MINUTES OF THE EMERALD COAST UTILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2018, 2:00 P.M.
ECUA BOARD ROOM
9255 STURDEVANT STREET, ELLYSON INDUSTRIAL PARK
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

Members present: Lois Benson, Chairman
Dale Perkins, Vice Chairman
Vicki Campbell
Elvin McCorvey
Larry Walker

Counsel present: Bradley S. Odom

Staff present: Stephen E. Sorrell, Executive Director

ITEM 1 – INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Prior to calling the regular meeting of the Board to order, Chairman Benson requested a moment of silence for the victims of the recent school shooting, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 2 – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Benson called the regular meeting of the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority Board to order at approximately 3:00 p.m.

ITEM 3 - ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Odom added the Item 8(a)(1), which is a resolution corresponding to Item 8(a) to the agenda. Dr. Walker added Item 12(a), Sewer System Sector Plans. Chairman Benson added Item 12(b) Guillemard Tanks and 13(a) Meeting Dates. A motion was made by Ms. Campbell, seconded by Mr. McCorvey, to adopt the agenda as presented and amended. Motion carried 5-0.

ITEM 4 – PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

ITEM 5 – OPEN FORUM

Mr. David Suhor submitted a Speaker Registration Form but was not present to address the Board.

ITEM 6 – PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

ITEM 7 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. McCorvey seconded by Mr. Perkins, to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting of January 25, 2018, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

ITEM 8 – OPERATIONAL ITEMS

(a) **Award of Purchase – Replacement Vehicle**
A motion was made by Mr. McCorvey, seconded by Dr. Walker, that the Board (1) waive ECUA's normal purchasing procedures and authorize the use of the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) cooperative purchasing contract to purchase a 2018 Isuzu NRR chassis with New Way Diamondback eight-cubic yard rear loader body, at a total purchase price of $96,300, with funding through CIP Project RT803 - Annual Commercial Vehicle Replacement; and (2) concur with the Executive Director's Surplus Declaration for vehicle number 4A, a 2003 model year UD eight-cubic yard rear loader vehicle and authorize disposition once the replacement vehicle is delivered. Motion carried 5-0.

(1) **Adoption of Resolution 18-03**
A motion was made by Dr. Walker, seconded by Mr. McCorvey, to adopt Resolution 18-03 – A RESOLUTION FINDING THAT A 2003 MODEL YEAR EIGHT-CUBIC YARD REAR LOADER VEHICLE WILL NO LONGER BE NECESSARY, USEFUL, OR PROFITABLE IN THE OPERATION OF THE UTILITY SYSTEMS OF THE ECUA UPON PLACING ITS REPLACEMENT VEHICLE INTO SERVICE; AUTHORIZING DISPOSITION OF THAT SURPLUS VEHICLE VIA ON-LINE PUBLIC ACTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECITVE DATE. Motion carried 5-0.

(b) **Potable Water Supply Agreement between ECUA and the Orange Beach Water Authority**
A motion was made by Ms. Campbell, second by Mr. McCorvey, that the Board authorize the Executive Director to execute and enter into the updated Potable Water Supply Agreement between Emerald Coast Utilities Authority and Orange Beach Water Authority. Motion carried 5-0.

(c) **Water Service Renewals, CIP RW818 – Contract Extension with Underground Solutions**
A motion was made by Ms. Campbell, seconded by Dr. Walker, that the Board approve a one-year extension of the contract with Underground Solutions, LLC, for water service renewals based on the 2015 bid and the resulting contract and unit costs, with funding from CIP Project RW818. Motion carried 5-0.

(d) **Purchase of Unleaded and Diesel Fuel Contract**
A motion was made by Dr. Walker, seconded by Mr. McCorvey, that the Board approve issuance of thirty days' written notice to James River Solutions of ECUA's intent to terminate for convenience the contract for the purchase of unleaded gasoline and diesel fuel, as provided for in the existing contract, and thereafter approve ECUA's utilizing the Escambia County Contract with Cougar Oil, Inc., for the purchase of unleaded gasoline and diesel fuel.

(e) **Declaration of Surplus Property / Parts Credit**
A motion was made by Dr. Walker, seconded by Mr. McCorvey, that the Board approve and concur in the findings of the Executive Director, declare the Doppstadt SM 720 solid drum surplus, waive the ECUA's normal disposition procedures, and authorize the exchange of that drum for a $10,000 parts credit with Ecoverse Inc. Motion carried 5-0.

(1) **Adoption of Resolution 18-02**
A motion was made by Dr. Walker, seconded by Mr. McCorvey, to adopt Resolution 18-02 – RESOLUTION FINDING THE DOPPSTADT SM 720 SOLID DRUM TO BE NO LONGER USEFUL, NECESSARY, OR PROFITABLE IN THE OPERATION OF THE UTILITY SYSTEMS OF THE EMERALD COAST UTILITIES AUTHORITY; AUTHORIZING DISPOSITION OF THAT PROPERTY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Motion carried 5-0.

ITEM 9 – INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

There were no informational reports.

ITEM 10 - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Mr. Sorrell informed the Board that we have been sending 150-200 tons per week of biosolids to the compost operations, and mixing it in with the ground-up yard debris. Last week, we surpassed our goal of 300 tons. We set a new record in that we sent 450 tons of sludge to the compost operation. This is the result of the site expansion and increased through-put that we now have to produce the sludge. It is a cost-saving process in that we do not have to utilize the dryer operations as much, and is turning into a small revenue source.

