



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
LAKE WORTH DRAINAGE DISTRICT
HELD AT THE DELRAY BEACH OFFICE ON
May 17, 2023 AT 8:30 A.M.**

Board Members Present:

John I. Whitworth, III
Jeffrey Phipps, Sr.

James M. Alderman
Carrie P. Hill

Stephen Bedner

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Phipps led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Agenda Revisions – Tommy Strowd, Executive Director

There were no agenda revisions.

4. Abstentions by Board Members from Items on the Agenda

There were no abstentions by board members.

5. General Public Comment (limited to 5 minutes)

Captain Bill Howard requested permission to access the District's canal rights-of-way and boat ramps to assist with eradication of iguanas. He provided information on the impacts of the invasive species.

Mr. Strowd provided information regarding the District's policy regarding access to the rights-of-way. He stated that staff will review the policy and present any recommended changes at a future board meeting.

Sr. Vice President Alderman recognized the impacts by iguanas and supported efforts to control the invasive species.

Supervisor Whitworth stated his concerns regarding the safety of adjacent property owners and the District's liability.

Vice President Hill inquired if Captain Howard was operating a commercial business to hunt iguanas. Captain Howard confirmed that he was charging customers for

tours and to hunt iguanas. The Board expressed concern regarding allowing access for commercial entities and the associated liability to the District.

Supervisor Phipps recommended that we seek input from Captain Howard when looking at potential policy revisions.

President Bedner stated the staff will review the policy and present recommended changes in the future.

CONSENT

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

There was no board comment or request to pull items from the Consent Agenda.

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

8. Approval of qualified contractors to provide Tree & Vegetation Removal Services for June 2023 to May 2024 (RFQ #23-9887L.06) – Michelle Sinclair, O&M Specialist

9. Approval of ranked firms for Property & Casualty and Workers Compensation Insurance Brokerage Services and authorization to enter into a contract with the top ranked firm, Brown & Brown (RFP #23-8296L.02) - Karen Hoyt, Director of Finance & Administration

10. Approval to surplus and dispose of designated items – Karen Hoyt, Director of Finance & Administration

11. Board vote on Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Supervisor Phipps to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Vice President Hill and approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION

12. Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Audited Financial Statements – Karen Hoyt, Director of Finance & Administration

Ms. Hoyt introduced David Caplivski from Grau & Associates. Mr. Caplivski presented the governance letter and the audited financial report and stated that the District received an unmodified or clean opinion; there were no corrections or disagreements with the District's financial statements. A copy of the audited financial report is attached as part of the meeting record. He further presented financial highlights on the balance sheet and statement of revenue and expenses.

Staff recommended approval to accept the audited annual financial statements for the year ending September 30, 2022.

A motion was made by Supervisor Phipps to approve staff recommendation, seconded by Sr. Vice President Alderman and approved unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

13. Canal Rehabilitation Program Update – Anthony LasCasas, Director of Operations & Maintenance

No report presented.

14. Executive Director’s Report

Mr. LasCasas shared that Control Structure 9 rehabilitation will be completed before hurricane season.

Mr. Strowd shared that Control Structure 9 will be placed on the District’s SCADA system.

Mr. Strowd provided an update on weather conditions and shared that Lake Okeechobee is currently at 13.85’. He stated the District is in a good position headed into the rainy season.

Mr. Strowd stated that tours are being scheduled for board members to tour the C-51 Reservoir.

Mr. Strowd stated the SFWMD has begun efforts to update the Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan. The Corps of Engineers also announced that they are updating their operations plan for the Water Conservation Areas and inflows to Everglades National Park. The Corps indicated they will incorporate the new Lake Okeechobee regulation schedule into the plan which raises some concerns for the District.

Ms. Hoyt stated that staff will present the draft FY24 budget at the next meeting.

Sr. Vice President Alderman inquired regarding opportunities to invest available operating funds. Ms. Hoyt stated staff will review the investment policy and provide recommendations at the next meeting.

15. District Counsel’s Report

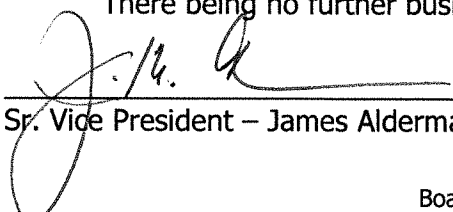
No additional items to report.

16. Board Reports & Comment

No additional reports or comments.

17. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 A.M.


Sr. Vice President – James Alderman


Recording Secretary – Sandra Acosta