



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
LAKE WORTH DRAINAGE DISTRICT
HELD AT THE DELRAY BEACH OFFICE ON
OCTOBER 17, 2018 AT 8:30 A.M.**

Board Members Present:

James M. Alderman
John I. Whitworth, III

Harry Raucher
Jeffrey P. Phipps, Sr.

Steve Bedner

1. Call to Order

President Alderman called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Bedner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Agenda Revisions - Robert M. Brown, Executive Director

There were no agenda revisions.

4. Abstentions by Board Members from Items on the Agenda

There were no abstentions.

5. General Public Comment

Vincent Nocera, property owner, thanked the Board and staff regarding the clearing on the L-23 Canal. He asked if work was scheduled on the west side of the L-23 Canal. Mr. LasCasas stated future work will be scheduled based on the flood control risk.

CONSENT

6. Board comment or request to pull items from Consent Agenda

7. Approval of minutes, check register and financial statement for the previous month

8. Approval to surplus and dispose of designated items – Karen Hoyt, Director of Finance

9. Approval to enter into a contract with Grau & Associates for auditing services (RFP # 18-10162L.01) – Karen Hoyt, Director of Finance

10. **Approval of revised permitting policy and fees for Drainage Outfall Connections – Jim Fandrey – Assistant Director of Engineering and Right-of-Way**

11. **Board vote on Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Supervisor Raucher to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Senior Vice President Bedner and approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION

12. **Canal Rehabilitation Projects within the City of Boca Raton, east of I-95 (L-48, L-49 and L-50 Canals) (Project #16-9977P.03, Project #16-9977P.03, Project #16-9763P.04) – Robert M. Brown, Executive Director**

Mr. Strowd presented regarding Hurricane Michael and shared photos of damage in the Panhandle and Mexico City Beach.

Mr. Brown stated at the request of the City of Boca Raton, the LWDD Board of Supervisors agreed at the July 11, 2018 meeting to postpone scheduled canal rehabilitation projects along the L-48, L-49 and L-50 Canals. The Board of Supervisors stated that the postponement period would remain in place until its October 17, 2018 Board meeting. During that time, staff from both the City and LWDD met on several occasions and exchanged information regarding the subject canals.

Mr. Brown stated on the L-48 Canal, the District will begin work to remove vegetation from two areas of risk; one located just south of West Royal Palm Road and one at the south east region of Lake Martha east of SW 9th Avenue.

Mr. Brown stated the District completed all rehabilitation work on the L-49 Canal, excluding the thirteen (13) lots located along the north shoreline of Sabal Palm Lake. Letters were sent to the 13 individual property owners outlining the District's offer as discussed at the July 11, 2018 board meeting. The District received two responses; one requested that the District quit-claim its Chancery interest while retaining an easement and the other requesting a variance for right-of-way permit for an existing fence. At this time, the District does not propose to undertake any additional work along the Sabal Palm Lake frontage.

Mr. Brown stated the District and City agreed to schedule an additional meeting next week in Boca Raton in order to hear from adjacent landowners on the L-50 Canal. The District will begin the proposed L-50 canal rehabilitation project during the first week of November 2018. The District will be removing all nuisance and exotic vegetation located within its right-of-way.

George Brown, Deputy City Manager of City of Boca Raton, stated his appreciation that staff worked together on this project.

Mayor Scott Singer of City of Boca Raton stated that he appreciates the additional time to work out a solution.

Miles Simmons, 900 SW 14th Street, stated his property is located at the east end of the L-50 Canal. In 2015, Mr. Simmons had an arborist side cut the trees and attempted to maintain the area to assist with drainage purposes.

Phil Croyle, 1224 SW 14th Street, stated he is happy with the agreement that has been reached and that the District is able to help maintain the canal and be actively involved with his community.

Cheryl Croyle, 1224 SW 14th Street, stated she would like the District to begin work as soon as possible to complete the job.

13. Approval of the ranking of qualified firms and authorization to negotiate a contract for surveying services (Project #18-9854L.04) – Kelsey Smith, Project Surveyor

Mr. Smith provided background regarding the Canal Rehabilitation Program and the need for the support of contracted surveying services. He stated that due to the number of expedited projects, the need for surveying services will exceed the workload capacities of District survey staff. The contracts will be for a two-year period with two (2) one-year options to renew (maximum of 4 years).

Mr. Smith received 14 responses from Wantman Group, DRMP, Bowman Consulting Group, Cardno, Biscayne Engineering Company, Marlin Engineering, Engenuity Group, Keshavarz and Associates, Brown and Phillips, Mathews Consulting, Carnihan Proctor and Cross, Morgan and Eklund, Paramount Engineering and Wallace Surveying.

Staff recommended entering into negotiations with the top ranked firms:

1. Wantman Group
2. DRMP
3. Bowman Consulting Group

A motion was made by Supervisor Raucher approve the recommendation, seconded by Senior Vice President Bedner and approved unanimously.

