

BOARD OF DIRECTOR’S MEETING

MAY 21, 2014

MEETING MINUTES

SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD OF NEW ORLEANS

ROLL CALL

The Interim Executive Director, Robert Miller, called the roll and showed the following members present: **Ms. Suchitra Satpathi, Mr. Wm. Raymond Manning, Mr. Marion Bracy, Ms. Kerri Kane, Mr. Glen Pilie, Mrs. Florence Schornstein, Mr. Charles F. Webb, *Dr. Beverly Wright, *Ms. Loyce Pierce Wright (Nine) and a quorum.

Absent: Mr. Mark M. Moody (One).

**Ms. Suchitra Satpathi, Mayor’s Representative

*Ms. Suchitra Satpathi, *Dr. Beverly Wright and *Ms. Loyce Pierce Wright were not present when roll was called, but arrived later during the meeting.

Also present were: Brenda Thornton, Communirep, Inc; Charles Kennedy, Jr., The Kennedy Financial Group; Terri Dupre, Meyer Engineers; Andrew Eagan, Eagan Insurance; Jason Akers, Foley & Judell; Donald Lambert, Hatch Mott MacDonald; Sharmaine A. James, Condall Consulting; Geneva Coleman, The Hawthorne Agency, Inc.; Paul T. West, Chester Engineers; Greg Kolenovsky, Trigon Associates.

Staff present were: Robert Miller, Executive Director’s Office; Joseph Becker, Madeline Fong Goddard, General Superintendent’s Office; Nolan Lambert, Special Counsel; Brian Ferrara, Harold Marchand, Legal Department; Kathleen LaFrance, Executive Director’s Office; Alvin Porter, EDBP Department; Steve Klepeis, Risk Management Department; Jacqueline K. Shine, Revenue Administration Department; Ethel Williams, Finance Administration Department; Dexter Joseph, Emanuel Lain, Budget Department; Jason Higginbotham, Emergency Management Department; Robert Jackson, Community & Intergovernmental Relations Department; Bobby Nathan, EEOC, Equal Employment Opportunity Department; Julia Thomas, Hazel Bell, Paula Arceneaux, Employee Incentive Committee (EIC); Denise McCray, Networks Engineering Department.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS REPORT

Mrs. Florence Schornstein moved to accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on April 16, 2014. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

HONORS AND AWARDS

(R-087-2014) – The Board honored employee, Ms. Denise McCray of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans. Ms. McCray is an Engineering Technician, who is responsible for designing and preparing plans for utility projects using computer-aided technology under the engineer’s supervision. During the month of April, Ms. Denise McCray was assigned to take the lead on a special project that required technical engineering skills and she accepted the challenge without hesitation. Due to new hires, she offered her support in the Network Engineering Department to assist with the preparation of the (PAC) Planning Advisory Committee Package. Because of her willingness to complete those special projects in a timely manner, Ms. Denise McCray is an asset to the Sewerage and Water Board.

*Ms. Suchitra Satpathi entered at this time.

The Finance Department was recognized, as the recipient of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Governmental Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for fiscal year 2012. Accolades were given to Mrs. Ethel Williams of the Finance Department of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans for her dedication and years of service. Mr. Miller announced the retirement of Mrs. Williams. The Board and the staff wished her well in her future endeavors and a happy retirement.

Mrs. Ethel Williams thanked the Board and staff for allowing her the opportunity to work for the Sewerage and Water Board. She also thanked her staff for their hard work and support throughout the years.

*Dr. Beverly Wright entered at this time.

*Ms. Loyce Pierce Wright entered at this time.

Board Members Honored

The President Pro Tem recognized and thanked the following Board Members for their years of service, expertise and dedication to the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans: Mr. Glen Pilie, Mrs. Florence Schornstein, Mr. Charles F. Webb, Dr. Beverly Wright, and Ms. Loyce Pierce Wright.

The Mayor’s representative Ms. Suchitra Satpathi presented the Board Members with proclamations on behalf of Mayor Mitchell Landrieu, to thank them for their service on the Board.

REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Robert Miller thanked the Board Members for their service and it has been a privilege to work with you and for you.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Joseph Becker reported on the summary and actions taken by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee Report for the month of May was presented and recommended for approval.

Dr. Beverly Wright moved acceptance of the Finance Committee Report and approval of the Finance Committee recommendations, therein. Mr. Charles F. Webb seconded the motion. The motion carried.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson, Mrs. Florence Schornstein reported on the summary and actions taken by the Infrastructure Committee. The Infrastructure Committee Report for the month of May was presented and recommended for approval.

Dr. Beverly Wright moved acceptance of the Infrastructure Committee Report and approval of the Infrastructure Committee recommendations for the month of May. Mr. Glen Pilie seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Marion Bracy requested if the Board could receive a copy of the General Superintendent’s power point presentation from May’s Infrastructure Committee Meeting.

PENSION COMMITTEE

Chairperson, Mr. Wm. Raymond Manning reported on the summary and actions taken by the Pension Committee.

The Pension Committee Report for the month of May was presented and recommended for approval.

Mrs. Florence Schornstein moved acceptance of the Pension Committee Report and approval of the Pension Committee recommendations, therein. Dr. Beverly Wright seconded the motion. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Chairperson, Mr. Wm. Manning reported on the summary and actions taken by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee Report for the month of May was presented and recommended for approval.

