



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE LANDOWNERS OF THE
LAKE WORTH DRAINAGE DISTRICT
HELD ON JANUARY 6, 2016 AT 9:00 A.M.**

Attendees:

Harry Raucher	James M. Alderman	Mark A. Perry
John I. Whitworth, III	Jeffrey P. Phipps, Sr.	Rosemary Rayman
Steven Bedner	Joann M. Aylor	Ted Winsberg
Alice Finst	Karen Hoyt	Margie Illsley
Megan Hanney	Ted Winsberg	Samuel Palermo
Tom Thayer	Don Bryan	Patrick Martin
Bill Lynch	Bill Murphy	Reagan Walker
Barbara Katz	Nicole Smith	Melissa Wheelihan
Margie Illsley	Joseph Walsh	Robert M. Brown
Kelsey Smith		

1. Call to Order

Mark Perry called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Perry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Presentation of Notice of Meeting

Mr. Perry confirmed that the legal notice advertising the Landowners' meeting was properly published.

4. Call for Proxies for Board of Supervisors Election

Mr. Perry called for the election of three members to the Board of Supervisors for Lake Worth Drainage District. There were three qualified candidates: James M. Alderman in Sub-District 1; Steve Bedner in Sub-District 2; and Harry Raucher in Sub-District 4.

5. Nomination and Election of Chairman and Secretary

Mr. Perry opened nominations for Chairman of the meeting. John I. Whitworth, III nominated Ted Winsberg. Patrick A. Martin seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, a unanimous vote was cast for Ted Winsberg.

Chairman Winsberg opened nominations for Secretary of the meeting. James M. Alderman nominated William A. Mazzone. Harry Raucher seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, a unanimous vote was cast for William A. Mazzone.

6. Election of New Member(s) to the Board of Supervisors

Mr. Perry stated there are three qualified candidates for election to the Board of Supervisor: James Alderman for Sub-District 1; Steve Bedner for Sub-District 2; and Harry Raucher for Sub-District 4. Ms. Rayman distributed ballots to landowners in attendance. Mr. Perry asked Ms. Rayman and Ms. Hoyt to tabulate the ballots and proxies.

7. Approval of Minutes - January 7, 2015 Landowners' Meeting

Landowners were provided time to review the Minutes of the 2015 Landowners' Meeting. Chairman Winsberg asked for comments. With no comments, Chairman Winsberg called for a motion to approve the 2015 meeting minutes. Harry Raucher made a motion to approve, Jeffrey P. Phipps, Sr. seconded and it passed unanimously.

8. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Robert M. Brown presented a report reflecting on the District's annual activities, accomplishments and progress.

The District celebrated its 100th year anniversary throughout the year. A Centennial Celebration was held in June, which included installation of the 100th Board of Supervisors. A series of Centennial Moment videos were created by staff and presented at the monthly board meetings, documenting each decade of the District's history. Commemorative anniversary coins were designed and minted, and endowed to staff by Board members.

The District did not experience any major storm events, and only minimal effects were experienced from Tropical Storm Erika and Hurricane Danny during August 2015. Both the wet and dry season rainfall was below average.

The District began planning for implementation of a SCADA system in order to automate ten major water control structures. The project definition phase was completed including field investigations, project definition report and schematic design. As part of the detailed design phase, site surveys and plans were completed, geotechnical engineering services for tower/building foundation design was procured, and microwave network design and FCC path testing was performed. Field testing demonstrated that increasing tower heights was required to meet the intended system performance. To decrease costs, an alternative 220 MHz option was provided. Design will be complete in 2016 and construction will be completed in 2017. The District also completed installation of nine remote monitoring stations to capture water levels, with plans to install additional units in 2016.

Inspections of all major structures including facilities, gates, pumps, and outfalls were conducted. Staff completed a structure assessment and ranking and is

making progress on necessary refurbishments. An electrical engineering firm was procured and completed the preliminary evaluation phase on electrical components at all major water control structures. The design phase is underway with construction on electrical improvements anticipated to begin in late 2016. The District also procured replacement actuators and hoist assemblies for the major water control structures. Testing of the new equipment is completed and staff will complete installation in Spring 2016. Installation of three new radial gates at Control Structure 12 is underway; replacement of Control Structure 11 radial gates is scheduled in 2016. Construction of the electrical building at Control Structure 4 was completed, and a deteriorating sheet pile weir at E-1½ and Hillsboro Canal was replaced with an 84-inch culvert and riser.

The District also completed numerous canal rehabilitation projects, clearing trees and reshaping banks including:

- L-32 Canal west of Jog Road
- L-13 Canal between Haverhill Road and the E-3 Canal
- L-47 Canal in Boca Raton
- E-3 Canal between Gun Club Road and Control Structure 6
- L-13 Canal between E-3 and Sherwood Forest
- L-19 Canal East of Military Trail
- L-46 Canal west of Boca Rio
- L-47 Canal East of E-1 Canal
- L-13 Canal East of E-2E Canal
- L-32 Canal between Starkey and Lyons Road
- L-41 at Whisper Walk
- L-22 East of Lawrence Road

District staff also designed and manufactured a standardized gate for right-of-way access. The new gate design saves staff time and decreases vandalism. To date, seven gates have been installed.