14. Approval of surplus and sale of L-3 Canal right-of-way to the adjacent landowner, Leonidas Alfaro. Location: South side of Belvedere Road between Skees Road and Florida Turnpike (Project #10-8944P.01) – Anne Perry, Right-of-Way Specialist

Ms. Perry stated the District received a request by Leonidas Alfaro to purchase a portion of LWDD's fee right-of-way along the south side of the L-3 Canal. This site is on the south side of Belvedere Road between Skees Road and the Florida Turnpike. The L-3 Canal dead ends in this area with no connection to the Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District Canal (Northern Canal). The water flows westerly to the E-2 Canal. Mr. Alfaro purchased the primary parcel in December 2003 and received a quit-claim deed from FDOT in March 2016 for the other parcel. A revised appraisal was received on October 3, 2018 which complied with LWDD's policies. Mr. Alfaro requested to purchase 4,024 square feet of eligible right-of-way at the Fair Market Value (FMV) of \$6.95 per square foot totaling \$27,966.80 (rounded to \$28,000 by the Appraiser).

Staff recommended approval to declare a portion of the L-3 Canal right-of-way eligible for purchase and approval of the Fair Market Value based on the submitted appraisal

of \$6.95 Sq. Ft. (area of 4,024 Sq. Ft. X \$6.95/Sq. Ft. = \$28,000) subject to a sketch of description, legal and recording fees, approval of all plans by LWDD staff and District Operating Policies.

Mr. Alderman stated that he is not in favor of selling District right-of-way and requested that staff seek conceptual approval from the Board to save potential buyers unnecessary legal and appraisal fees.

A motion was made by Vice President Phipps to approve staff's recommendation, seconded by Supervisor Raucher and approved with a vote of 4-1. President Alderman was the dissenting vote.

STAFF REPORTS

15. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Brown recommended and the Board agreed to cancel the November 7, 2018 workshop due to scheduling conflicts with several Board members.

Mr. Brown announced that President Alderman's seat on the Board representing Sub-District 1 was up for election at the Landowners' Meeting in January 2019.

Director of Operations & Maintenance

Mr. Strowd provided an update on water conditions stating the District received below average rainfall over the past few months. He stated the conservation areas were low and if the District does not receive rainfall in October and November, the District will need to pump water into the canal system.

Mr. LasCasas, Assistant Director of Facilities & Maintenance presented equipment utilization for the third quarter which covers July through September 2018. The net Mowing utilization dropped due to additional maintenance on the equipment; however, the undefined time improved dropping to 16%. The latter is an indicator that staff was being used more efficiently, but the equipment experienced more mechanical issues associated with the Tier 4, Diesel Emission Fluid system. As a result, staff had to use backup mowers to stay on schedule. The Heavy Equipment utilization dropped from a high of 70% last quarter to 53% which included two scheduled and one unscheduled overhaul. The undefined time also dropped to 17% reflecting an effective use of staff.

Ms. Megan Hoffman, Planner/Scheduler, updated the Board on the progress of the Canal Rehabilitation Program. Over the past 12 months, the District cleared a total of 30.42 miles of vegetation on canal rights-of-way (66.55 miles from October 2015 to current): LWDD – 16.93 miles; Contractor – 9.35 miles; Developer – 4.14 miles.

Director of Administrative Services

Ms. Walker shared the proposed Board dates for 2019.

Director of Finance

Ms. Hoyt stated that the District will begin the audit soon with Grau & Associates and reminded Board members to respond timely to any letters they may receive from the auditors.

District Counsel

Mr. Perry stated that he met with Al LaSorte, Shutts & Bowen, LLP, regarding the District's Chancery ownership along the L-49 Canal. Mr. LaSorte represents one of the title underwriters for properties along the L-49 Canal. He will not continue with any legal claims due to ownership rights until a resolution is met on the potential transfer of the L-49 Canal to the City of Boca Raton.

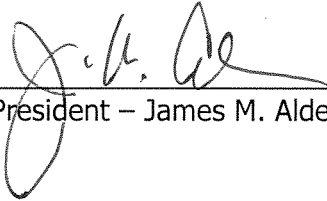
Mr. Perry stated a final demand letter was sent to Kelly Tractor and Caterpillar requesting reimbursement for a defective land management package sold to the District. He indicated that if the District did not receive a response within 10 days, a complaint would be filed with the local circuit court.

16. Board Comment

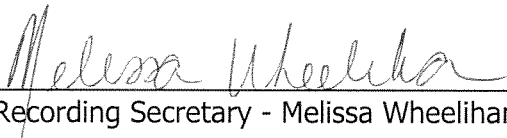
There were no board comments.

17. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.



President – James M. Alderman



Recording Secretary - Melissa Wheelihan