Mr. Charles F. Webb moved acceptance of the Executive Committee Report and approval of the Executive Committee recommendations inclusive of the Operations Committee recommendations, therein. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Loyce Pierce Wright stated she was present at the previous Board Meeting, but she is listed as absent in the report.

CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were adopted:

R-064-2014 – Recommendation for Award of Contract for Insurance Broker Services

R-071-2014 – The Sewerage and Water Board's 2014 Contribution to the Employees' Retirement System of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans

R-072-2014 – Commercial Insurance Policy for Automobile Fleet Liability

R-073-2014 – Amendment of Agreement between the City of New Orleans and the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funds for Retrofit of the Power Plant

R-074-2014 – Amendment to Agreement with CH2M Hill, Inc. for Program Management Services for Hurricane Related Water Restoration Projects

R-075-2014 – Amendment to Agreement with Stanley Consultants, Inc. for Design and Engineering Services for the Water Hammer Hazard Mitigation Project

R-076-2014 – Contract 1375 – Hurricane Katrina Related Repairs to Boilers/Duct/Elevator at the Main Water Purification Plant Power Complex

R-077-2014 – Contract 6250 – HMGP Generator Load Bank at Carrollton Water Plant

R-078-2014 – Contract 30009 – Restoration of Existing Gravity Sewer Mains by Excavation and Replacement from Manhole to Manhole at various sites throughout Orleans Parish

R-079-2014 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Furnishing Aerosol, Janitorial and Industrial Chemicals – Req. No. YW130009

R-080-2014 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Furnishing Iron Castings – Req. No. YW130036

R-081-2014 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Furnishing Reclaimed Asphaltic Pavement (RAP) – Req. No. YW130012

R-082-2014 – Second and Final Renewal of Contract for Collection Enforcement Services of Delinquent Accounts – Req. No. CD120001

R-083-2014 – Final Acceptance and Close Out to Contract 3692 – Restoration of Existing Gravity Sewer Mains by Excavation and Replacement from Manhole to Manhole

R-085-2014 – Resolution Requesting State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development Authorization to Advertise Florida Avenue Canal, Phases IV – State Project No. 576-36-0011 (334)/H.009247, Orleans Parish

R-086-2014 – Authorization for the Interim Executive Director to Execute an Agreement with Entergy New Orleans (ENO) for the Payment of Temporary Relocation and De-energizing of ENO’s Electric Distribution Facilities Along and Adjacent to the Vicinity of the Louisiana Avenue Phase SELA Project (Claiborne to Constance)

R-088-2014 – Resolution Honoring Glen Pilie

R-089-2014 – Resolution Honoring Florence Schornstein

R-090-2014 – Resolution Honoring Charles F. Webb

R-091-2014 – Resolution Honoring Dr. Beverly Wright

R-092-2014 – Resolution Honoring Loyce Pierce Wright

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

• Status Update on Selection of New Board Members

The Special Counsel, Mr. Nolan Lambert gave a status update on the selection process of the new Board Members. The recommendation of the new board members goes before the City Council tomorrow for approval.

Following a brief discussion, the Board expressed concerns with the establishment of quorums with fewer board members on the new board.

The President Pro Tem directed staff, to immediately begin the process of consulting with the Mayor’s office to determine those committee appointments following tomorrow’s City Council meeting. Lastly, Mr. Manning requested for staff to prepare orientation sessions for each board member including a thorough briefing as to their assignments and their role.

• Status Update on Appointment of New Executive Director

Mr. Lambert updated the Board on the status of hiring Mr. Cedric Grant as the new Executive Director. Currently, there is pending legislation in the Senate re: the new Executive Director and staff should receive more information within the next two weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

Authorization of Water and Sewer System Bond Issues

Mr. Miller noted the importance of the Board’s Strategic Plan to rebuild the finances and to refinance all of its outstanding water and sewer bonds to capture a significant economic savings, as well as fully fund the capital improvement program. Staff is asking the Board to take action on four items: two general bond resolutions, and then two first supplemental bond resolutions for the water and sewer systems.

- Mr. Charles F. Webb moved approval of the adoption of Water System General Bond Resolution, therein (R-093-2014). Mrs. Florence Schornstein seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- Dr. Beverly Wright moved approval of the adoption of the Water System First Supplemental Bond Resolution, therein (R-094-2014). Ms. Loyce Pierce Wright seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- Dr. Beverly Wright moved approval of the adoption of the Sewer System General Bond Resolution, therein (R-095-2014). Mr. Charles F. Webb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- Dr. Beverly Wright moved approval of the adoption of the Sewer System First Supplemental Bond Resolution, therein (R-096-2014). Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Marion Bracy moved to go into Executive Session re: legal matters. Ms. Kerri Kane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Marion Bracy moved to come out of Executive Session. Mrs. Florence Schornstein seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Charles F. Webb moved acceptance of recommendations of the Legal staff re: Claim of Keshia and Marques Dubuclet. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were submitted for informational purposes only:

- FEMA Status Report
- Report of the General Superintendent
- Report of the Special Counsel
- 2014 Committee/Board Meeting Schedule
- Financial Statements

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.