

MINUTES

Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District (KLWTD) Meeting



March 7, 2011
98880 OVERSEAS HWY, KEY LARGO, FL 33037

The Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District Board of Commissioners met for a Transition Meeting at 4:03 PM. Present were Chairman Robert Majeska, Commissioners Norman Higgins (by phone), Charles Brooks, Andrew Tobin, and Susie Hammaker. Also present were the District Counsel Thomas Dillon, District Clerk Carol Walker, and other appropriate District Staff.

The Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District observed a moment of silence in observance of Commissioner Higgins' loss of a family member.

Chris Sante led the Pledge of Allegiance

Motion: **Commissioner Tobin made a motion to approve allow Commissioner Higgins to participate at the March 7, 2011 Transition Meeting by phone. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion.**

Vote on Motion

| Member | Yes | No | Other |
|-----------------------|-----|----|-------|
| Commissioner Higgins | X | | |
| Chairman Majeska | X | | |
| Commissioner Tobin | X | | |
| Commissioner Brooks | X | | |
| Commissioner Hammaker | X | | |

Motion passed 5 to 0

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Brooks requested that the Minutes of 3/1/11 and the 457b Change of Plan Trustee be Bulked. The Organizational Chart will be next, then the Staff Changes, then Sludge Process Update, followed by Speaker Invitations. Commissioner Tobin requested that an item on Lift Stations/Gravity Connections be added after the Bulk Items.

Motion: **Commissioner Hammaker made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Tobin seconded the motion.**

Vote on Motion

| Member | Yes | No | Other |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Commissioner Higgins | X | | |
| Chairman Majeska | X | | |
| Commissioner Tobin | X | | |
| Commissioner Brooks | X | | |
| Commissioner Hammaker | X | | |

Motion passed 5 to 0

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
457B CHANGE OF PLAN TRUSTEE**

Motion: Commissioner Brooks made a motion to approve the minutes of March 1, 2011 and the 457b Change of Plan Trustee. Commissioner Higgins seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

| Member | Yes | No | Other |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Commissioner Higgins | X | | |
| Chairman Majeska | X | | |
| Commissioner Tobin | X | | |
| Commissioner Brooks | X | | |
| Commissioner Hammaker | X | | |

Motion passed 5 to 0

LIFT STATIONS/GRAVITY CONNECTIONS

Public Comment

The following persons address the Board:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Speaker; Chris Sante, Islamorada | Subject; Lift Stations (Exhibit "A") |
| Speaker; Rob Bleser, Key Largo | Subject; Lift Stations |
| Robert DiGiorgio, Key Largo | Subject; Lift Stations |

Chairman Majeska explained that the Board has given direction to staff (Greg Matthews) to give them a report on Lift Stations/Gravity Connections for small business.

The Board directed to have a report (list of properties, financial impact, and Engineering solutions) from Greg Matthews and Engineering on April 5 and action on April 19, 2011.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART/STAFF CHANGES

Commissioner Brooks expressed concern over not having the General Manager at the discussion of an organizational chart.

Commissioner Hammaker stated: "The proposed Management by Committee model is the very antithesis of a professional accountable local agency: it does not exist, for good reason, anywhere in the Keys, Florida of the Nation.

What is being proposed absolutely guarantees an ongoing day-to-day disaster as commissioner's work to triangulate staff for their own agenda and the staff participates eagerly in this process. The end result is not only chaos but also the empowerment of staff whose greatest ability is not utility management but brown nosing and back stabbing. In this very complex legal, regulatory, and political environment the only question is the exact shape that the disaster would take and the price that will have to be paid to fix it.

The model we must adopt is very simple. An elected board sets policy for the body they serve and also does oversight for how the professional staff implements this policy. The staff is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the entity and its progress, and its task is monitored by the Board. It is hard to see that any responsible person, or any person who does not have his or her own agenda, would not agree with this."

Commissioner Tobin does feel that it will be a government by committee if there is check and balance by Finance.

The Board directed Ms. Blank and Mr. Fishburn to look at both (organizational chart) forms and see how everyone reacts with each other and report back to the Board at the April 11, 2011.

SLUDGE PROCESS UPDATE

Ed Castle stated that he has not made a decision on what process he would suggest yet. He recommended that an Engineering Firm should be hired to provide a study, design and permitting services for the proposed sludge digestion and dewatering facilities.

Motion: Commissioner Tobin made a motion to direct staff to start the CCNA procedure for the Sludge Process. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

| Member | Yes | No | Other |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Commissioner Higgins | X | | |
| Chairman Majeska | X | | |
| Commissioner Tobin | X | | |
| Commissioner Brooks | X | | |
| Commissioner Hammaker | X | | |

Motion passed 5 to 0

SPEAKER INVITATIONS

Commissioner Hammaker has been asked to present the KLWTD structure case study at the Annual FSDA meeting in Key Largo.

COMMISSIONER'S ROUNDTABLE

Landscaping IDC

Mr. Dillon explained what the issue is with the electrical panel at the Dolphin Care Center.

Steve Gibbs

Commissioner Brooks stated he is troubled by questions asked by Mr. Gibbs. He suggested that there be a spokesperson for the office to answer reporters' questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Speaker; Marty Waits

Subject; Organizational Chart

ADJOURNMENT

The KLWTD Board adjourned the Board Meeting at 6:44 PM.

The KLWTD meeting minutes of March 7, 2011 were approved on April 5, 2011.



Chairman Majeska



Carol Walker, CMC
District Clerk

EXHIBIT "A"

The rush of the sewer board to save money on the total sewer cost has place an enormous burden on those of use who have to hook to force mains.

Wendy's, Fish house, Burger king, Keys Critters, and many other businesses are all on vacuum pits.

The cost to hook up is the cost of running a gravity pipe to the pit. About \$3,500 to \$5,000.

Those of use on a force main have to pay outrageous amounts of money.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Island Bay Resorts | \$72,000 |
| We have to pay an engineer to design a system | \$5,000 |
| We have to pay you a fee | \$485 |
| We have to pay DEP | \$500 |
| We have to pay for this system | \$75,000 |

DEP has reviewed my permit and has told me to run an 8 inch gravity line for 2 bathroom when a 4 inch line is all that is needed. A 4 inch line can handle up to 12 bathrooms. When I questioned them, and told them that the water flow would not be enough for a 8 inch line, then told me to bad.

I am now redesigning the system, another cost to me because DEP has no one with a brain or common sense.

You just told the residents of Tavernier that you would not move there sewer pipe to the alley way because it would cost you an extra \$50,000. yet you push the force main cost on to me.

I am asking you, what relief do your customers that are being forced to hook to these lines get. You are making us pay for sewers and we can not afford to hook up.

In these economic times, who can afford this cost.