

# MINUTES

## Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District (KLWTD) Meeting



February 5, 2013  
98880 OVERSEAS HWY, KEY LARGO, FL 33037

The Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District Board of Commissioners met for a Commission Meeting at 4:02 PM. Present were Acting Chairman Tobin, Commissioners, Norman Higgins, David Asdourian, and Steve Gibbs. Also present were the General Manager Margaret Blank, General Counsel, Ray Giglio, District Clerk Carol Walker, and other appropriate District Staff.

Acting Chairman Tobin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

District Counsel Ray Giglio added an update on the Public Hearing on the District Charter Amendment and a Court Case. Operations Manager Dan Saus added an update on the deep wells. Commissioner Asdourian clarified that the Transition Meetings will be starting at 5 PM. Item #4 EDU Change for AK 1643564 has been moved to the Feb. 19, 2013 meeting.

**Motion:**        **Commissioner Gibbs made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Higgins seconded the motion.**

### Vote on Motion

Member	Yes	No	Other
Commissioner Higgins	X		
Chairman Majeska			Absent
Commissioner Gibbs	X		
Commissioner Tobin	X		
Commissioner Asdourian	X		

**Motion passed 4 to 0**

### PUBLIC COMMENT

#### Name & Address

Sue Heim, Key Largo

Monte Green, Islamorada  
Sue Hammaker, Key Largo

#### Subject

Forms sent to Tax Collector to remove property from Assessment Role  
Concern over paying tenants water bill  
Inter-Local, Lobbyist Exhibit "A"

**ROMAN GASTESI**

*Inter-Local Agreement*

Mr. Gastesi explained that the District is in line for \$20 million of the Mayfield Grant monies this year.

Commissioner Higgins would like to have the District get its \$20 million this year and take time to do an agreement next year.

Commissioner Gibbs asked how the storm water will affect the split. Mr. Gastesi explained that storm water will not be included.

Chairman Tobin explained that the District was developed to get things moving with the County support. The District has moved forward on blind faith.

Mr. Gastesi stated if the District wants to carve out the lobbyist from the agreement then they should do that and then come back to discuss the lobbyist. Also the lobbyist is a month to month contract and the District will pay on a monthly base and if the lobbyist does not get any money then the County will end the contract. The District will not be penalized if they decide to stop paying because there was no money obtained.

**BULK ITEMS**

*Minutes of Jan. 15, 2013*

*Minutes of Jan. 22, 2013*

**Motion: Commissioner Higgins made a motion to approve the Bulk Items. Commissioner Asdourian seconded the motion.**

**Vote on Motion**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Commissioner Higgins</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Commissioner Gibbs</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Commissioner Tobin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Commissioner Asdourian</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Chairman Majeska</b>			<b>Absent</b>

**Motion passed 4 to 0**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

*Pending Payments*

**Motion: Commissioner Gibbs made a motion to approve the Pending Payments contingent upon the availability of funds. Commissioner Asdourian seconded the motion.**

**Vote on Motion**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Commissioner Higgins</b>	<b>X</b>		

<b>Chairman Majeska</b>			<b>Absent</b>
<b>Commissioner Gibbs</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Commissioner Tobin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Commissioner Asdourian</b>	<b>X</b>		

**Motion passed 4 to 0**

**COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS**

*Full Disclosure and Cost on ARF*

Commissioner Gibbs would like all the information filled out on the ARF.

*Vote of Confidence for General Manager*

Commissioner Gibbs thinks it is time to give the Manager a vote of confidence once a year.

**Motion: Commissioner Gibbs made a motion to give the Manager A Vote of Confidence. Commissioner Higgins seconded the motion.**

**Vote on Motion**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Commissioner Higgins</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Chairman Majeska</b>			<b>Absent</b>
<b>Commissioner Gibbs</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Commissioner Tobin</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Commissioner Asdourian</b>	<b>X</b>		

**Motion passed 4 to 0**

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Ed Castle, Weiler Engineering, gave a report on the negotiations on contractors for the shallow wells.

**LEGAL COUNSEL**

*RESOLUTION NO. 06-02-13*

*A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE KEY LARGO WASTEWATER TREATMENT DISTRICT ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR APPROVING ASSESSMENT WAIVERS FOR TAX PARCELS PURCHASED BY THE MONROE COUNTY LAND AUTHORITY, MONROE COUNTY OR OTHER MONROE COUNTY ENTITIES FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.*

After discussion the Board asked that this resolution be brought back to the next regular meeting.

**GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

*Washington D.C. Trip*

The Board directed that Commissioner Gibbs will accompany the General Manager to Washington D.C.

*Sales Tax Report*

Ms. Blank reported that she sent Kevin Wilson a report on the District construction.

*ESRI Software Renewal*

Staff explained the uses of ESRI.

**Motion:** Commissioner Higgins made a motion to approve the ESRI Software. Commissioner Asdourian seconded the motion.

**Vote on Motion**

Member	Yes	No	Other
Commissioner Higgins	X		
Chairman Majeska			Absent
Commissioner Gibbs	X		
Commissioner Tobin	X		
Commissioner Asdourian	X		

**Motion passed 4 to 0**

*Deep Well*

The Deep Injection Well has been permitted. There is a requirement of everyday samples.

**COMMISSIONER'S ROUNDTABLE**

*Panic Button*

Commissioner Gibbs stated that there should be some type of protection at the front desk.

The Board would like a report back on providing security on all District property.

*Letter to FreePress*

**Motion:** Commissioner Gibbs made a motion to approve the letter that Ray Giglio wrote to the Editor and have it sent to the FreePress. Commissioner Asdourian seconded the motion.

**Vote on Motion**

Member	Yes	No	Other
Commissioner Higgins	X		
Chairman Majeska			Absent
Commissioner Gibbs	X		
Commissioner Tobin	X		
Commissioner Asdourian	X		

**Motion passed 4 to 0**

*District Legislative Statue*

**Motion:** Commissioner Gibbs made a motion to leave the District Legislation as is. Commissioner Asdourian seconded the motion.

**Vote on Motion**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Commissioner Higgins</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Chairman Majeska</b>			<b>Absent</b>
<b>Commissioner Gibbs</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Commissioner Tobin</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Commissioner Asdourian</b>	<b>X</b>		

**Motion failed 2 to 2**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The KLWTD Board adjourned the Board Meeting 6:52 PM.

The KLWTD meeting minutes of Feb. 5, 2013 were approved on Feb. 19, 2013.



Chairman Majeska



Carol Walker, CMC District Clerk

EXHIBIT "A"

**Carol Walker**

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**From:** Susan Hammaker <susie@susiehammaker.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2013 2:36 PM  
**To:** Susan Hammaker  
**Cc:** Margaret Blank; Carol Walker  
**Subject:** KLWtD Public Comment 2/5/13  
  
**Importance:** High

**DON'T MAKE KEY LARGO RESIDENTS PAY TWICE FOR LOBBYIST SERVICES.**

Unincorporated Monroe County has two special districts with exclusive statutory responsibility to provide sewers. The Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District serves most of the island of Key Largo, and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority has exclusive authority to provide sewers for the portion of unincorporated Monroe County south of Islamorada.

The Key Largo district stepped up to the plate, assessed its residents, obtained grants, and borrowed money to build its system, at a cost of about \$140 million. The County chipped in around \$21 million. The incorporated cities also provided their own sewer funding, with some help from the County.

The Aqueduct stepped up to the plate and did ... NOTHING ... so the County assumed responsibility to fund sewers in the lower keys, using tax revenues from all of Monroe County. The sewer facilities in the Aqueduct portion of Monroe County cost more than the sewer facilities in Key Largo, but property owners there pay lower sewer assessments than property owners in Key Largo. In other words, Key Largo and the incorporated cities, which have already paid for their own sewers, are required to subsidize the cost of sewers in the portion of Monroe County that was supposed to be served by the Aqueduct.

A few years ago, the State of Florida authorized \$200 million in bonds to pay for sewers in Monroe County. The County is paying lobbyists to convince the State to issue the bonds. The County intends to pay for these lobbyists with County tax funds, to which all of us contribute. Now, the County wants to charge certain of its residents, in addition to their taxes, a fee for this lobbying effort.

Which residents are being asked for an additional contribution? The answer is Key Largo residents and residents of cities who have already funded for their sewer improvements with little County assistance. Apparently, the taxes paid by some of the residents of unincorporated Monroe County, are sufficient to pay for their share of the lobbying effort, but the taxes paid by Key Largo residents are not.

We ask you, the Board of County Commissioners to drop this illogical and unfair proposal to make Key Largo residents and residents of the cities pay twice for lobbying. Use the County funds, to which we have already contributed, for that effort.

**Susie**  
Susan Ford Hammaker RN PhD  
Chair Keys Ahead Inc.  
305.747.6060 cell