

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SOUTH INDIAN RIVER WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HELD ON OCTOBER 15, 2020

The regular meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District was held on October 15, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom video conferencing. 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; Donna DeNinno, public information; and Jane Woodard, secretary. Three landowners were also present via Zoom conferencing.

Mr. Hinkle called the meeting to order.

Mr. Hinkle confirmed that all Board and staff members were present. He stated that the meeting will be conducted consistent with the Governor's Executive Order 20-69 due to the outbreak of Covid-19. Mr. Hinkle then read ground rules for conducting this meeting and noted that information was posted on the District's website pertaining to landowner participation.

Mr. Hinkle called for ratification of the election of supervisors. Mr. Capko presented a certificate from the Supervisor of Elections which declared Tom Powell was elected, having received 1140 votes. Mr. Howard made a motion to ratify this certification. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Capko delivered the oath of office to Mr. Powell.

The Board then unanimously elected the following officers: Steve Hinkle, president; Tom Powell, vice-president; and Jane Woodard, secretary. The following committee appointments were made: Tom Powell and John Jones, Budget Committee; John Meyer, Communications Committee; John Jones, Parks Committee; John Meyer and Michael Howard, Policies and Procedures Committee.

Mr. Hinkle called for landowner comments but there were none.

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

Ms. DeNinno presented the public information report. Work on the website has been ongoing and she again requested updated bios from everyone. Preparation of the annual newsletter has begun which will include annual reports and election information.

Mr. Meyer expressed concern that the Policies and Procedures Committee has been working on updating the manual for several years and asked to have a deadline established. He was particularly concerned about the procurement policy and asked for recommendations from Mr. Haas and Mr. Dillon. Mr. Capko stated his office is working on an update to be included in the manual and would like to add the road policy that is on the website. He noted that his section of the manual is just about finalized, and he plans to circulate it to the Board prior to the next meeting. Ms. DeNinno requested that it be presented as a Word document. She noted that Chapters 7-9 are engineering chapters and Ms. Eason acknowledged this.

Mr. Haas presented the treasurer's report. He asked the Board to consider his memo regarding the results of the auditor selection process and thanked the board and staff members who participated in the evaluation process. Six firms requested a copy of the RMP that was published. Three firms dropped out with no proposal. The three remaining firms were evaluated for their experience with special districts

(especially water control districts), qualification of professional staff, and fee proposal. Each committee member individually reviewed the firms and submitted their evaluations to Mr. Haas with no in-person meetings because of the Sunshine Law. Grau & Associates was ranked first by all committee members and they are formally recommended. Mr. Haas noted that their fee proposal was also the lowest. Mr. Jones made a motion to accept the recommendation to hire Grau & Associates as auditor. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Dillon presented the manager of operations' report. He reported the District has received approximately \$46,000 for hurricane relief after three years. There will be security upgrades to the work center. Cameras will be installed with monitoring equipment by the end of the week. Inspections are scheduled for October 21st. West Construction submitted plans for a well with a hydrant, which were reviewed and rejected by the fire marshal. A water system was suggested that would cost approximately \$200,000. A complaint was made to the commissioner's office and another meeting will be scheduled in hopes of reaching common ground.

Mr. Dillon reported the District has had over 80" of rain this fiscal year. The norm is around 64". Now that so many people are at home from their jobs, the roads are traveled more, and it is a challenge to keep the roads in shape. He also commented that the first culvert program on county roads had no issues.

Ms. Eason presented the engineer's report. The Jupiter Farms reengineering plan's updated model is complete and calibrated. Section 7 and Section 18 were entered into the model. Ms. Eason stated she will be ready to discuss this in detail on Thursday at the workshop. She will be discussing the model history, model results, Sections 7 and 18 pre- and post-improvements. She will review the history of G92 levels, redevelopment, storage, and water quality.

Ms. Eason discussed adding two structures in Canal E. SFWMD will be contacted to see if any permit modifications are needed.

Mr. Capko presented the attorney's report. The Governor has not extended his Executive Order permitting virtual board meetings and it is not anticipated that it will be extended past the end of the month. November meetings will probably need to be in person. The intent is to have regular meetings at 6:00 p.m. and the Board agreed. Initially the meetings will be held at the park pavilion until the District conference room is finished.

Mr. Hinkle noted that an in-person quorum will be required, meaning at least three Board members will be present and the others will be present via Zoom conferencing. Mr. Capko stated he will provide options to the Board. Everyone will wear a facial mask to the meeting and observe social distancing. He noted there is a problem with using the pavilion because of people going in and out. Mr. Dillon suggested cancelling the November meeting if the staff has nothing to discuss. Mr. Capko stated that as long as there is a physical quorum, others can participate telephonically, and also suggested combining the November and December meetings and schedule them for December 10th. Mr. Howard was concerned about having enough Wi-Fi access at the pavilion to handle computer streaming. Ms. Eason noted that the Board and staff do not have to be on camera as long as everyone can be heard. Mr. Capko agreed to look at the legal challenges. Mr. Howard will assist Ms. Eason with streaming capabilities at the pavilion. The Board agreed to the December 10th meeting with the location to be determined. Mr. Hinkle stated he would still like to use comment cards from the landowners to help with the flow of the meeting.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and Mr. Powell made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ADJOURNED.