

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

MEETING MINUTES

SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD OF NEW ORLEANS

ROLL CALL

The Executive Director, Cedric S. Grant, called the roll and showed the following members present: **Ms. Suchitra Satpathi, Mr. Wm. Raymond Manning, Mr. Alan Arnold, Mr. Marion Bracy, Mrs. Robin Barnes, Mrs. Kerri Kane, Mr. Joseph Peychaud, Dr. Tamika Duplessis, Ms. Kimberly Thomas (Nine) and a quorum.

Absent: Mr. Mark M. Moody, Mr. Scott Jacobs (Two).

**Ms. Suchitra Satpathi, Mayor's Representative

Also present were: Brenda Thornton, Communirep, Inc; Richard Rainey, Times Picayune; Derrick Francis, City of New Orleans; Sharmaine A. James, Condall Consulting; Geneva Coleman, The Hawthorne Agency, Inc.; Randy Smith, Royal Engineers; Richard Murley, Chester Engineers.

Staff present were: Cedric S. Grant, Executive Director; Robert Miller, Deputy Director; 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; Tiffany Carter, Alvin Porter, Veronica Johnson Christmas, EDBP Department; Michael LaPorte, Personnel Department; Jacqueline K. Shine, Revenue Administration Department; Rosita Thomas, Finance Administration Department; Dexter Joseph, Emanuel Lain, Budget Department; Bobby Nathan, EEOC, Equal Employment Opportunity Department; Raymond Gable, Irma Mahannuar, Michael Roberts, Internal Audit Department; Paul Arceneaux, Julia Thomas, Employee Incentive Committee (EIC); Jay Pedesclaux, John Wilson, Support Services Administration.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS REPORT

Mrs. Kerri Kane moved to accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 20, 2014. Mrs. Robin Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

HONORS AND AWARDS

(R-205-2014) – The Board honored employee, Mr. Jay Pedesclaux, Building Maintenance Superintendent of the Support Services Administration, he is responsible for the daily operations of the Public Works Building Maintenance Department. Mr. Pedesclaux has worked diligently in resolving day to day issues with the construction of the Site Relocation Facility Building at the Central Yard location, which is a new maintenance building to Central Yard. He has dedicated countless hours of extra work in order to facilitate the contractor achievement towards the target completion of construction task. Because of his extraordinary efforts, this building is 98% complete.

This employee was honored for his actions above and beyond routine duties. The resolution was adopted by acclamation.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director, Mr. Cedric S. Grant presented a slide overview on the Update of his progress of the 100 Day Integrated Management Plan of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans. His presentation focused on the following updates:

- Organizational Change
 - Restructure Board Committee Responsibilities
 - Implement Economic Opportunities Program
 - Link S&WB Managers to Economic Opportunity Staff for Recruitment
 - Expand Partnership with Delgado Community College – Bridging the Skills Gap for Water Management in New Orleans
- Five Year Goal to Train and Hire machinists, plant workers/operators, mechanics, electricians, and welders
- Convene DBE Summit
 - USDOT Seminar on DBE Programs
 - Align all City DBE Programs
- Infrastructure Management
 - Implement City/S&WB CEA for Coordinated Infrastructure Management
 - Continue Integration of S&WB and DPW Engineering Staffs
 - Integrate S&WB and DPW Maintenance Staffs

- “A Bump in the Road”, Connecting, Correcting and Coordinating Street Repairs
 - Public Meeting with Joint Presentations and Discussions by DPW and S&WB
- Infrastructure System – Path Forward
- Business Process Integration
 - Customer Service Improvements – New Service Center, New Processes
 - New Billing System
 - New Customer Account Management System Capabilities
- Intergovernmental Integration
 - Serve as Point Agency for: C40 Global Initiative on Climate Change

He also discussed, he would be serving as a point agency at next week’s C40 Global Initiative on Climate Change at their invitation to give a major policy address on green infrastructure and our implementation of it in the Netherlands.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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 September was presented and recommended for approval.

