

BOARD OF DIRECTOR’S MEETING

JULY 16, 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, Mrs. Kerri Kane, Mr. Alan C. Arnold, Ms. Kimberly Thomas, Dr. Tamika Duplessis, Mr. Scott Jacobs, Mr. Joseph Peychaud, Mrs. Robin Barnes, Mr. Mark M. Moody (Eleven) and a quorum.

\*\*Ms. Suchitra Satpathi, Mayor’s Representative

Also present were: Brenda Thornton, Communirep, Inc; Cedric S. Grant, Deputy Mayor of Facilities, Infrastructure and Community Development; Mark Arnold, Gerald Preau, BCG; Geneva Coleman, The Hawthorne Agency, Inc.; Charles Kennedy, Jr., The Kennedy Financial Group; Sharmaine A. James, Condall Consulting; Renee’ Lapeyrolerie, CDM Smith; Lisa Cookmeyer, Trigon; Donald Lambert, Hatch Mott MacDonald; Barbara Major, The Collaborative; Susan Nolan, MWH; Hayne Rainey, City of New Orleans.

Staff present were: Robert Miller, Executive Director’s Office; Joseph Becker, Madeline Fong Goddard, General Superintendent’s Office; Nolan Lambert, Special Counsel; Brian Ferrara, Anthony Stewart, Legal Department; Kathleen LaFrance, Executive Director’s Office; Tiffany Carter, Veronica Johnson Christmas, EDBP Department; Jacqueline K. Shine, Revenue Administration Department; Rosita Thomas, Finance Administration Department; Dexter Joseph, Emmanuel Lain, Budget Department; Jason Higginbotham, Emergency Management Department; Robert Jackson, Community & Intergovernmental Relations Department; Julia Thomas, Paula Arceneaux, Employee Incentive Committee (EIC); Tegan Johnson, Networks Administration; Devon Hulbert, Telephone Center; Wayne Collins, Support Services Department; Glynn Clements, Machine Shop of Facilities Maintenance Department; Patricia Davenport, Meter Reading Department.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS REPORT

Ms. Suchitra Satpathi moved to accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 18, 2014. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

HONORS AND AWARDS

(R-138-2014) – The Board honored employees, Mr. Glynn Clements, Mr. Wayne Collins, Ms. Patricia Davenport, Mr. Devon Hulbert, and Ms. Tegan K. Johnson for being selected Employee Group of the month for July 2014. On June 7, 2014, the city of New Orleans hosted its seventh NOLA FOR LIFE Event. Over 200 volunteers joined city officials, local organizations and residents at Stallings/Gentilly Playground to help make a difference through service projects and its resource fair. The Honorable Mayor Mitchell J. Landrieu states that public safety remains our number one priority so we are staying the course to create safe communities across the city. Ms. Kathleen LaFrance volunteered by coordinating the joint efforts between the city and the Board for community projects such as NOLA FOR LIFE events. This year, Mr. Clements, Mr. Collins, Ms. Davenport, Mr. Hulbert, and Ms. Johnson volunteered their time to support this effort by assisting with trash pick-up, painting, tree giveaways, light-bulb distribution, and resource informational hand-outs.

These employees’ were honored for their actions above and beyond routine duties. The resolutions were adopted by acclamation.

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**REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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The Interim Executive Director, Mr. Robert Miller directed Special Counsel, Mr. Nolan Lambert, to briefly speak about the process of developing and revising the Board’s Professional Services Procurement Policy. Also, he introduced the new Economically Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Director, Ms. Tiffany Carter, and asked her to provide an overview of the DBE program of the Sewerage and Water Board inclusive of its certification and evaluation processes for DBE firms.

Mr. Alan Arnold recommended having Ms. Carter in attendance at other committee meetings to answer any questions the Board may have re: DBE program. He also expressed concerns relative to how DBE firms are selected.