In 2015, the District mowed approximately 17,000 miles of rights-of-way, treated more than 3,000 acres of aquatic vegetation, and treated more than 280 acres of upland areas. The vegetation management program was also modified to reduce reliance on aquatic herbicides. To improve efficiency with mechanical harvesting and chemical applications, the District installed 30 new 50 foot vegetation booms and plans to install an additional 30 booms in 2016. The District also purchased a mechanical harvesting grapple truck and focused herbicide applications to manage mid-summer blooms. A new plow-boat was purchased and staff is fabricating weed buckets for the excavators.

The District continued its review of the District fleet and equipment to realize savings on maintenance costs and staff time. Older, inefficient vehicles and equipment were surplused and sold at auction, allowing a focus shift from break-fix to preventative maintenance. The District is planning to implement a GPS fleet management system in 2016.

Several improvements were made to the shop facilities including completion of a metal overhang to provide a new welding area, installation of a new shop lift, and construction of a new access road north of the building. In addition, the District completed construction of the concrete equipment storage yard, enhancing both drainage and safety. The fuel terminals were upgraded and enhanced with

employee ID access controls. Maintenance on the office building was also completed, including roofing, carpeting and restroom renovations.

The District issued 255 right-of-way and drainage permits and reviewed more than 400 new permit applications. Staff conducted 5,600 field inspections, researched and responded to 2,175 Chancery Case 407 review requests and 475 right-of-way review requests, and mapped 5,520 parcels for the GIS database.

The District also initiated the development of a comprehensive right-of-way permitting program to consolidate the wide range of management options historically used including legal agreements, permits, licenses and staff discretion. Staff is working to develop a standardized and coordinated approach to address right-of-way encroachments in the future. The program will establish inspection and permit criteria, outreach activities and removal policies.

The District also finalized a contract for implementation of Accela software, which will provide an online permitting system to streamline permitting processes, enhance document management and increase public access. The new software will be on-line before the end of 2016.

A 5-year permit renewal was received for the Horticultural Waste Disposal Site and included authorization to mulch and dispose of material. Staff is evaluating options for debris management including outsourcing and on-site mulching at project locations.

In 2015, the District reduced its herbicide budget by 18% and continued to realize savings on energy costs through FPL's Time of Use Program. The District received more than \$310,000 in permit fees, \$24,000 for sale of surplus lands, \$12,590 through quit claim deeds and \$89,636 for right-of-way agreements, including the tower lease.

There was a continued focus on employee safety, and the employee safety committee continued to meet quarterly to review incidents and discuss proactive measures. Safety training and certifications were completed including Hazmat, chemical spill response, tractor safety, confined space, landfill operator, defensive driving, fire extinguisher and first aid/CPR/AED training. A safety shoe reimbursement program was also initiated. Worker's comp premiums were reduced by \$25,000, and the District received \$5,000 through Preferred's matching safety reimbursement program. The District was recognized by the Florida Association of Special Districts with the 2015 Safety Award.

The District also continues to participate in meetings and discussion regarding the C-51 Reservoir Project. The District also submitted proposed legislation to the County delegation to annex parcels that have historically received services from the District. Staff withdrew the local bill in order to address concerns with the proposed language.

Recognizing that Control Structure 9 should be relocated in the future, a preliminary evaluation was initiated to determine appropriate location for the new structure.

In September 2015, Ms. Joyce Haley retired from the Board after eight years of service. Steven Bedner was appointed in October to fill the open seat. Former Board member and community advocate, Murray Kalish, passed away and November 20th was established as Murray Kalish Day at the District. Mr. Kalish served on the Board for 11 years from 2000-2011.

The District continued its community outreach efforts, participating in numerous residential community association meetings and hosting a flood protection workshop for property managers. Website updates, monthly newsletters, e-notices and social media were also utilized to share important information regarding the District's mission.

Looking ahead, the District will continue its efforts to refurbish water control infrastructure, construct a SCADA system and implement enhanced Canal Rehabilitation and Right-of-Way Management Programs. District staff will continue to seek operational efficiencies including pilot projects for contracted maintenance work (mowing and tree removal), vegetation management options (mechanical vs. chemical treatment), and evaluation/consolidation of job functions through attrition.

Mr. Brown stated that the 2016 Report to Landowners provides an overview of the District's annual activities, including District activities undertaken in furtherance of the adopted water control plan. He recommended acceptance of the report pursuant to Florida Statutes Ch. 298.26.

A motion was made by Harry Raucher to approve the report, seconded by Jeffrey P. Phipps, Sr. and approved unanimously.

8. Financial Report

Copies of the Balance Sheet and Budget Report for Year End September 30, 2015 were furnished and Ms. Hoyt stated the year-end audit report is still on-going. Ms. Hoyt indicated the District is in a better financial position when compared to last year.

A motion was made by Harry Raucher to approve the financial report, seconded by William A. Mazzoni and approved unanimously.

9. New Business

Mr. Whitworth suggested staff explore all options for contracted services to assist with tree removal projects.

10. Election Results for Board of Supervisors

Mr. Perry called for the tally of the proxies and stated that James M. Alderman received 1,265 votes, Steve Bedner received 1,633 votes, and Harry Raucher received 1,265 votes. He further stated that all three had been re-elected as Supervisors of Lake Worth Drainage District in Sub-Districts 1, 2 and 4.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17 A.M.

Secretary - William A. Mazzoni

Recording Secretary - Joann M. Aylor

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