



"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY"

Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS

MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU, President
Robert Miller, Interim Executive Director

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Board of Directors' Special Meeting
2nd Floor Boardroom
Friday, October 13, 2017
9:00 AM

Minutes

I. Call to Order – the Honorable Board President

Roll Call – Quorum Established

- The Honorable Mitchell J. Landrieu – Present
- Director Alan Arnold – Present
- Director Robin Barnes – Present
- Director Eric C. Blue – Absent
- Director Marion Bracy – Present
- Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis – Present
- Director Ralph Johnson – Present
- Director Joseph Peychaud – Present
- Director Stacy Horn Koch – Present

Prior to the start of the meeting, Honorable Mitchell Landrieu informed the Board that one of New Orleans' police officers, Marcus McNeil, was killed on Thursday night, October 12, 2017. Mayor Landrieu asked the Board to join him in a moment of silence for the fallen officer and his family.

II. Interim Leadership Appointments

Honorable Mitchell Landrieu informed the Board that October 13, 2017 is the last meeting that Mr. Robert Miller would be with the Board. In order for the Board to have continuous leadership and operation, the Board has to appoint interim positions for the replacement of General Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer. Hon. Mitchell asked that the Board go into Executive Session.

Director Marion Bracy moved to go into Executive Session. Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis seconded. The motion carried.

III. Executive Session

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis moved to exit Executive Session and enter Regular Session. Director Joseph Peychaud seconded. The motion carried.

Director Marion Bracy moved that the Board appoint Mr. Bruce Adams as Interim General Superintendent and to authorize Mr. Adams to contract what the Board has up to the level currently authorized for the Executive Director's position to attend to the publication of all motions, notices and resolutions as required, and to have him placed current on the corporate bank account. Director Robin Barnes seconded. The motion carried.

IV. Contracts Approval

Mr. Robert Miler felt that it was in the public's interest and in the interest of transparency that he bring these recommendations before the Board after he became aware that he had developed both recommendations and would, therefore, be signing off on his own recommendations. Mayor Landrieu emphasized that Mr. Miller did not have to bring this matter before the Board because he was given signatory authority to sign contracts up to \$1 million.

Director Joseph Peychaud moved to approve the Automated Meter Reading Amendment (R-119-2017). Marion Bracy seconded. The motion carried.

For clarification, the first part would allow the consultant, Utiliworks, to proceed with the procurement of the major contract.

Already under contract are:

- Readiness Assessment
- Presentations to the Board in November and December
- Preparation of procurement documents and leading Board through procurement

The overall amended contract with Utiliworks will be at a cost of \$400,000.

We are now in phase two – the business process – which includes work performance in a pure consulting roll and not installation of meters. Once the system is installed, the consulting team will be defining the skills, compensation and training needed to operate the system, already a part of the original Readiness Assessment. Mr. Terrence Ginn will take over the oversight of this software system following the departure of Mr. Robert Miller. Mr. Miller stated that the annual maintenance cost is within affordability and strongly recommended the approval of this amendment.

Director Marion Bracy moved to approve (R-120-2017). Director Stacy Horn Koch seconded. The motion carried.

V. Discussion Item

In reference to the Executive Search Firm RFP, Mr. Robert Miller stated there are two ways to proceed:

- The Board can go out and build the specifications of every attribute that it wants in terms of qualifications, experience and personality.

- The Board can go out to the Market Place and say that it intends to procure a firm to search for a utility chief executive. Then ask for their approach and price.

The process has begun to form an ad hoc search committee to make this RFP very straightforward and simple as quickly as possible. The Board will also be doing a search for a CFO and an engineer. The positions will be scalable, but the search needs to start at the top.

VI. Other Matters

Hon. Mitchell Landrieu reiterated that this was the last meeting that Mr. Miller would be attending. Mayor Landrieu mentioned that Mr. Miller had been a great asset to the organization and thanked him for all the work he had done. Hon. Mitchell Landrieu presented Mr. Robert Miller with a Certificate of Recognition from the City of New Orleans and a 300th Anniversary of New Orleans necktie. Board members acknowledged their appreciation for having worked with Mr. Miller.

- VII. Adjournment** – The Honorable Board President requested a motion to adjourn. Director Marion Bracy moved to adjourn. Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.