

MINUTES
Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District Transition (KLWTD)
Meeting



February 12, 2013
98880 OVERSEAS HWY, KEY LARGO, FL 33037

The Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District Board of Commissioners met for a Commission Meeting at 5:02 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

The General Manager added funding update. Acting Chairman Tobin added a report on Sewer Care. Commission Higgins added an item on a conversation with David Rice.

Agenda was accepted as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Name & Address

Sue Hammaker, Key Largo

Subject

Back Pay Exhibit "A"

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Mayfield Grant Inter-Local

Margaret Blank announced that the inter-local is on the BOCC's agenda and will be brought back to the Feb. 19, 2013 meeting for action.

Sewer Care

Paul Christian gave an update report on the sewer care computer system.

COMMISSIONER'S ROUNDTABLE

Washington D.C. Trip

Commissioner Gibbs asked for ideas to take to Washington D.C.

The Board canceled the March 5, 2015 meeting since the General Manager and a Commissioner will not be back from the DC trip by then.

David Rice

Commissioner Higgins reported a discussion he had with David Rice about funding the Super Lobbyist.

ADJOURNMENT

The KLWTD Board adjourned the Board Meeting 6:16 PM.

The KLWTD meeting minutes of Feb. 12, 2013 were approved on Feb. 19, 2013.



Chairman Majeska



Carol Walker, CMC District Clerk

EXHIBIT "A"

KLWTD Public Comment 2/12/13 –Susan Hammaker, Key Largo

My comment on retroactive pay for Commissioners is NO!

This smacks of trying to look good after voting yourselves a 27% pay increase regardless of what you've called it. Our ratepayers yearn for honest public servants rather than the image-driven blood-sucking political leeches they think they have.

And...how long will it take this Board to realize you do NOT -- and SHOULD NOT -- have to be paid by the meeting as Commissioners but can elect to be paid like the Co-Op for example -- by the month with ONE meeting -- I believe \$1000 a month plus certain benefits? Your pay would become approximately \$12,000 a year with a cost of living adjustment. When you factor in time for Margaret, Carol and others to prepare for 2 more meetings, use of the building, supplies and related expenses you might save the District perhaps \$2,000 to \$2,500 per meeting.

The work of Commissioners is *continuous* throughout the month. But now, Board and Transition meetings have become extra make-work for staff and frequently public agony for those in attendance, inefficiently and unprofessionally drawn out into extended hours.

Now that we are a UTILITY, one meeting a month, well structured and organized in advance, should be -- and was planned to be while I served -- sufficient. There is even an online AWWA certification class for wastewater commissioners -- mentioned in previous meetings while I was on the board -- which should be homework for every commissioner holding office.

When I first raised the need to have a Customer Service Department (~~3~~ 4 years ago), then CFO Marty Waits -- who Chuck knighted to be our first Customer Service head -- told me to realize it takes 6 or 7 times of bringing the idea before my fellow Commissioners before there would be positive action.

This is my 3rd mention of one monthly meeting and a monthly salary comparable to the Co-Op, so hopefully times have changed and you can spare yourselves my return visits!

PLEASE HAVE MERCY ON YOUR EXCELLENT STAFF AND YOUR LONG SUFFERING RATE PAYERS! VOTE NO ON RETROACTIVE PAY AND CONSIDER WORKING WITH STAFF TO BRING ABOUT ORGANIZATIONAL AND FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY WITH ONE WELL-PAID MEETING A MONTH.