

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

JUNE 17, 2015

MEETING MINUTES

SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD OF NEW ORLEANS

ROLL CALL

The Board of Directors of Sewerage and Water Board met on Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 9:00 AM in the Board Room at 625 St. Joseph Street. The Executive Director, Cedric S. Grant, called the roll and showed the following members present: Ms. Suchitra Satpathi representing Mayor Landrieu, Mr. Wm. Raymond Manning, Mr. Alan Arnold, Mr. Marion Bracy, Mrs. Robin Barnes, Dr. Tamika Duplessis, Mrs. Kerri Kane, Mr. Joseph Peychaud (Eight).

The following members were absent: Mr. Scott Jacobs, Mr. Mark M. Moody and Ms. Kimberly Thomas (Three).

Also present were: Brenda Thornton, Communirep, Inc.; Geneva Coleman, The Hawthorne Agency, Inc.; Terry Dupre, Meyer Engineers; Kurt M. Evans, Digital Engineering; Amer Tufail, Greenpoint Engineering; Marian Pierre, CGI; Richard Briscot, Gulf South Engineering; Stephen Stuart, BGR.

Staff present were: Cedric S. Grant, Executive Director; Robert Miller, Deputy Director; Joseph Becker, General Superintendent; Nolan Lambert, Special Counsel; Harold Marchand, Anthony Stewart, Legal Department; Willie Mingo, Purchasing Department; Robert Jackson, Community & Intergovernmental Relations Department; Jason Higginbotham, Emergency Management Department; Tiffany Carter, EDBP Department; Emanuel Lain, Budget Department; Raymond Gable, Internal Audit Department; John Wilson, Support Services Department.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS REPORT

Mr. Marion Bracy moved to accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on May 20, 2015. Mr. Joseph Peychaud seconded the motion. The motion carried.

HONORS AND AWARDS

The Executive Director, Mr. Cedric S. Grant stated that, although there are no official awards for this month, he wants to acknowledge and take this time to honor the entire staff of Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans for their quick response in repairing underwater water main breaks during the rain event that occurred a few weeks ago.

The President Pro Tem and the Board thanked staff for their quick response in handling these repairs.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director, Mr. Cedric S. Grant reported on the Board's outreach efforts in which the staff of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans presented the Tracking Tool for Commitments to the City Council at the City Council's Public Works Committee on May 5, 2015. He also discussed water plant tour in which staff prepared for the Water Ministers from Bangladesh on June 3, 2015, and staff participated in the Leaders Exchange Conference in Mobile, Alabama on June 8, 2015. He was a keynote speaker at the New Orleans Rotary Club and the Civic Leadership Academy on June 10, 2015. He invited the Board Members to attend and to participate in the upcoming Water Environment Federation (WEF) Great Water Cities Conference scheduled to be held in New Orleans July 21-22, 2015.

Mr. Grant introduced the Program Manager for SELA, Ms. Lori Wingate re: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – SELA Community Outreach Initiative Program. Ms. Lori Wingate provided a slide presentation of the Corps SELA Community Outreach Initiative program. She reported on the quality of life issues re: neighborhoods adversely affected by the construction activity of these capital improvement projects and the process to address the issues of the residents.

Following the presentation, the Board expressed concerns with issues raised by residents and business owners in the uptown area re: SELA construction projects and how the Corps would address these issues. Ms. Wingate stated the Corps is trying to keep residents and businesses informed of construction issues prior to the waterline replacements and water tie-ins; making sure the contractors stay on schedule, and leaving flyers to inform them of upcoming construction projects. Following further discussion, the Board recommended educating the community about various phases of the SELA projects and the timeline of each project as part of its outreach efforts, and programs. Mr. Grant stated he is in contact with Colonel Richard Hansen to address these issues and to create robust outreach efforts.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

The Chairperson, Mr. Marion Bracy, reported on the summary and actions taken by the Operations Committee. Mr. Joseph Peychaud moved acceptance of the Operations Committee Report and approval of the Operations Committee recommendations, therein. Mrs. Kerri Kane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Acting Chairperson, Mr. Wm. Manning, reported on the summary of actions taken at the Finance Committee Meeting. Mr. Marion Bracy moved acceptance of the Finance Committee Report and approval of the Finance Committee recommendations therein, with the removal of Item 4 regarding Approval of Preliminary Authorizing Resolutions for Water Revenue Service Bonds and Sewer Revenue Service Bonds to be considered separately. Mr. Joseph Peychaud seconded the motion. The motion carried.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

