

MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 12, 2017

Opening: A public meeting of the Fellsmere Water Control District was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on January 12, 2017 held at the office of the District 109 N. Willow Street, Fellsmere, Florida.

Richard Carnell called the meeting to order.

Supervisor's present was Richard Carnell, Mike Monroe and Jeff Bolling.

Others present were Michael O'Haire, Marvin Carter, George Simons, Rodney Tillman, and Joyce Hertel.

Approval of Minutes: Mike made motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2016, Jeff seconded.

Attorney's Report:

Michael stated that he had drafted the latest version of the Inter-governmental agreement between IRC and FWCD and sent it to the County Attorney on December 6, 2016. He has not heard a reply as to date.

Mike Monroe asked about the I-95 Bridge lawsuit. Michael O'Haire replied that there has not been a hearing date set yet.

Motion made to accept the attorneys report.

Engineer's Report:

George stated that the Water Control Plan is still pending and the update needs to be looked at by George and Rodney.

George also stated that the CDBG Phase 6 block grant has gone out to bid. There was one bidder and he was over budget. George discussed various options on Hickory Street to lower the cost to get the budget in line with the Bid.

George discussed the water farm and it appears that Blue Goose was going to dig south on Lateral U to make the water flow south and then the water could be pumped into the water farm. Blue Goose would re-dig Lateral U south from Main Canal and D-1 to D13 three miles.

Richard asked about the permanent road that Parabel wants to build. It will be on the north side of SL 23 where the temporary now exists. He suggested that George call Jeff Murray to discuss the road and the permitting of it so that the District's set backs are followed.

George stated that Mark Mathis with the City of Fellsmere gave his approval for the South Regional Lake.

George stated that the FPL permit for Ditch 24 at 130th Avenue has been signed.

Treasurer's Report:

Rodney read the written Treasury report provided in the meeting packet. He pointed out that the money market is \$451,801.99 and the checking account is \$375,576.40. The total amount is now below the million dollars totaling \$827,378.39.

Rodney explained that since the funds have now gotten to a level that something must be done with the assessment rate or the Supervisors need assessment options, to consider letting the District sunset and dissolve. He presented different options:

Option 1: the first with a assessment rate of \$21.26 per acre that would include all acreage on the tax collector roll plus adding in Fellsmere East 1770 acres.

Option 2: was for Rodney to retire effective September 30, 2017 and that his total package would be removed from the budget creating \$100,000 + or - and that the District in three (3) years could build back enough money to build an additional year to the life of the District.

Rodney passed out a copy of the Florida Statutes Chapter 298.353 and explained the District being cut up into units. The units being FJV property would be Unit 3, the area outside of the City of Fellsmere East of Lateral U and North of SL 24 would be Unit 2, all of the part of the City of Fellsmere that is not annexed and lies within the boundaries of the District would be Unit 1. This would be the old original City of Fellsmere. Rodney explained that the Auditors did a report based on service provided by the District and that Unit 3 would be \$8.00 per acre and all other units would be \$51.00 per acre.

Rodney stated that the feeling of the District staff employees is that if the District is cut up into Units and assessed on service provided as described in the above paragraph the public pressure resulting from this would be very great

Rodney explained that there is nothing presently in the budget that deals with buying a road grader, a dump truck and hiring two employees for road maintenance. That would be an extra assessment for the landowners in Unit 2. Rodney asked the Board to individually provide him with their ideas and comments regarding the assessments.

Supervisors Comments:

Richard stated that he went before the local delegation with Rodney and Michael O’Haire and spoke on behalf of the District Board regarding the upcoming legislation of extending the Life of the District, correcting the boundaries and codification of the special acts. Representative Erin Grall would be presenting the legislation at the upcoming session.

Public Comments:

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. by Richard Carnell.

The next general meeting will be on March 9, 2017, May 11, 2017 Landowners Meeting July 13, 2017, September 14, 2017 and November 9, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. at the District office.

Richard Carnell President
Board of Supervisors

Joyce Hertel
Secretary