

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

June 17, 2019

MEETING MINUTES

SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD OF NEW ORLEANS

ROLL CALL

The Board of Directors for the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) met on Wednesday June 17, 2019 at approximately 9:00 AM in the Board Room at 625 St. Joseph Street. Special Counsel, Ms. Yolanda Grinstead, called the roll and confirmed the following members were present: Director Joseph Peychaud, Director Lynes Sloss, Director Ralph Johnson, Director Alejandra Guzman, Councilmember Jay H. Banks, Director Janet Howard, and Hon. LaToya Cantrell.

The following member(s) were absent: Directors: Robin Barnes, Dr. Tamika Duplessis and Dr. Maurice Sholas.

Also present were: Mr. Ramsey Green, Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure; Ms. Brenda Thorton, CommuniRep; Mr. Lloyd Lazard; Mr. Happy Johnson; Ms. Nina Reins, Freese and Nichols.

Staff present were: Mr. Ghassan Korban, Executive Director; Mr. Robert Turner, General Superintendent; Ms. Yvette Downs, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Candace N. Newell, Board Relations Manager; Ms. Christy Harowski, Chief of Staff; Mr. Bruce Adams, Deputy General Superintendent; Mr. Richard Rainey, Chief Communications Officer; Ms. Yolanda Grinstead, Special Counsel; Mr. Darryl Harrison, Deputy Special Counsel; Mr. Dexter Joseph, Budget Department; Mr. Robert Jackson, Customer Service; Ms. Conestler Green, Purchasing; Ms. Irma Plummer, EDBP; Ms. Grace Birch, Communications; Mr. Jason Higginbotham, Emergency Management, SWBNO; Ms. Brionne Lindsey, Board Relations.

Prior to beginning the meeting, President LaToya Cantrell gave her opening remarks. President Cantrell thanked the Board Members who attended the press conference for Governor John Bel Edwards' signing the "Fair Share" legislation into law which will give Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans funding for infrastructure improvements. Mayor Cantrell will create an Advisory Committee by July 1st and select four (4) of the seven (7) members to participate. The Advisory Committee will oversee disbursements as it relates to an infrastructure agreement with the state of Louisiana.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

President Cantrell presented a motion to accept the minutes of May 15, 2019 Board Meeting. Councilman Jay H. Banks moved for approval of the minutes. Director Joseph Peychaud seconded. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Administration Committee Report

Chairperson, Lynes “Poco” Sloss reported on the summary and actions taken by the Finance and Administration Committee. The Finance and Administration Committee Report for the month of June was presented and recommended for approval.

President Cantrell asked for a motion to amend the report to reflect Director Janet Howard as a member of the committee and include Director Sloss’ request for a CAFR meeting to help the Board better understand the financial statement associated with the CAFR.

Director Guzman moved for approval of the amendment and seconded by Director Janet Howard.

President Cantrell presented a motion to accept the Finance and Administration report as amended. Director Joseph Peychaud moved for approval and seconded by Director Ralph Johnson approval of the Finance and Administration Committee Report for the month of June. The motion carried.

Pension Committee Report

Chairperson, Joseph Peychaud reported on the summary and actions taken by the Pension Committee. The Pension Committee Report for the month of June was presented and recommended for approval.

President Cantrell presented a motion to accept the Pension Committee report. Director Lynes “Poco” Sloss moved for approval of the Pension Committee Report for the month of January. Director Janet Howard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Ghassan Korban presented a slide overview that focused on the following topics:

- Drainage Pumping Status
 - Pump A is scheduled to be online as an electric pump by the end of the day (June 19, 2019)
 - 118 of 120 drainage pumps are, as of June 19, 2019, available during rain events
- Self-Generated Power
 - In the process of moving from steam generated power to using power provided by Entergy

- Billing Issues
 - Implementation of Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) will help eliminate the need to estimate bills.
 - Advance notice of shut offs have been given to customers, resulting in more customers paying bills and/or setting up a payment plan.
- “Thank You”
 - Admiral David Callahan for working with Civil Service to get the approval to add three (3) additional positions: Human Resources Director, Director of Strategic Planning and Director of Continuous Improvement.
- “Welcome”
 - Ms. Patti Wallace was introduced as the new Procurement Director.

Mr. Korban touched on our immediate priorities and addressed the new infrastructure funds. The Sewerage and Water Board received a one-time total amount of \$50 million - \$34 million to pay vendors and drainage's debt to water and sewer systems and \$16 million for projects (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program reimbursements).

