

## **Homosassa Special Water District**

### **Regular Meeting**

**January 18, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Homosassa Special Water District was held on Monday, January 18, 2016 at the Water District office, located at 7922 W Grover Cleveland Blvd., Homosassa, FL.

Present were:

Commissioner Sipos  
Commissioner Wilcox  
Commissioner Perry  
David Purnell (Superintendent)  
Tami Jo Watson (HSWD Staff)

Commissioner MacRae  
Commissioner Jeeves  
Carole Barice (Attorney)  
Teresa Olds (HSWD Staff)

Commissioner Sipos called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

#### **1) Additions, Corrections, Deletions of Regular Meeting Minutes of 12-21-15**

Commissioner Jeeves made a motion to accept the minutes as presented.  
Commissioner Wilcox seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.

#### **2) Election of Officers:**

Commissioner Sipos made a motion to nominate Commissioner MacRae as Chairman.  
Commissioner Jeeves seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jeeves made a motion to nominate Commissioner Wilcox as Vice Chairman.  
Commissioner MacRae seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner MacRae made a motion to nominate Commissioner Sipos as Secretary/Treasurer.  
Commissioner Sipos declined the nomination.

Commissioner Sipos made a motion to nominate Commissioner Jeeves as Secretary/Treasurer.  
Commissioner Wilcox seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.

### **3) Public Input:**

#### **A) Cindy Waller (Adjustment due to leak)**

Discussion.

Commissioner Sipos made a motion to approve the request for an adjustment for the months of October and November and give customer time to pay if needed. Commissioner Jeeves seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.

#### **B) John McManamy (Adjustment due to leak)**

Commissioner Jeeves made a motion to approve the request for an adjustment for the months of September, October, November and December and give customer time to pay if needed. Commissioner Wilcox seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.

### **4) Attorney Report**

#### **A) Suncoast Parkway – Discussion.**

#### **B) Veterans Memorial Parkway**

Discussion. Commissioner MacRae will make contact with the Veterans and report more at the February meeting.

### **5) George McDonald (Project updates)**

Mr. McDonald was not present at the meeting, Superintendent Purnell updated the Board on the current projects.

### **6) Budget Reports**

Discussion.

### **7) Staff Report**

#### **A) Banking Information - Discussion**

#### **B) Transfer Report - Discussion**

#### **C) Accountant Contract**

Teresa explained to the Board that the Public Request section had been added to the contract. Teresa will correct the contract to reflect Commissioner MacRae's name as Chairman.

Commissioner Sipos made a motion to approve the Accountant Contract as presented. Commissioner Jeeves seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.

## **8) Superintendent's Report:**

Discussion.

## **9) Attorney-Client Session:**

Commissioner MacRae stated that at 5:00 the Board would go into an Attorney Client Session. Those in attendance were Commissioner Perry, Commissioner Sipos, Commissioner Jeeves, Commissioner Wilcox, Commissioner MacRae, Dave Purnell – Superintendent and Carole Barice Attorney for the Homosassa Special Water District and the Court Reporter.

Commissioner MacRae called a recess to the Regular meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*Commissioner MacRae announced the close of the Attorney Client session and reopened the regular meeting.

Superintendent Purnell continued his report.

Discussion.

We do have a demo set for a Directional Bore on Oliver St and would encourage all Board Members to come down and watch this demo either on Tuesday, 1-19-16 and 1-20-16.

Discussion.

## **10) Reports to the Board**

**A) Shut off list**

**B) Adjustment Report**

Discussion.

Commissioner MacRae stated that at the suggestion of our Attorney we need to place our petition in the 2 local newspapers, the Citrus County Chronicle and the Tampa Bay Times as a letter to the Editor.

Commissioner Sipos stated that she didn't think it should be a letter to the Editor, we should try to get a reporter to come and do a big article about it rather than just a letter to the Editor.

Attorney Barice – That sounds great, what I was suggesting is the ability to get a copy of our petition sent to them. I think if we get the petition in their hands than that is quite newsworthy.

Commissioner MacRae – If they want to make a story about it that's fine. I think it would not be prudent for us to have any representative other than our Attorney speak to a reporter about the petition. I think the Attorney's recommendation is a sound one, just send them the petition.

Attorney Barice – Get the letter to the Editor and say, we understand that you have been covering the Suncoast Parkway, here is a copy of a petition that we have filed that has been forwarded over to the Department of Affairs on this project. If you have any questions please call the District's Attorney.

Discussion.

Attorney Barice – We are saying we represent all these people and we have already tried to talk to DOT and we haven't had any success so far. We have very real concerns because if there is a spill with a tanker truck on the Suncoast Parkway and it goes into these big ponds that they have proposed right next to our wellfield then it's going to contaminate the aquifer. We are very concerned about that and we have to shut down. We have no alternative but to proceed. Hopefully they will come to the table and talk to us about this.

We all know that the chemicals from the tanker trucks and what they consist of, if they want to know about the topography we have the Citrus County Aquifer Vulnerability Report and the CAVA Report. We know we have a special situation in Citrus County and we know we have real concerns that have just been overlooked so far we believe by the agencies, therefore we have no choice.

Commissioner MacRae so do you recommend that we send the letter along with the petition, in the beginning it was just to send the petition, what direction would you like the Board to take?

Attorney Barice – I think if the Board were to agree that we release a copy of the petition to the newspaper along with a short statement saying we know you have been covering the Suncoast Parkway and here is a copy of the petition we have filed regarding the Suncoast Parkway.

Commissioner Jeeves made a motion that a statement be prepared for Commissioner MacRae to sign and send along with the petition to the Citrus County Chronicle and the Tampa Bay Times. Commissioner Sipos seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.

Staff to email all the Board members a copy of what is going into the newspaper along with Attorney Barice's talking points on the Suncoast Parkway.

Discussion.

Attorney Barice has 2 lobbyist registration forms that need to be signed by the Chairman.

Board agreed.

Attorney Barice also asked the Board for additional funds for the experts that she has contracted for the Suncoast Parkway issue.

Discussion.

Board agreed.

### **11) Board Comments:**

Commissioner Perry thanked Commissioner Sipos for her work as Chairman this last year.

Commissioner Jeeves congratulated the new officers.

### **12) Pay Bills/Adjournment**

Commissioner MacRae made a motion to pay the bills and adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wilcox seconded the motion. Vote yes. Motion carried.