Mr. Sorrell reported that we set another record at the septage receiving facility. We have been accepting approximately 100 loads per week, but last week we set a record at 143 loads of septage received. This means that the septic haulers are dumping the septage properly and we then utilize the treated septage to make compost.

ITEM 11 – ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Odom reported that Innerarity Island potable water system reached substantial completion several weeks ago. We should reach final completion later this month. The court has signed the Order that effective March 1, at midnight, the potable water service area becomes the responsibility of ECUA.

ITEM 12 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) **Sewer System Sector Plan** – this item was added to the agenda by Dr. Walker.

Last month, the Board rejected the options that were presented concerning a lift station and sewer system sector plan for the West Nine Mile Road area. Instead, negotiations will be conducted with individual developers.

He indicated that the idea of something more comprehensive and larger in geographic scope could be considered, utilizing the words "sector", "regional", or "area". Therefore, we should not drop the topic, and the Board and staff undertake further consideration of an area or regional approach, not necessarily for that area, but for other possible areas.

Mr. Perkins agreed that this is worth exploring, and that the Board did not prohibit staff from doing so. If the staff wants to meet with all of the stakeholders to discuss regional approaches for sewer expansion, they should do so.

Dr. Walker asked that the Board instruct staff to continue the study of this approach. Chairman Benson inquired as to whether we should bring this topic to the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) in a workshop-type setting. Dr. Walker added that we should apprise the CAC members of the status and request their advice and opinion.

Mr. Perkins added that due to staff's limited time and resources, we should be looking for opportunities. Should time and resources be available, have a committee meet with all of these stakeholders to see if there could be a way to develop a plan. He does not want us as an organization to force this on anyone, but if they see a mutual benefit, ECUA could proceed.

Ms. Campbell agreed with Mr. Perkins in that it is good to be part of the solution.

Mr. McCorvey would have liked to have seen the topic tabled for further discussion because Mr. Johnson and his people have done an excellent job of putting the plan together. It would have been a good win-win for the community.

Chairman Benson expressed that we would all like to see that happen. She did object to the existing ratepayers front-loading development. This policy shift needed much more thoughtful discussion. She commended staff for being pro-active and thinking ahead. How do you fund growth, who pays in front-loading and how does that affect re-development where the infrastructure is crumbling? It is not something that we should drop, we need to look at the broader picture.

Ms. Campbell expressed that we do need to explain it to the CAC members. Chairman Benson asked that Ms. Campbell discuss that with Mr. Sorrell.

(b) **Guillemard Emergency Storage Tanks** – this item was added to the agenda by Chairman Benson.
Chairman Benson stated that this tank is not nearly as obtrusive as previously feared. The landscaping will effectively prevent the structure from being an eyesore. She has chosen a paint color as requested by Mr. Sorrell. She recommends Clary Sage by Sherwin-Williams, which is a gray-green and will blend into the landscaping.

There have been requests that a mural be painted on this tank. Mr. Odom had informed Chairman Benson that allowing private citizenry to paint the mural would be a liability for the ECUA. It would certainly call attention to the tank more than having a solid color. Ms. Campbell agreed with Chairman Benson, and the gray-green color is similar to the tank color at Carriage Hills. Mr. Perkins agreed that it would blend in with that historical area appropriately.

ITEMS 13 – NEW BUSINESS

(a) **Meeting Dates** – this item was added to the agenda by Chairman Benson. She has received complaints that having the meeting on Thursday conflicts with other meetings in the community, City Council, County Commission, etc. Previously, we have often discussed how we can make sure the citizens have access to our meetings. We changed our time from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., but there has been no difference in attendance. If we move our meeting from Thursday to Wednesday, it may give the public access through the news media who can monitor it online, etc. Our CAC meeting is on Wednesday, so it may be a viable solution.

Mr. McCorvey inquired as to the time of the Wednesday meeting indicating that we do not want to interfere with church meetings that evening. Chairman Benson indicated that it may be better to go back to 2:00 p.m. Mr. Perkins suggested that Tuesday may be good if staff could prepare for the meeting in that short timeframe; but for this year retain the current schedule and provide input and a recommendation at the next Organizational Board meeting in November. Ms. Campbell agreed that Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. is good, but to wait until the next year before making the change.

ITEM 14 – BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Campbell shared three letters of appreciation she received for actions taken by ECUA employees to help the citizens of the community.

Mr. Perkins brought up that he recently became an ECUA customer and was told it would be five to seven business days for cans to be delivered, but the customer's charges begin immediately. This seems too long for delivery and he asked if something can be done about that process.

He also stated that he called ECUA Customer Service to get service for one of his properties. He was told that the previous owner was receiving water without paying for it, and in order to get the service turned on in his name at that address, he was required to produce a copy of the deed. It could take a month or so to receive the deed from the title company. It would make sense that if someone has established account(s) with ECUA for several years, that an override would be beneficial. On a positive note, it is nice being an ECUA customer in that bulk items are removed without issues.

Mr. Perkins received a letter from an 83-year-old gentleman, who indicated that the increases for him added up to 33 percent, due to the meter size. He asked that staff work with these people who have these types of issues.

The Board members requested that when they receive mail, that it be scanned and sent to them immediately.

ITEM 15 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the regular meeting of the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority Board, Chairman Benson declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen E. Sorrell
Executive Director and Secretary

APPROVED BY THE ECUA BOARD
IN REGULAR SESSION ON _____

( ) Without correction/amendments
( ) With corrections/amendments being: