

# TAYLOR COASTAL WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

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## MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

June 27, 2017 3:00 p.m.

1. The meeting was held at the District Building at 3:00 PM on June 27, 2017 present were:  
COMMISSIONERS: Lynn Aibejeris, Steve Brown, Gennie Malone, Nancy Geohagan and Benjye Tuten  
  
TCW&SD STAFF present were: Diane Carlton, Lynette Senter, Ronald Bennett and David Morgan.  
Chairman Aibejeris called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and declared a quorum present.
2. Commissioner Steve Brown led in prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
3. Chairman Aibejeris welcomed guests Don Everett, Jr., Mike Smith and Timothy Howell. Chairman Aibejeris asked if anyone had any non-agendaed items to discuss. There were none.
4. **New Business:**
  - a. Mr. Don Everett, Jr. appeared to request water only service for his property located at Cedar Island. Mr. Everett stated that he needed water only to wash his boat and would not be generating any wastewater nor would he be locating an RV on the property. He stated he felt he has been "wrongfully denied" and if he is legally entitled to water he wants his water returned at no cost and for the District to pay his attorney fees. The Board explained that in 2014 they stopped offering water-only accounts in the Coastal High Hazard Area due to concerns regarding disposal of sewerage from RV units. All water-only accounts were offered a discounted grinder pump and at that time Mr. Everett declined to purchase one and his water was subsequently turned off. Mr. Everett volunteered to sign an agreement that he would not be placing an RV on the lot and there was discussion from the Board regarding the ability of the District to police this. He also stated he wants to follow code and follow the law and that he had some concern that the district is breaking the law or not following the rules by not allowing him water only. He suggested that the board needed to contact the attorney general's office to see if they are breaking some type of rule or law. Mr. Everett stated he was on the district's water board when funding was initiated for the purchase of the water plant/system and for the initial funding request for sewer and feels that due to the fact that the district received federal funds that he is entitled to a water only account. The Board thanked Mr. Everett for appearing and said they would like more time to study the situation.
  - b. The district's attorney Mr. Mike Smith appeared at the request of the Office Staff to answer any questions the Board might have concerning our no-water without sewer policy. Mr. Smith stated that the Board had the discretion to make rules and to change rules and that it might be possible to charge a daily fine for any violation of a no-RV policy for water only properties. There was additional discussion about the ability of the District to police such activity and how such fines could be collected. The Board thanked Mr. Smith for his help. **Commissioner Steve Brown made a motion to table any decision about water-only accounts until more details and information could be gathered. He advised he would like time given so that Mr. Everett could contact the Attorney General office. He stated that the District had consulted an attorney and had been advised that they could make the change for not granting water only accounts to properties in a high hazard coastal area, so he felt the District had done nothing wrong. Commissioner Tuten seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
  - c. Mr. Timothy Howell appeared on behalf of Mike and Lee McKinney regarding their sales of lots located in Sandpiper at Cedar Island, and whether they would save money by a bulk purchase of grinder pumps for future use on those lots. Ron Bennett indicated that a bulk purchase would save approximately \$200.00 per grinder pump, but that the District would not be able to store these pumps. Pumps that are stored also tend to start to deteriorate and he did not recommend a bulk purchase. Also, a group installation would have to be handled by an outside contractor due to the scope of the installation and the quotes we received were higher than the District's normal charge for normal installations. Therefore, it was the District's



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recommendation that the McKinney's purchase the grinder pumps as needed and follow the District's normal installation policies.

5. Approval of minutes for the regular commission meeting May 23, 2017. Chairman Aibejeris asked if everyone had reviewed the May 23, 2017 minutes and if there was a motion to approve. **Commissioner Geohagan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented with punctuation corrections to be made in item 3. Commissioner Malone offered a second. Chairman Aibejeris asked for further discussion. There was none. The motion carried unanimously.**

