

## **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SOUTH INDIAN RIVER WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HELD ON DECEMBER 6, 2018**

The regular meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District was held on December 6, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at 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; William Capko, attorney; Mike Dillon, manager of operations; Laura Bender, public information; and Jane Woodard, secretary. Seven landowners were also present.

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

Mr. Hinkle called for ratification of the election results. The certified results presented by the Supervisor of Elections were: Steve Hinkle 2182, John Meyer 2172, Bob Berman 814. Mr. Howard made a motion to accept these results. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Capko administered the oath of office to Messrs. Hinkle and Meyer. Mr. Meyer made a motion that Mr. Hinkle continue as president. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Meyer made a motion that Mr. Powell continue as vice-president. Mr. Howard seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Powell made a motion that Ms. Woodard continue as secretary. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Board then unanimously agreed to continue with the existing committee appointments: Mr. Powell, Budget Committee; Mr. Meyer, Communications Committee; Mr. Jones, Parks Committee; Messrs. Meyer and Howard, Policies and Procedures Committee. Mr. Hinkle suggested adding Mr. Jones to the Budget Committee because he is a CPA. Mr. Capko noted there can be two or more supervisors on a committee but they cannot meet together. Mr. Haas stated Mr. Jones has had input on budget matters since his election to the Board. There were no objections and Mr. Jones was appointed to the Budget Committee, along with Mr. Powell.

Mr. Howard made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the monthly disbursements and minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ms. Bender presented the public information report. They are working on the annual newsletter which will include the engineer's and general manager's annual reports. Mr. Hinkle requested including information in the newsletter regarding the problem of landowners putting bridges across their property. Ms. Bender agreed to look into increasing the size of this newsletter to include additional information. Mr. Meyer inquired about the status of the updates to the Policies & Procedures Manual. Mr. Capko stated that Ms. DeNinno had been compiling information and this will be turned over to Ms. Bender.

Mr. Haas presented the treasurer's report. He noted he will be changing the internal procedures for recording assessments, which will be more efficient and accurate.

Mr. Dillon presented the manager of operations report. There was a bridge constructed over the canal in Section 33 which has since been taken down by the owner. A drainage pipe was installed in Canal 15 without a permit; the owner will start the permitting process. Another bridge construction is being addressed; Mr. Dillon will report on its status in January.

Mr. Dillon also reported that swale cleaning and culvert replacements are progressing. There have been 550 culverts replaced to date, with additional bookings through March, 2019.

Ms. Eason presented the engineer's report. Work under the 19<sup>th</sup> Plan has been finished in Palm Beach Country Estates. A substantial completion walk-through will be scheduled with the contractor. The last road to complete is 175th Road North. The box culverts need to be installed which should take place in January or February. The anticipated completion date is April, 2019.

Ms. Eason reported the referendum for 74th Avenue North has been prepared and will go out December 14th. The preliminary cost estimate is \$200,000.

Ms. Eason presented photos of the NRCS canal bank restoration project which is 99% completed. Final completion is expected in December, 2018.

Regarding the Section 7 and area wide study, Ms. Eason reported the preliminary survey on Section 7 was incomplete and the surveyor is updating it. Staff has received the LIDAR on one section to assist in the analysis, and the data is being processed. Ms. Eason will have a better idea of the schedule next month.

Quotes were received from contractors for the new workshop, and Ms. Eason recommended approval of the bid from Triple Crown Construction Group in the amount of \$277,648. Mr. Jones noted the Board had approved a budget of \$400,000, and questioned if there are additional items to be done in connection with this project. Mr. Dillon stated there will also be improvements made to the old building with the additional funds, such as expanding the conference room.

Ms. Eason noted the project will have two stages: construction of the new building, and expansion of the existing facilities. The new building proposed will be a 60' x 60' steel building. The improvements to the existing facility may be made using a different contractor. Mr. Meyer made a motion to accept the bid from Triple Crown Construction. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Capko presented the attorney's report. He reported that Mr. Berman completed his review of the election ballots, and the cost of this review was paid. Mr. Berman will not be challenging the results.

Mr. Capko noted that no legislation affecting the District has been proposed yet; he will keep the Board advised if there is any.

Ms. Susan Kennedy, landowner, discussed the issue of landowners having sufficient opportunity to address items at the annual meeting in September. She was also quite concerned with expenditures that were folded into this year's budget and the impact this had on individual landowners. She noted that the water control assessment had doubled for a 5-acre parcel. She did not feel that the impact on the water control system was equal to that increase, and wanted assessments for operating costs and water control projects to be more equitable. Ms. Kennedy requested scheduling a workshop to discuss and create policies for the budget. She also noted that projects and programs were added, with no understanding of how the bottom line would be impacted at the end of the year. She suggested a policy be established for monitoring and understanding the full impact of decisions before finalizing them. She noted the District had gone over-budget on a culvert project but was still adding more culverts to the program. She questioned where the funds are coming from.

Mr. Matt Gitkin, landowner, inquired if the supervisors were reimbursed for expenses associated with the recent ethics charges, and if the District is recuperating expenses associated with the recent landowner complaint. Mr. Hinkle stated the supervisors were not reimbursed. Mr. Capko stated the Board members who hired counsel to represent them will be able to obtain reimbursement from the District for that expense. However, it is not likely the District will be able to recuperate expenses associated with the complaint.

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.