The Chairperson, Mrs. Kerri Kane, reported on the summary and actions taken by the Infrastructure Committee. Mrs. Kerri Kane 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. Manning, reported on the summary and actions taken by the Pension Committee. Mrs. Kerri Kane moved acceptance of the Pension Committee Report and approval of the Pension Committee recommendations, therein. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VERBAL REPORT

The Deputy Director, Mr. Robert Miller provided a verbal summary report on the actions taken by the Executive Committee Meeting immediately prior to the Regular Board Meeting. Mr. Alan Arnold moved acceptance of the Executive Committee report as stated by Mr. Robert Miller and the recommendations, therein. Mr. Marion Bracy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were adopted in conjunction with approval of the Committee reports:

R- 099-2015 – Ratification of Change Order No. 1 for Contract 3986 – Lower Ninth Ward Area Sewer Rehabilitation No. 5

R-100-2015 – Ratification of Change Order No. 2 for Contract 2105 – Replacement of CBD/FQ Water Lines Damaged by Hurricane Katrina

R-101-2015 – Ratification of Change Order No. 1 for Contract 3696 – Cleaning and CCTV Sanitary Sewer Mains at Scattered sites throughout Orleans Parish

R-102-2015 – Ratification of Change Order No. 12 for Contract 1350 – Hurricane Related Repairs to Turbine 4 at the Carrollton Water Purification Plant – Power Complex

R-103-2015 – Ratification of Change Order No. 12 for Contract 3661 – Modifications to East Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection System

R-104-2015 – Furnishing and Delivering Hand Tools, Hardware Supplies, Paint & Paint Supplies – Req. No. YW150007

R-105-2015 – Furnishing and Delivering Hoses & Accessories – Req. No. YW150008

R-106-2015 – Furnishing and Delivering Safety Supplies – Req. No. YW150009

R-107-2015 – Furnishing Janitorial Services for the S&WB Main Office Building at 625 St. Joseph Street, 830 Julia Street Annex and 4021 Behrman Place, Suite M2 Annex – Req. No. YW150003

R-108-2015 – Contract 3795 – Modification to the Return Activated Sludge PS and Pipeline at the East Bank Sewer Treatment Plant

R-109-2015 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Furnishing #1 All Purpose Rag Wipers – Req. No. YW140030

R-110-2015 – First and Final Renewal of Contract for Furnishing Safety Shoes – Req. No. YW140028

R-112-2015 – Amendment to Agreement with CH2M Hill, Inc. for Design and Engineering Services for the Retrofit Power Plant Hazard Mitigation Grant Project

R-113-2015 – Amendment No. 5 to the Agreement between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Waldemar S. Nelson and Company for Hurricane Katrina Related Water Restoration Projects

R-114-2015 – Award of Contract to Provide Design and Engineering Services for the Replacement of the Sycamore Filter Gallery Backwash Pumps

R-115-2015 – Award of Contract to ILSI to Provide Engineering Services for the Water Line Replacement Program

R-116-2015 – Award of Contract to Provide Design and Engineering Services for Sewer Pump Station #1

R-117-2015 – Award of Green Infrastructure Project – Treme – St. Ann Rain Garden Project to Historic Faubourg Treme Association

R-121-2015 – Award of Contract to Quick & Associates to Provide Forensic Consulting Engineering Services for the Louisiana Avenue and Florida Avenue SELA Projects

NEW BUSINESS

Preliminary Authorizing Resolutions for Water and Sewer Bond Issues (R-118-2015 & R-119-2015)

Mr. Robert Miller described the Board's plans to issue new money bonds to provide funding for capital improvements to the water and the sewer systems. This authorization allows staff to proceed with necessary steps to seek the approval for the bonds from the Board of Liquidation, the State Bond Commission, and the City Council. He recommended adoption of the draft resolutions for Preliminary Approval for 2015 Water System Bonds and Preliminary Approval for 2015 Sewer System Bonds. Mr. Alan Arnold requested staff to prepare a presentation at the next month's Finance Committee meeting regarding an in-depth discussion of the Sewerage and Water Board's 2015 Capital Budget.

