



**MINUTES OF
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORKSHOP MEETING OF
LAKE WORTH DRAINAGE DISTRICT
HELD AT THE DELRAY BEACH OFFICE ON
September 6, 2023 at 8:30AM**

Board Members Present:

Steve Bedner	James M. Alderman
Carrie Hill (via phone)	Jeffrey P. Phipps, Sr.
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. Briefing on Future Board Agenda Items

Staff provided briefings on anticipated agenda items for the September 13, 2023 regular board meeting including:

- **Approval to enter into a contract with the top-ranked firm, Imagenet Consulting, LLC, for Managed IT Services (RFP #23-10165L.02) - Juan Tobar, IT Manager**

Mr. Tobar stated LWDD requires the support of IT Managed Services to provide IT support services for the District's network, servers, and switches, as well as desktop support, backup and disaster recovery services for all servers, technical expertise for advanced-level computer and server configuration/installation, network security, server management/migration, etc. Mr. Tobar stated that these services also provide 24/7 support and security and predictable monthly costs. Mr. Tobar stated that the District advertised a Request for Proposals for IT Managed Services and received four responses. The firms were ranked by a staff committee as follows:

1. ImageNet Consulting
2. Essential Solutions
3. United Data Technologies
4. CSPi Technology

Mr. Tobar stated ImageNet Consulting is LWDD's current provider. Staff will be recommending approval of the ranked firms and authorization to enter into a two-year term contract, with successive annual renewals thereafter with ImageNet Consulting for IT Managed Services not to exceed \$105,900 annually.

- **Approval of ranking of qualified firms and authorization to enter into contract negotiations with the top ranked-firm(s) for surveying services (RFP #23-9584L.04) – Ibrahin Nuñez, Project Surveyor**

Ms. Walker congratulated staff for completing the mapping project for all District rights-of-way.

Ms. Walker shared that contracted survey services are necessary to supplement staff for the ongoing canal rehabilitation program. She stated that the current contracts are expiring.

Mr. Nuñez stated that staff solicited a Request for Proposals for survey services in June 2023. Mr. Nuñez stated the District received 12 responsive submittals from WGI, DRMP, Bowman Consulting Group, Engenuity Group, Caulfield & Wheeler, Zeman Consulting Group, HQS Group, KCI Technologies, Whidden Surveying & Mapping, Craig A. Smith & Associates, Longitude Surveyors, and Precision Measurements.

Mr. Nuñez stated that staff will be recommending approval to enter into contract negotiations with the top ranked firms:

1. WGI
2. Bowman Consulting Group

Mr. Nuñez stated the contracts will be for an initial three-year period with two (2) one-year options to renew; board approval is required to renew beyond five years.

- **Approval of FY2024 legal services contract with Mark A. Perry, P.A.**

Ms. Walker stated that staff will be recommending approval to extend the annual legal services contract.

Following briefings, the Board agreed to place approval of the IT Managed Services contract and approval of the ranked survey firms on the Consent Agenda for the September 13, 2023 meeting.

4. Temporary Access Policy Discussion- Reagan Walker, Assistant Executive Director

Ms. Walker stated the LWDD Operating Policies include a process for requesting temporary access/use of the canal rights-of-way. This type of access is commonly sought when there

is a need for construction access on properties adjacent to LWDD canals where other access routes are limited, as well as for periodic vegetation maintenance/removal on adjacent properties. Most recently, LWDD has received requests from vendors hired by adjacent property owners to access the right-of-way for iguana control, along with requests from commercial operations offering guided hunts along the canals. In response, the Board requested staff to review the requirements for temporary access, particularly in situations where vendors are providing services related to the control of exotic and nuisance species.

Ms. Walker provided details on current policies related to temporary access and right-of-way restrictions and stated that staff is proposing changes to the current temporary access policy to better accommodate intermittent access requests from businesses providing services related to vegetation management and the control of exotic and nuisance wildlife and species. These services offer substantial benefits to both LWDD and adjacent property owners by effectively managing non-native and exotic vegetation and species. Ms. Walker noted that authorization for exotic and nuisance control would not extend to permitting vendors to conduct commercial operations within LWDD rights-of-way, such as tours, and guided hunting trips.

Ms. Walker emphasized the potential impacts of iguana populations, as they might create problems by undermining canal banks, control structures and other infrastructure. She shared information regarding current state regulations regarding iguana control.

Ms. Walker outlined proposed policy changes to authorize intermittent access for management of non-native, exotic or nuisance species including:

- Applicant required to provide proof of insurance naming LWDD as additional insured and proof of service agreement with adjacent property owner
- Approved by staff for a specific period of time; all requests for additional time will be managed as a permit extension with updated documentation required
- Permitttee must provide 48-hour notice to area field representative prior to accessing right-of-way
- Access authorized on dry ground only; not from within channel
- Consideration of reduced fees

The Board members expressed concerns regarding liability but recognized the issues related to the proliferation of exotic species.

Supervisor Whitworth stated his objections to allowing access on the right-of-way, particularly vehicular access.

Sr. Vice President Alderman stated that the District must consider the impacts of iguanas on the District's infrastructure and make adjustments to authorize access for exotic species control.

Vice President Hill shared perspective regarding iguana control by Homeowner Associations.

Following discussion with the Board, Ms. Walker stated that staff will present a proposed policy for board approval at a future meeting.

5. Staff Reports

There were no additional staff reports.

6. Board Reports & Comments

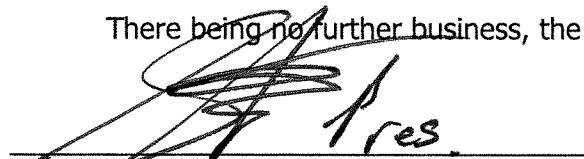
There were no additional board comments.

7. General Public Comment

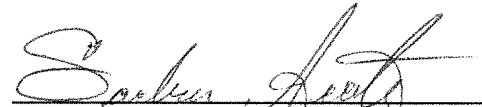
There was no public comment.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 AM.



President – Stephen Bedner



Recording Secretary – Sandra Acosta