



**MINUTES OF
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORKSHOP MEETING OF
LAKE WORTH DRAINAGE DISTRICT
HELD AT THE DELRAY BEACH OFFICE ON
August 8, 2023 at 8:30AM**

Board Members Present:

Steve Bedner	James M. Alderman
Carrie Hill	Jeffrey P. Phipps, Sr.(via phone)
John I. Whitworth, III	

1. Call to Order – Stephen Bedner,

President called the meeting to order.

2. Agenda Revisions – Tommy Strowd, Executive Director

There were no agenda revisions.

3. PUBLIC HEARING: Preliminary Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2024

President Bedner opened the Public Hearing.

Ms. Hoyt stated that the Fiscal Year 2024 Preliminary Budget and public hearing was advertised on July 24, 2023. The preliminary budget totaled \$16,914,000 and included a non-ad valorem assessment of \$49.50.

Ms. Hoyt highlighted the total budget of \$16,914,00 reflects a \$1,560,000 decrease compared to last year's budget. She explained this reduction is primarily attributed to a decrease in capital expenditures related to Control Structure 9.

Ms. Hoyt asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments.

The final budget will be presented for Board approval at the August 16, 2023 meeting.

President Bedner closed the Public Hearing.

4. Palm Beach County Water Utilities Green Cay Phase 2 Update (Project #RW-23-0224) – Nicole Smith, Permit Supervisor

Ms. Smith introduced Mr. Greg Roy from CMD Smith, representing Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department. Mr. Roy introduced Palm Beach County staff and consultants in attendance. Mr. Roy provided an overview and update of the Green Cay Phase II Project including the existing site, water purification facility, park and lake update, and park water quality. He shared that project design is 60% complete. Final construction is expected to be complete in April 2026.

Randy Wertepny with Keshavarz & Associates provided information on the site design. There is an associated water control structure that will release water into the LWDD L-30 Canal.

Emily O'Mahoney with 2GHO provided information on the park and lake design.

Mr. Roy stated that they have submitted permit applications to LWDD for the drainage connection, temporary access and a utility crossing, as well as a permit modification for the water treatment plant. Ms. Smith indicated these are reviewed and issued at the staff level.

A copy of the presentation is attached hereto as part of the meeting record.

Supervisor Whitworth expressed concerns regarding water quality in drainage to LWDD canals. Mr. Roy stated there are protections included in the water quality treatment plant design.

Supervisor Whitworth inquired if the walking paths will be connected to the LWDD right-of-way. The consultants explained that the project is fenced and there will be no pathway connection to the canal right-of-way.

Vice President Hill inquired regarding the purpose of the park. Mr. Roy explained there is a beneficial use of water, it creates a new ecosystem, replenishes the aquifer and provides a source of drinking water.

Sr. Vice President Alderman inquired about the source of the water. Mr. Roy indicated the source is the treated water from the existing South Regional Water Reclamation Facility.

5. Quarterly Investment Update – Karen Hoyt, Director of Finance & Administrative Services

Sean Gannon from PFM Asset Management provided an investment update for the quarter ending June 30, 2023. A copy of the report is attached hereto as part of the meeting record.

6. Briefing on Future Board Agenda Items

Staff provided briefings on anticipated agenda items for the August 16, 2023 regular board meeting including:

- **Resolution 2023-01 - Approval of Final Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2024 - Karen Hoyt, Director of Finance & Administration**

Ms. Hoyt announced that she will be revising the final budget to account for a \$40,000 increase in liability insurance premiums. The board directed staff to inquire about increasing deductibles to realize additional savings.

President Bedner recommended that staff move forward with purchasing the articulating end dump currently planned for purchase in FY24 to take advantage of lower prices in FY23.

Sr. Vice President Alderman made a motion to approve purchasing the articulating end dump in the current budget year. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Whitworth and passed unanimously.

Ms. Walker stated that the final budget will be revised to reflect removal of the purchase totaling \$450,000.

- **Approval of employee health benefit renewals for FY2024 – Melissa Skora, Human Resources Administrator**

Ms. Skora stated there is a 5% increase in medical benefits with Cigna. There was no increase in vision, dental, life insurance and disability benefits. Staff will be recommending approval to continue benefits with existing carriers.

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

A copy of the surplus and disposal list is attached as part of the meeting record.

- **Approval to release chancery interest to E & M Realty Corporation in exchange for an exclusive easement. Location: 1699-1705 N. Congress Avenue; north side of the L-2 Canal and east side of the E-3½-8 Canal. (Project #RI-23-0021) – David Bends, Right-of-Way Interest Supervisor**

Mr. Bends stated the District received a request to release the Chancery interest over the west 19.32' of Lots 25 and 26, containing 3,974 Sq. Ft., in exchange for an exclusive easement over the west 15' of Lots 25 and 26; together with an exclusive easement over the east 8' of the west 15' and the north 10' of the south 48' of Lot 27, containing 5,419 Sq. Ft.

- **Approval to issue a right-of-way permit variance to Sabal Pine Condominium for a portion of the existing asphalt pathway to remain within the E-4 Canal right-of-way. Location: East side of the E-4 Canal, south of Linton Boulevard. (Project #RW-23-0227) – Nicole Smith, Permit Supervisor**
- **Authorize Counsel to file an Amicus Brief to represent the interests of Lake Worth Drainage District in the case United States Sugar Corporation, et. al. v. United States Army Corps of Engineers, et. al., 23-11683, United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit – Tommy Strowd, Executive Director**

Following briefings, the Board agreed to place approvals of surplus items, employee health benefits and release of chancery interest on the Consent Agenda.

7. Staff Reports

There were no additional staff reports.

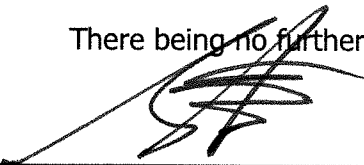
8. Board Reports & Comments

9. General Public Comment


There was no public comment.

10. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 AM.



 President – Stephen Bedner


 Recording Secretary – Sandra Acosta