Mr. Manning requested a Roll Call Vote on the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Preliminary Approval for 2015 Water System Bonds resolution R-118-2015. All of the Board Members present voted in favor of the above Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Preliminary Approval for 2015 Water System Bonds resolution. There were a total of Eight (8) Yeas; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Manning requested a Roll Call Vote on the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Preliminary Approval for 2015 Sewerage System Bonds resolution R-119-2015. All of the Board Members present voted in favor of the above Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Preliminary Approval for 2015 Sewerage System Bonds resolution. There were a total of Eight (8) Yeas; the motion passed unanimously.

Proposed Changes to By-Laws regarding Board Committees

Mr. Grant discussed the proposed changes to responsibilities of the committees of the Board of Directors as follows:

Audit	Ensuring compliance with regulations.
Governance	Managing business of Board.
Finance	Aligning resources with objectives.
Pension	Managing pension fund investments.
Plumbing	Maintaining plumbing code.
Strategy	Establishing long-term objectives, identifying risks, setting strategy.

He also reviewed a crosswalk of responsibilities from the existing committee structure to the proposed committee structure. He asked the Board to review the proposed changes and to bring back their ideas or recommendations during committee meetings in July.

Mr. Grant stated that the proposed changes would be incorporated into draft language in the Bylaws for layover at the July meeting and consideration for adoption at the August meeting.

Declaration of Vacancy on the Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans (R-120-2015)

Mr. Robert Miller reported on the vacancy of the Council District “E” position on the Board of Directors for the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans which expired and was declared vacant effective May 22, 2015. On June 4, 2015, the City Council of New Orleans approved the Mayor’s appointment of Dr. Tamika Duplessis to replace Mr. Moody as the Council District “E” Member effective June 30, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2019; and also on June 4, 2015, the City Council of New Orleans approved the Mayor’s appointment of Robin A. Barnes to replace Dr. Tamika Duplessis as an “At-Large” Member of the Board of Directors for the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans for a term effective June 30, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2019. Therefore, on June 30, 2015, the term of the Council District “B” Member previously held by Robin Barnes would be vacated.

He recommended the adoption of the Declaration of Vacancy of Council District “B” Member on the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans position presently being held by Robin Barnes be hereby declared vacant effective July 1, 2015 and to authorize staff to advertise a Notice of Vacancy for City Council District “B” Member on the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans as stated in resolution, therein R-120-2015.

Mr. Peychaud moved approval of the Declaration of Vacancy of Council District “B” Member on the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans. Mrs. Robin Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATION

SELA Programs Claim Process

The Special Counsel, Mr. Nolan Lambert, discussed the Sewerage and Water Board’s new program that would assign on-site community liaisons to each ongoing SELA project with the goal of providing a proactive resolution to address the concerns of the citizens. He presented the program and its functions, with the goal being to have a proactive observance of quality of life issues such as matters involving traffic control, parking, emergency access, garbage collection and public transportation. They will accept complaints in the field and forward to the Hawthorne Agency for processing; follow-up and confirm complaint resolutions, forwarding the same to the Hawthorne Agency which shall provide regular updates to the Executive Director and the Legal Department; distribute claims process materials including the brochure detailing the SELA claims process to residents. Mr. Lambert stated a liaison from each party of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, contractors, Department of Public Works, and the Sewerage and Water Board would provide a contact person to handle quality of life issues. Also, there would be a follow-up report of all complaints provided to the Executive Director and the Legal Department on a regular basis regarding SELA claims process.

Following a discussion, the Board requested staff to report to the Board on a monthly basis on the complaint/claims process. Mr. Anthony Stewart of the Legal Department explained the Sewerage and Water Board's current damage and claims process regarding the Dwyer Intake Canal update on a class action lawsuit and other litigation matters. Mrs. Robin Barnes expressed concern with business interruptions; particularly the small businesses and she offered to provide information to staff identifying organizations that could help these businesses.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were submitted for informational purposes only:

- FEMA Status Report
- Report of the General Superintendent
- Report of the Special Counsel
- 2015 Committee/Board Meeting Schedule
- Financial Statements

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.