6. **Staff and Committee Reports**

- a. **Water Operations & Sewer Operations-Ronald Bennett** - Ronald reported that everything in both departments is going well. He did advise that they had received the price quote from Utility Services Co., Inc. that does the maintenance on all of our water tanks for sewer plant tank re-painting. The cost for this DEP required repair would be \$79,661.00 which can be paid in 2 payments. The first payment would be due upon completion of the renovation in 2017 in the amount of \$39,830.50 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> payment of \$39,830.50 due on August 1, 2018. He advised that he had spoken to Office Manager Diane Carlton; she advised him that we could use monies from our depreciation account since this was something that had to be repaired. He added that he would have to do a bypass prior to the work starting.
- b. **Director Report – Lynette Senter** - Lynette reported the Water and Sewer sales for May were \$44,895.10. The adjustments for the month were credits of \$973.01. The district received 1 new water and sewer service request and two 2<sup>nd</sup> meter service requests. There are 5 accounts that were past due in the amount of \$1,386.58. and 2 accounts turned off due to failure to pay. There were no questions from the commissioners. **Chairman Aibejeris asked for a motion to accept the report. Commissioner Geohagan made a motion to accept the Director's Report as presented. Commissioner Malone offered a second. Chairman Aibejeris called for further discussion. There was none. The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. **Other Assistant office Manager Items - Lynette Senter** – there were none.
- d. **Financial Reports –Diane Carlton** – Diane reported that water and sewer sales for the month of May 2017 were \$44,895.10. Total expenses were \$44,956.75. Other Income was \$8,101.74 which included \$6,000.00 in grinder pump sales, \$1.74 interest income, \$100.00 customer repair and \$2,000.00 in new lot water service fee. The net income for the month was \$7,853.09. A copy of the May 31, 2017 balance sheet was provided to the commissioners with notation that the grinder pump fee escrow account at the end of May had a negative balance of \$2,947.68 and on June 1 \$5,749.98 will be deposited to bring this back to a positive balance. The reason for this is expenses are still occurring due to Hurricane Hermine. The exception expense items for the month included Hurricane Hermine expenses of \$12,355.75, and landscaping and design expense in the amount of \$933.37 for the refurbishing of the plants and the installation of water system with a timer so that they can be watered after business hours. A fine of \$2,621.41 was paid due to the field supervisor failing to call in a located and therefore damaged Tri-County Electric's property. There was a legal expense of \$755.00 to Mike Smith for conversations, copying and responding to e-mails. She asked if anyone had questions. There was none. Chairman Aibejeris called for a motion to accept the Financial Report as given. **Commissioner Geohagan made a motion to accept the Financial Reports as given. Commissioner Brown offered a second. Chairman Aibejeris called for further discussion. There was none. The motion carried unanimously.**
- f. **Other Office Manager Items-Diane Carlton-** Diane reported the Florida Retirement System contribution will increase on 7/1/2017 from 7.52% to 7.92%. She also reported that the proposed budget for fiscal year October 2017-September 2018 will be presented for review and approval at the July 25, 2017 board meeting.

7. **Old Business – Diane Carlton**

- a. Update on Hurricane Hermine repairs, expenses and Public Assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State of Florida- Diane reported we have received notice from FEMA that we

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may not be getting any reimbursement monies unless we can secure insurance in the amount of \$1,106,517.98. Our agent Chancy Stoutamire states he cannot get coverage on the pumps/equipment. I have advised FEMA that we cannot obtain coverage and we are waiting for a response.

- b. Update EPA Grant # XP 00D45516 Congressionally Mandated Project (Waste Water Equipment Purchase) Diane reported there has not been any activity this month.
  - c. Update on the status of the Search Grant Application and the EPA grant application for Water Improvements – Diane reported there has not been any activity this month.
  - d. Discuss Blower noise at Waste Water Treatment Plant and try to resolve adjoin property owner complaint. Lawanda Pemberton assistant county manager sent an e-mail to the district advising that Catherine Schleman who lives on Sandhill Road contacted her in regard to the noise from our Sewer plant. She said she reported that she hears the blower at the sewer plant every 15 minutes on the hour around the clock and that she had reported this annoyance numerous times and that we have done nothing about it. David Morgan the Districts Wastewater operator addressed the board in regard to the complaint. He advised that the only time that the blower's blow 24/7 is if we have a power outage and now that we know this we have to go reset the timer to have it blow 15 minutes on the hour except from 12 midnight until 7 a.m. He also stated that we had a study performed on the same complaint back in 2008 The district installed a 40-foot wooden, dog-eared fence which extends 20 feet from the plant wall to cut down on the noise. Testing revealed the fence did help with the noise. Upon discussion it was decided to make sure that we reset timer after power outages, make sure this is monitored, and always communicate with Mrs. Schleman.
8. Closing Remarks Commissioners/Staff
- The Commissioners expressed thanks to staff. There were no other comments.
9. Motion to Adjourn

**Chairman Aibejeris requested a Motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Malone made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Geohagan offered a second. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.**

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Board Actions:

- 1. Table Don Everett, Jr. Water only service request
- 2. Approval of the minutes of the May 23, 2017 regular Board Meeting
- 3. Approval of the May 2017 Directors Report
- 4. Approval of the May 2017 Financial Reports

BY: M. Diane Carlton, Recording Secretary  
Taylor Coastal Water and Sewer District

