

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL LANDOWNERS MEETING OF THE SOUTH INDIAN RIVER WATER CONTROL DISTRICT HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

The annual landowners' meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District was held on September 19, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at Jupiter High School, 500 N. Military Trail, Jupiter, Florida. Present were Supervisors Steve Hinkle, John Meyer, Michael Howard and John Jones. Also present were Amy Eason, engineer; Charles Haas, treasurer; William Capko, attorney; Mike Dillon, manager of operations; and Jane Woodard, secretary. Approximately 42 landowners were also present.

Attorney William Capko called the meeting to order. The Board and staff members took their seats in the audience. Mr. Capko was nominated for chairman of the meeting by Mr. Matt Gitkin, landowner. Mr. Steve Hinkle seconded the nomination and Mr. Capko was unanimously elected as chairman. Mr. Gitkin nominated Ms. Jane Woodard for secretary. Mr. Hinkle seconded the nomination and Ms. Woodard was unanimously elected as secretary.

Mr. Hinkle made a motion to accept the minutes of the 2018 annual landowners' meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gitkin and carried unanimously.

Mr. Capko opened the floor to nominations for supervisor. Mr. Gitkin nominated John Jones and Mike Howard. There were no other nominations and Mr. Hinkle made a motion to close the balloting for supervisor. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gitkin and passed without objection.

Mr. Gitkin made a motion to continue the current amount of compensation for the supervisors. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Haas presented the annual treasurer's report. He noted there are approximately 11,089 acres assessed. With these assessments, the District maintains water control and road maintenance for Jupiter Farms, Egret Landing, Jupiter Park of Commerce, and Palm Beach Country Estates. The District complies with all regulatory agencies.

Mr. Haas showed the combined statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the last fiscal year, and the distribution of assessments between 2018 and 2019. He concluded his report and asked for landowner questions. Mr. Gitkin inquired about properties on county roads that are paying assessments to the District for road maintenance in addition to paying taxes to the County. Mr. Haas stated this was a Board policy adopted in 1985. There were no other landowner questions.

Ms. Eason presented the annual engineer's report. She discussed capital improvements, resource regulations, intergovernmental coordination, and operation and maintenance.

The 19th Plan of Improvement construction was completed in June 2019 for a final cost of \$900,196. The ongoing Jupiter Farms reengineering program was discussed, including the Section 7 pilot program and evaluation of Section 18.

Ms. Eason discussed the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the Waters of the United States proposed rule, the triennial review of Florida's water quality standards, and the wetlands delegation.

Ms. Eason noted that governmental and regulatory agencies affecting the District include Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council (LRMCC), Reasonable Assurance Plan (RAP), Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative (LRPI), South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project (LRWRP). Ms. Eason explained that RAP is a plan to examine impairments and to aid in restoring the Loxahatchee River. She also explained that LRWRP is part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. Its purpose is to restore and sustain the overall quantity, quality and distribution of freshwater to the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River. The Army Corp of Engineers prepared a draft report in March, 2019. The project needs more analysis and SIRWCD is participating in the engineering and modeling to ensure our operations are being represented.

Ms. Eason reported on operation and maintenance. The Hurricane Irma debris removal has been completed. Updates were presented for the culvert replacement program, canal clearing and maintenance, and secondary ditch reclamation.

The total annual rainfall in the District from September 2018 through August 2019 was 69", slightly above average. Ms. Eason presented an aerial view of the District from the 1950s, demonstrating why it is important to have a drainage system, swales and sewers. She noted that water on the properties is inevitable, and expressed the need to have storage areas.

Ms. Eason concluded her report, stating the District is in compliance with all regulatory requirements that affect the works of the District and their operation. There were no landowner questions.

Mr. Dillon presented the annual manager's report. He discussed the driveway culvert replacement program. It began in March 2016 and 700 culverts have been installed since then. He noted that the fee for this service has been \$300, but due to an increase in the cost of materials, the fee will increase to \$350 for a 20' standard install.

Mr. Dillon discussed swale cleaning and maintenance. He noted that Jupiter Farms and Palm Beach Country Estates are being built out and the secondary drainage system has become a priority. Box culverts along Jupiter Farms Road have been replaced. Within the District, there are 60 miles of canals and 378 miles of drainage swales to maintain.

Mr. Dillon expressed his concern with the increase in illegal dumping of tires, building materials, etc. He requested that landowners report this activity by contacting the office. Mr. Dillon concluded his report. There were no landowner questions.

Mr. Capko opened the floor to general discussion by the landowners. Mr. Gitkin stated that last year landowners in Jupiter Farms asked the Board to review their assessments because of an increase and imbalance for larger landowners. He requested that the Board address this issue. Mr. Gitkin also noted that a Letter of Contest has been issued for this election. He stated that the person contesting was on the Board of Supervisors for many years and followed the same rules that he is now questioning. Mr. Gitkin was concerned about the cost to the District as a result of this matter, as well as personal costs for four of the current Board members to defend ethics accusations.

There was no further discussion by landowners. Mr. Gitkin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hinkle seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition. ADJOURNED.