

St. Lucie West Services District
Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.
Sunlight Community Church
477 S.W. Cashmere Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986

(Please note: This is not verbatim, a CD recording of the board meeting is available on file)

Board Members Present

Harvey Cutler, Chairman
Everett Child, Vice-Chairman
Sal Mancuso, Secretary/Supervisor
Charles B. Altwein, Supervisor

Not Present

David Kessner, Supervisor

Staff Present

John Imperato, District Manager, St. Lucie West Services District ("SLWSD")
Bill Hayden, Public Works Director/Assistant District Manager, St. Lucie West Services District
Maddie Maldonado, Administrative Assistant, SLWSD
Heidi Snyder, Assistant District Treasurer, GSG, Inc.
Kaamilya Pereira, CDD Board Clerk, GSG, Inc.

Guests Present (Sign-In Sheet Attached)

I - Call to Order

Chairman Cutler called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

II – Pledge of Allegiance

III - Invocation

IV - Roll Call

Mr. Imperato announced that David Kessner is not present today for the record.

Deleted: George

V – Public Comment

Susan Morrin addressed the Board and commented on a discussion she had with representatives from the City of Port St. Lucie who are in charge of the "Keep St. Lucie Beautiful" Tree Planting Project. Ms. Morrin stated that there are areas in the City that have benches and nice greenery. She suggested that the District contact the City to see if it is possible to have the same on St. Lucie West Boulevard. Discussion ensued. Mr. Imperato stated that he had discussions with Don Copper and John Dutton regarding this and work is underway.

A resident of Presidential Cove addressed the Board and commented that he appreciates the work that Mr. Imperato and his staff has done in regards to the pond to pond drainage.

VI – Consent Agenda

Financial Statements for September 2008 – Updated

Financial Statements for October 2008

Approval to transfer funds for R&R Fund, WWCF & WCF Requisitions

Approval of Budget Amendment 2008-07

Monthly Report on Public Works Operations

Monthly Report on Utilities Operations

Monthly Report on Capital Improvement Projects

Monthly Report on Billing and Customer Service

Supervisor Altwein motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vice-Chairman Child seconded. Approved 4-0.

VII – District Manager

Recommendation to advertise for the 2009 Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Imperato requested the Board's approval of the 2009 Board Meeting Schedule as well as the approval to advertise the schedule in the local newspapers.

Supervisor Altwein motioned to approve the 2009 Board Meeting Schedule as presented and the advertisement of the 2009 Board Meeting Schedule. Vice-Chairman Child seconded. Supervisor Mancuso motioned to amend the original motion to include a Budget Workshop on the meeting schedule in May or June. There was no second on the amendment. Discussion ensued. Mr. Imperato stated that the Budget workshop is normally part of a regular Board meeting. All Board members agreed to the original motion. Approved 4-0.

Approval to Purchase Four Vehicles for the Utilities Department

Mr. Imperato presented that Board with the bids received for four vehicles in the Utilities Department. Mr. Imperato noted that the recommendation is from Mr. Pickle and that he supports the recommendation. Mr. Imperato requested the Board's approval as recommended.

Vice-Chairman Child motioned to approve the purchase of the 2008 F-250 Utility Body truck and three 2008 F-150's from Bartow Ford of Bartow, Florida for the amount of \$62,327.00 as presented. Supervisor Altwein seconded. Approved 4-0.

Approval of Declaration for Surplus Equipment (Walk-on Item)

Mr. Hayden presented the list of surplus equipment approved by the Board at the April 1st meeting.

<u>Item#</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Serial</u>
1.	Agrex 3 Point Spreader	2006	Model #300
2.	TL70 New Holland Tractor	1996	36005770
3.	Harper Goossen Blower	2004	3600db-04A08
4.	40hp Bearcat Chipper	1999	Yo4507
5.	Toro Gm 3000D	2006	30302-90216

Mr. Hayden requested the Board's approval for declaration of the equipment listed above. Mr. Hayden stated the declaration allows staff to dispose of surplus equipment either by auction, advertise and receive sealed bids for said equipment.

Supervisor Altwein motioned to approve the declaration of surplus as presented. Vice-Chairman Child seconded. Approved 4-0.