Mr. Nolan Lambert explained how a Committee made up of some academia looks at the qualifications and determines whether or not a firm is DBE qualified or not.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairperson, Mr. Mark M. Moody reported on the summary and actions taken by the Finance Committee. Staff was directed to add Mrs. Robin Barnes suggestion re: BCG Engineering & Consultant contract. Ms. Barnes suggested that this project might be the ideal time to consider green infrastructure elements as they pertain to SELA since we are in the design and planning stage.

The General Superintendent, Mr. Joseph Becker stated staff will encourage the consultant to include the green infrastructure in the design package for the General DeGaulle Canal. Also, Mr. Becker recommended the removal of the item re: Amendment to Sewer System Evaluation and Rehabilitation Program Management with MWH from the Finance report.

Mr. Joseph Peychaud moved acceptance of the Finance Committee Report and approval of the Finance Committee recommendations, with exception of matters related to the MWH America. Mr. Mark M. Moody seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Arnold requested more information be placed within minutes. Mr. Manning directed staff to email Board members the website link to view recordings of the Sewerage and Water Board Committee meetings online. This will allow non-Committee members the opportunity to view any Committee meeting at their leisure.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Chairperson, Mrs. Kerri Kane reported on the summary and actions taken by the Infrastructure Committee. The Infrastructure Committee Report for the month of July was presented and recommended for approval.

Following further discussion re: Committee/Board meeting minutes, Mr. Manning recommended the Board allow the new Executive Director the opportunity to come on board prior to making any suggestions or changes as to how the minutes are done.

Mr. Alan Arnold moved acceptance of the Infrastructure Committee Report and approval of the Infrastructure Committee recommendations for the month of July. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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 July was presented and recommended for approval.

Mr. Alan Arnold stated there is a selection committee to evaluate the RFP of the investment consultant and there is no Board Member seat on that committee.

Mr. Lambert maintained the rationale of the Board’s selection process and its best practices scenario re: transparency. Therefore, staff would make those recommendations based upon selection criteria, selection process and make it competitive and as fair as possible. Next, the firm(s) is recommended, then it goes before the full Board, to either accept it or to terminate the process; keeping in line with the Board’s Executive Order.

The Mayor’s representative, Ms. Suchitra Satpathi stated the Board’s retirement contributions are paid on behalf of the employee. The Pension Committee makes recommendations. The Board always has the purview to accept, reject or question the recommendation.

Mr. Lambert requested for Deputy Special Counsel, Mr. Brian Ferrara to discuss Pension Committee matters and the recommendation process. Mr. Ferrara stated that any changes recommended by the Pension Committee would then be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for action, and finally to the full Board.

- Mr. Alan Arnold moved to suggest before the Pension Selection Committee meets, for it to be redesigned with the removal of employee(s), so the full committee could come to an equal agreement.
- There was so second to the motion. The motion failed.

Mrs. Kerri Kane moved acceptance of the Pension Committee Report and approval of the Pension Committee recommendations for the month of July. Ms. Suchitra Satpathi seconded the motion. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

Mr. Marion Bracy moved acceptance of the Executive Committee Report and approval of the Executive Committee recommendations for the month of July. Mr. Mark M. Moody seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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**CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS**

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The following resolutions were adopted:

R-121-2014 – Renewal of Agreement for MS4 Stormwater Annual Report/Water Sampling Services with Veolia Water North America – South, LLC

R-122-2014 – Amendment to Agreement with BCG Engineering and Consulting, Inc. (Formerly Brown, Cunningham & Gannuch, Inc.) for Professional Services for the SELA Program

R-123-2014 – Furnishing Safety Shoes – Req. No. YW140028

R-124-2014 – Furnishing #1 All Purpose Rag Wipers – Req. No. YW140030

R-125-2014 – Emergency Letter Bids for Furnishing Roof Repairs to Central Control at Carrollton Water Purification Facility – Req. No. PM140039

R-126-2014 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Furnishing Sewer Repair Couplings – Req. No. YW130013

R-127-2014 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Rebuilding and Reinstalling Automatic Transmissions in Automobiles and Small Trucks – Req. No. GI130035

R-128-2014 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Rebuilding and Installing Automotive Remanufactured Engines and Related Parts – Req. No. YW130055

R-129-2014 – First of Three One-Year Renewals of Contract for Furnishing Solid Waste Disposal Services – Req. No. PM130010

R-130-2014 – Final Acceptance and Close Out to Contract 3697 – Restoration of Existing Gravity Sewer Mains Damaged by Hurricane Katrina by Excavation and Replacement from Manhole to Manhole, CIPP Lining from Manhole to Manhole and Point Repairs at various sites throughout Orleans Parish

R-131-2014 – Commercial Flood Insurance Policy for Facilities

R-133-2014 – Resolution and Authorization to Enter into a Contract with Quick & Associates, Forensic Consulting Engineering Services for Napoleon Phase II of the SELA Project. The Cost and Scope of Which are delineated as the Alternate Proposal in the Attached Proposal for Services Received from Quick & Associates, Inc.

R-134-2014 – Authorization to Amend Contract with CH2M Hill, Inc. for Program Management Services for Hurricane Related Water Restoration Projects

R-135-2014 – Resolution to Approve Law Firms to Provide Professional Legal Services

R-136-2014 – Amendment to Agreement with Trigon Associates, LLC for Waterline Replacement Program

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### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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#### Amendment to Agreement with MWH Americas, Inc. for Sewer System Evaluation and Rehabilitation Program Management (R-132-2014)

The Deputy Superintendent, Ms. Madeline Goddard provided background information relative to staff's request for the Board's authorization to amend the agreement with MWH Americas, Inc. for additional efforts associated with the sewer collection system hydraulic models for the East and West Banks. It is the recommendation of staff for an extension of time for an additional five years is necessary to align the end of the agreement for completion of all work needed with the Third Modified Consent Decree.

Mr. Mark Moody asked staff what work is needed as part of this extension and would it be completed within the five year timeline.

Mr. Joseph Becker stated the current contract is through 2016 and this amendment would extend five-years to 2021. Staff is confident the work would be completed in a timely matter.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Scott Jacobs voiced his concern with the prior Board Members' involvement in this process, and if this agreement was amended to reflect staff recommendation.

Mr. Becker stated the above agreement was a staff recommendation brought before the full Board.

Mr. Scott Jacobs moved approval of the Amendment with MWH Americas, Inc. for Sewer System Evaluation and Rehabilitation Program Management or resolution (R-132-2014), therein. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

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Appointment of New Executive Director (R-137-2014)

Mr. Miller requested the Board’s consideration and approval of the appointment of Mr. Cedric S. Grant as the new Executive Director of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.

Mr. Marion Bracy moved approval of the Appointment of the New Executive Director, as stated in resolution (R-137-2014), therein. Ms. Kimberly Thomas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The new Executive Director, Mr. Cedric Grant thanked the Board and the staff for allowing him the opportunity to lead this agency. Mr. Grant presented an outline of his goals for reforming and improving the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans inclusive of Infrastructure Management Integration; Training, Job Opportunities, and Organizational Change; Financial Integration; Business Process Integration; Environmental Integration; and Intergovernmental Integration.

Mr. Wm. Raymond Manning stated he wanted to take this time to recognize and thank the Interim Executive Director, Mr. Robert Miller for his leadership during this period, since Mrs. St. Martin’s departure. Mr. Miller has been acting as our Interim Executive Director. The Board thanked Mr. Miller for his service and recent success with the bond sales of the Sewerage and Water Board.

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**ANY OTHER MATTERS**

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Speaker Card

Ms. Barbara Major of the Collaborative Group addressed the Board and thanked them for a successful DBE Program on behalf of the citizens and businesses throughout New Orleans.

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**INFORMATION ITEMS**

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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

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**ADJOURNMENT**

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There being no further business the meeting adjourned.