in May.

The survey has been received for Section 7 and study activities will begin. An application for LRPI funds has been submitted. Ms. Eason will present a plan at the March meeting.

Mr. Hinkle reported he met with Albrey Arrington of Loxahatchee River District on a private business matter and while there was asked his thoughts on a project regarding the lake behind Sierra Square. They want to put in a new Center with meeting rooms, and fill the front part in. The back section would be turned into a marsh, taking some of the water coming out of Canal 2. Mr. Hinkle told Mr. Arrington he did not see a problem, and would bring it up to the Board. Ms. Eason stated she did not see how this would impact SIRWCD since we only have a right-of-way and otherwise no responsibility. There is no impact on our hydraulics. Engineering plans will have to be provided and will be checked to see if there is anything within SIRWCD's right-of-way. Mr. Meyer was concerned about the pond being used as part of the package plant and Ms. Eason informed him that LRD had already cleaned this pond and the water was already going to the Loxahatchee River. Mr. Hinkle updated the time frame for the sewer line going to the school. LRD plans to start the project this summer.

Mr. Jones inquired if there is an update from FEMA. Mr. Haas stated there has been correspondence. One grant has moved out of FEMA and is in Tallahassee. It will now be reviewed by another entity. Other grants are still in FEMA's jurisdiction.

Mr. Jones also inquired about the costs of the Section 7 project. Ms. Eason stated the survey was prepared at a cost of \$40,000. She will continue to work on this project.

Mr. Seth Behn presented the attorney's report. He presented the certification for the most recent referendum, noting this is the first one received from the new Supervisor of Elections.

Mr. Matt Gitkin, landowner, stated SWA will be at the residents' meeting on March 12. He asked if Mike Dillon or Matt Wood could be there to listen to the new trash regulations. There is concern about dumping in the canals. Mr. Gitkin noted that residents are also concerned that spraying for weeds in the canals may be discontinued. Ms. Eason stated there is legislation regarding this, but it pertains to getting a permit for spraying the canals. Mr. Meyer noted that Fish & Wildlife discontinued some spraying but it was very limited and only in canals that they maintain.

Mr. Hinkle stated SWA has contacted the District because they want to put a flyer on the website. It was Mr. Hinkle's understanding that if a landowner puts out more than six yards of trash, it is not going to be picked up at all. Mr. Meyer noted that residents are putting out an excess and SWA then only picks up small amounts at a time. Mr. Hinkle stated SWA should work with Code Enforcement and discuss the problems. He also suggested making a model of 6 cubic yards for landowners to reference. Mr. Meyer thought a large part of the problem is with commercial landscaping companies who do not remove their debris.

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

ADJOURNED.