Mr. Marion Bracy moved acceptance of the Infrastructure Committee Report and approval of the Infrastructure Committee recommendations, therein. Mrs. Robin Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

PENSION COMMITTEE

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

Mr. Alan Arnold inquired about the Board recognizing the changes made in the Board of Trustees Meeting re: Investment Consultant.

The Special Counsel, Mr. Nolan Lambert maintained the Board of Trustees acts as a separate entity of the Board. However, the Board could accept the Pension Committee Report of the minutes from its September 3, 2014 Pension Committee Meeting, and not the recommendations.

Mr. Marion Bracy moved acceptance of the Pension Committee Report of the minutes from its September 3, 2014 meeting, therein. Mrs. Kerri Kane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairperson, Mr. Marion Bracy stated that he may have to leave the meeting soon and he requested Dr. Tamika Duplessis to report on the summary and actions taken by the Operations Committee. The Operations Committee Report for the month of September was presented and recommended for approval.

Dr. Tamika Duplessis moved acceptance of the Operations Committee Report and approval of the Operations Committee recommendations, therein. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Bracy stated as part of the summary report of the Operations Committee, he would like to have Mr. Robert Miller report on the Customer Service Department updates and information pertaining to the customer service improvements of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.

Mr. Miller updated the Board relative to the Customer Service Department's improvements such as the computer software replacement. He highlighted key components of the new Billing System, providing mobile APP for customers to manage their accounts from their Smart Phone, and a mobile workforce component. These customer service updates and more would take approximately 18 months.

Mr. Bracy thanked Mr. Miller for his report and he stated the Operations Committee continues to move forward to address the needs of the customers and community. No action is required at this time. This report was for informational purposes only.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

Mr. Marion Bracy moved acceptance of the Executive Committee Report and approval of the Executive Committee recommendations, therein. Ms. Suchitra Satpathi seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Board thanked staff on its Group Life Insurance Policy for providing a cost savings to the Sewerage and Water Board.

CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were adopted:

R-187-2014 – Request for the City Council to set the Sewerage and Water Board Millage Rates for 2015

R-188-2014 – East Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit

R-189-2014 – Authorization to Amend Contract with Chester Engineers, Inc. for Program Management Services for Hurricane Related Drainage Restoration Projects

R-190-2014 – West Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit

R-191-2014 – Ratification of Change Order No. 8 for Contract 3661 – Modifications to East Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection System

R-192-2014 – Change Order No. 5 for Contract 5221 – Hurricane Katrina Related Repairs to Pontchartrain Boulevard Drainage Underpass Pumping Station

R-193-2014 – Change Order No. 4 for Contract 5222 – Hurricane Katrina Related Repairs to Canal Boulevard Drainage Underpass Pumping Station

R-194-2014 – Change order No. 4 for Contract 5223 – Hurricane Katrina Related Repairs to St. Bernard Avenue Drainage Underpass Pumping Station

R-195-2014 – Change Order No. 5 for Contract 5226 – Hurricane Katrina Related Repairs to Franklin Avenue Drainage Underpass Pumping Station

R-196-2014 – Ratification of Change Order No. 6 for Contract 6247 – Hazard Mitigation Grant Project – Retrofit of Generator #4

R-199-2014 – Furnishing Engine Driven Portable Pump Packages – Req. No. CN140005

R-200-2014 – Removal of Debris from 72-Inch Drain Line on Jefferson Davis Parkway – Req. No. CN140030

R-201-2014 - Contract 3986 – Ninth Ward Area Sewer Rehabilitation – Sewer Rehabilitation No. 5

R-202-2014 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Furnishing Hot Mix Asphalt – Req. No. YW130007

R-203-2014 – 2014 – 2016 Employee Assistance Program

R-204-2014 – Group Life Insurance Policy

R-206-2014 – Resolution to Authorize Executive Director to Execute Agreements Related to Statewide Flood Control Funding of the Louisiana Avenue Canal – State Project No. H.011352, Orleans Parish

R-207-2014 – Resolution to Authorize Executive Director to Execute Agreements Related to Financial Participation in Operation and Maintenance Costs Associated with the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway West Closure Complex

R-209-2014 – Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Drainage System Refunding Bonds, Series 2014

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.