- Fair Share
 - Three Identified projects as part of the One Time \$16M Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
 - Weatherize Turbine 6 (subject to temperature below 45 degrees)
 - Allow availability of the turbine in all weather conditions
 - Install frequency charger to eliminate steam turbines
 - Build redundancy into Entergy feeder system
 - Sycamore Filter Gallery upgrade design
 - The gallery purifies the water before entry to clear wells
 - Implementation of the AMI system
 - Payoff our local share (35%) of the SELA projects

PRESENTATION ITEMS

Hurricane Preparedness

Safety Department complete several hurricane preparation exercises:

- Pre-Hurricane Season Tabletop
- Emergency Dam Development
- Hurricane Full Scale
- Communication POD/MCP
- Fleet Evacuation
- Carville Backoffice Support
- Mayor's Hurricane Retreat

Focused Update

Continuously working on:

- Essential Employee list- accountability of the employees we need are where they are needed, when they are needed
- Business Continuity Plan Contacts- contacts of those of personnel needed
- Hurricane's Plan- each individual department has updated hurricane evacuation plan
- All rescue boats have been tested and are ready for Hurricane Season

Board of Directors responsibility during

- Board members have placards to return to the city to establish Board Meetings to go over emergency measures and approve emergency contracts

Director Lynes "Poco" Sloss inquired about the legality of having Board meeting via telephone during emergency situations.

Green Infrastructure Update

Scott Finney and Cameron Bonnet

- Implementation of Green Infrastructure projects allow SWB to meet Consent Decree Green infrastructure requirement
- Plan is to install the next Green Infrastructure project on the parcel of land owned by SWB and the City OF New Orleans bounded by Toulouse, Orleans, N. Jeff Davis and N. Cortez
- This parcel was chosen because the parcel is large and prone to frequent flooding
- Community meeting was held in the area
 - o The preference of type of Infrastructure was Urban Tree Canopy
- Next steps for the project
 - o Public engagement
 - o CEA with City of New Orleans
 - o Finalize Conceptual Design
 - o Advertise the RFP
 - o Award the RFP
 - o REQUEST Board approval
 - o Request work and requisition number
 - o Finalize contract and implement RFP

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution (R-113-2019) Water main Point repair, Water valve and Hydrant replacement

General Superintendent Robert Turner requested that SWBNO approve the contract renewal to continue water main repairs and replacement.

Director Janet Howard moved to approve. Director Lynes Sloss seconded. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were discussed at the June 12, 2019 Finance and Administration Committee Meeting:

R-100-2019 - Ratification of Change Order No. 5 for Contract 1368 - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Rehabilitation of Oak Street Pumping Station (Mech Engr)

R-088-2019 - Ratification of Change Order No. 1 for Contract 6249 – Hazard Mitigation Grant Project Design Build Retrofit Power Distribution Network (Elec Engr)

R-089-2019 - Ratification of Change Order No. 2 for Contract 6249 – Hazard Mitigation Grant Project – Design Build Retrofit Power Distribution Network (Elec Engr)

R-099-2019 Ratification of Change Order No. 5 for Contract 6249 – Hazard Mitigation Grant Project Design Build Retrofit Power Distribution Network (Elec Engr)

R-103-2019 - Ratification of Change Order No. 1 for Contract 30204 – Restoration of Existing Gravity Flow Sanitary Sewers by Excavation and Replacement from Manhole to Manhole, CIPP Lining and Point Repairs at Various Sites Throughout Orleans Parish (Networks Admin)

R-102-2019 - Change Order No. 1 for Contract 30102 – DPS 17/Station D Structural Repairs

R-066-2019 - Final Acceptance for Contract 30014 – Cleaning and CCTV Inspection of Sanitary Sewer Mains at Scattered Sites within New Orleans (Networks Admin)

R-077-2019 - Final Acceptance for Contract 8139 – Hurricane Katrina Related Replacement of the Central Yard Annex Building

R-107-2019 -Authorizing Application to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

R-108-2019 - Joint Infrastructure Recovery Request Program Grant Management Cooperate Endeavor Agreement

R-109-2019 - Bank Signatory Approval

R-111-2019 - Preliminary Resolution Authorizing Approval for Sewerage System Bonds.

President Cantrell presented a motion to accept the Corresponding Resolutions in Globo. Director Lynes “Poco” Sloss moved to accept the Corresponding Resolutions in Globo. Councilman Jay H. Banks seconded. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Cantrell presented a motion to exit regular session and enter Executive Session. Director Ralph Johnson moved to leave the Regular Session and enter Executive Session. Director Joseph Peychaud seconded. The motion carried.

Councilmember Jay H. Banks moved to leave Executive Session and return to Regular Session. Director Joseph Peychaud seconded. The motion carried.

There were no recommendations made by Special Counsel in Executive Session and no action taken following Executive Session.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following person(s) appeared before the Board of Directors to make comments:

- Mr. Lloyd Lazard, representing himself, discussed the water purification process.
- Mr. Lloyd Lazard discussed the flow of the Mississippi River and inquired about sulfur and calcium in New Orleans drinking water.
- Happy Johnson represented an “idea” of an annual state of Sewerage and Water Board. Also, inquired about having a Community Advisory Committee for the Fair Share.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were submitted for informational purposes only:

Preliminary Financial Results through April 30, 2019
Human Resources Report May 1-31, 2019
Report of the General Superintendent
Report of the Special Counsel
FEMA April Project Worksheet Status
DBE Participation on Contracts

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:20 AM.