Other Items/Updates

Mr. Imperato reported, in regards to the I.Q. Pond, that there was a project meeting in which Supervisor Altwein attended. Mr. Imperato stated that this project has been taken from a 10-day project to only a 5-day project and should be completed by Thursday or Friday of this week. The project plan that was created has saved a lot of time and effort. Mr. Imperato stated that staff received another bid to clean the pipe at the Country Club Estates Golf Course. The bid was for an estimate of \$18,000. Mr. Imperato stated that staff is working to obtain one more bid and will also see if the District can get the Golf Course to share the expense, as there was some debris in the pipe that is clearly from golf course clippings. Mr. Imperato noted that the Main I.Q. Plant is being upgraded to increase capacity. Mr. Imperato reported that staff is reviewing the mobile phone service being provided to the District. A proposal was received from Verizon that would save the District approximately \$250 a month for the same service currently being provided by Nextel. In addition, Verizon offers Blackberry phones, in which work orders can be received timelier and would include GPS locate for field personnel. Mr. Imperato reported that the Board Supervisors' laptops should be available for the next meeting. In the meantime, the District Engineer and District Attorney now receive their agenda packets via email; this would save the District approximately \$500 a year.

Sue Snyder addressed the Board and asked how the District is doing in regards to the recommendations in the Culpepper & Turpening (C&T) report. Chairman Cutler requested that an update be produced in writing from the District Manager to the Board. Mr. Imperato agreed to provide an update in writing; however, noted that staff continues to track the work done in comparison to the C&T report and there are many items that are coming in at a lower cost than expected.

Supervisor Altwein suggested that a letter be sent to the Homeowner Associations in regards to tampering with St. Lucie West equipment and facilities. Discussion ensued. Mr. Hayden commented that the District has already sent a letter a few months ago. Mr. Imperato requested that the Board email him with any additional suggestions regarding this matter. Vice-Chairman Child commented that he recalls an irrigation repair vendor forgetting to replace a valve. Chairman Cutler stated that he is not sure how many vendors are working in the District, but feels it may be reasonable to discuss the District possibly requiring them to register to work in St. Lucie West. Mr. Imperato stated that he does not believe by law that the District can require a vendor to register to work in the District; however, suggested that this matter be discussed when Mr. Harrell is present and he will request that Mr. Harrell address this matter at the next meeting.

Mr. Imperato announced that Pete Pimentel and staff are present to understand more about the operations of the District. Mr. Imperato thanked Mr. Pimentel and his staff for attending the meeting.

Mr. Imperato reported on some of the correspondence he received from the Board Supervisors regarding the Consent Agenda items, starting with the Legal Counsel fees. Chairman Cutler stated that he would appreciate that this matter not be presented at the meeting. Discussion ensued. Mr.

Imperato held his report as requested by the Chairman; however noted that he respectfully disagrees. Mr. Imperato noted that one of the questions received from the Board was if the District Manager approves all invoices. Mr. Imperato stated the District's protocol for approving invoices for the Board's information.

Mr. Imperato stated that he gave a report at a previous meeting on the Public Works budget that the District came in where expected and are under budget on many items. Mr. Imperato reported that the fees for legal counsel have been decreasing.

Chairman Cutler commented that Mr. Imperato has to find a way around discussing the legal counsel matter. The Chairman stated that the Board is well aware of this matter and the question from one of the Board members is repetitive and needs to be "put to sleep". Mr. Imperato commented that he was reporting the budget review and wanted to ensure that the public is aware that the fees for legal counsel are decreasing.

Mr. Imperato stated that the District runs a Public Works business and a Utility business. Last year was a good year in Public Works; however, there has been a shortfall in revenue for the Utility side, which is partly due to foreclosures.

Chairman Cutler requested Mr. Imperato direct reports to the Chairman of the Board, as he is reporting to the Board and it is a "Board" meeting. Mr. Imperato did as requested by the Chairman.

Mr. Imperato continued to report that fuel and chemical costs had increased as well as transport cost of sludge. Mr. Imperato noted that the District has applied to FEMA and submitted monies for pump rentals, equipment rentals, fuel usage and other items associated with Tropical Storm Faye. Mr. Imperato also noted that the District is still receiving funds for Hurricane Francis, which occurred in June.

Mr. Imperato stated that he will present an item regarding his resignation and the District Manager contract at the next meeting when Mr. Harrell is present. Discussion ensued in regards to Mr. Imperato's resignation. Supervisor Altwein commented that he believes it's inappropriate to request, once given the floor, for staff to face the Chairman and he believes that Chairman Cutler is aggravating and pushing Mr. Imperato further away. Chairman Cutler stated that he has pushed for Mr. Imperato to be a part of staff and believes that he is doing an excellent job as District Manager. Chairman Cutler commented that he has run many meetings and the audience is welcome, but when staff is reporting to the Board, staff should address the Board not the audience. The Chairman stated that he believes Mr. Imperato has done a great job as District Manager, but does not believe that the Board should be threatened by Mr. Imperato when things are not the way Mr. Imperato wants or if the Board has questions of him. Mr. Imperato commented that he is not trying to threaten the community; he loves the community and works hard for it. Mr. Imperato stated that he needs to be able to report to the community and the Board; and feels if he is not able to, he is being restrained from doing his job.

Supervisor Mancuso commented that the Consent Agenda was approved and if there were items to be discussed, they should have been pulled by a Board Supervisor or the District Manager for discussion at the time that the Consent Agenda was being presented.

Chairman Cutler requested to end the discussion on this matter and continue with the meeting.

VIII – Supervisors' Requests

Vice-Chairman Child requested for the future that Consent Agenda items not go up for discussion, unless and until, the Board or District Manager request that it be removed from the Consent

Agenda for discussion. As long as the Consent Agenda is approved, to open up anything under the Consent Agenda for discussion at a later time is inappropriate. Vice-Chairman Child suggested that the meeting minutes be moved before "Public Comments" on the Board meeting agendas. Discussion ensued. The Board agreed with the Vice-Chairman's suggestion as it is done this way at other governmental board meetings.

Vice-Chairman Child motioned that the approval of the meeting minutes be presented before public comments on the meeting agenda. Supervisor Mancuso seconded. Approved 4-0.

Supervisor Altwein requested from Mr. Hayden the status of the rehab on the Harvester. Mr. Hayden stated that the pontoons are going to the welding shop and the bolts have been changed to stainless steel to avoid rusting. Mr. Hayden noted he will provide the cost difference of doing the rehab in house at the next meeting. Supervisor Altwein stated that the City of Port St. Lucie is accelerating projects to enhance the economy, by getting funds from government bailouts. Supervisor Altwein requested that staff look at doing this for the District. Mr. Imperato stated that there are guidelines for operating utilities and he doesn't think at this point anyone is willing to give funds 5 years in advance of a project. Mr. Imperato noted that staff is aggressively working on obtaining grants and other funds for the District.

Supervisor Altwein made a final comment that the Board Supervisors are not the "bosses", the community is and they should be informed.

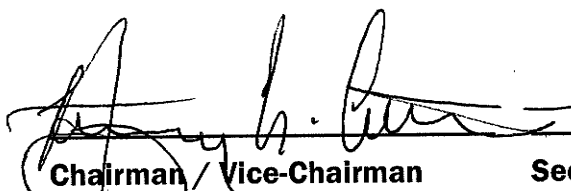
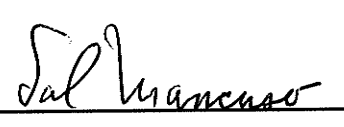
Supervisor Mancuso commented that he submitted his concerns to the District Manager regarding the agenda and didn't pull any of the Consent Agenda items because he was satisfied with the responses he received. Supervisor Mancuso suggested to the District Manager that this is the appropriate time to review the Employee Policy Manual dated July 19, 2005, now that the Union is no longer with the District. Supervisor Mancuso commented that he is happy with the way that the meeting progressed with the Consent Agenda.

IX - Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of the November 4, 2008 Regular Meeting

Vice-Chairman Child motioned to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2008 regular meeting as amended on page 4 by Supervisor Altwein. Supervisor Altwein seconded. Approved 4-0.

Meeting Minutes Signature Page

 
Chairman / Vice-Chairman Secretary / Assistant Secretary

Date Approved 12/2/2008

St. Lucie West Services District

Guest Sign - In Sheet

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

****PLEASE PRINT****

Name & Company

E-Mail Address

Phone

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|----------|----------|
| 1. | Lyle Firm | on File | |
| 2. | Diane Goldberg | " | |
| 3. | VINCENT J. D'AMICO | | 878-2201 |
| 4. | SUSAN MORIN | | 343 0492 |
| 5. | PETER RODAMAT | CASCADES | |
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