

OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY

SPECIAL

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 30, 2019 10:00 A.M.

Okeechobee Utility Authority

Okeechobee County Historic Courthouse, Room 270

Okeechobee, Florida

Chairperson Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. with the following members and alternates present:

Board Members:

Melanie Anderson*

John Creasman*

Carl Leonard*

Steve Nelson*

Alternates:

Harry Moldenhauer

Absent:

Tommy Clay

Jeff Fadley

*Voting Board Members

OUA Members:

John Hayford

George Gall

Kristy Hamblen

Jamie Mullis

Tom Conely

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Nelson.

Chairperson Nelson addressed Agenda Item No. 2 ‘FDEP Grant Allocation’ Executive Director Hayford advised that the OUA received confirmation from the FDEP that the OUA did receive a \$6,000,000 grant. The money has been awarded for the four projects of interest identified by the OUA Board. Board Member Creasman advised that the OUA should stay the course of funding the Southwest Wastewater Service Area Project. County Commissioner Burroughs advised that he agrees with Board Member Creasman, the OUA should move forward with funding the Southwest Wastewater Service Area Project. **Motion by John Creasman to allocate the \$6,000,000 grant to the Southwest Wastewater Service Area Project. Second by Carl Leonard. Vote unanimous (4-0), motion carried.**

Chairperson Nelson addressed Agenda Item No. 3 ‘OUA Rate Adjustment’ Executive Director Hayford advised that in preparation of the FY20 budget, staff utilized current rate revenue to meet general operating expenses. The OUA has received a grant to help fund one of the sewer projects, the OUA will not have the capital funds to construct this project without applying for loans and/or grants from SRF or USDA. Staff can prepare the appropriate documentation for consideration of a FY20 rate increase to help offset these costs. After a brief discussion, the Board advised to bring this back at a later date.

Chairperson Nelson addressed Agenda Item No. 4 ‘Agreement to Prepare Base Case Five Year Financial Forecast and Funding Scenarios for Southwest Sewer Section’ Executive Director Hayford advised that PRMG has provided an agreement to prepare an updated five-year financial. The cost to provide the updated report is \$30,550, the line item in the budget is \$15,000. The additional cost will be paid from the contingency line item.

Attorney Conely advised that he has two changes that he would like to see made in the contract. **Motion by John Creasman to approve the agreement with the proposed changes. Second by Melanie Anderson. Vote unanimous (4-0), motion carried.**

Chairperson Nelson addressed Agenda Item No. 5 ‘Legislative Delegation Meeting’ Executive Director Hayford explained what the OUA’s Chairperson Nelson would be presenting at the upcoming Legislative Delegation Meeting.

Chairperson Nelson addressed Agenda Item No. 6 ‘Public Comments’ County Commissioner Hazellief addressed the Board and advised that he is thankful that the OUA Board is taking the initiative to go after the sewer projects.

Chairperson Nelson addressed Agenda Item No. 7 ‘Items from the Attorney’ Attorney Conely handed out the Executive Director’s evaluation to the Board Members, requested the Board Member’s to return them as soon as possible.

Chairperson Nelson addressed Agenda Item No. 8 ‘Items from the Executive Director’ Executive Director Hayford advised that FDOT has agreed to move the SR 710 Extension 400 feet from the OUA wellheads.

Chairperson Nelson addressed Agenda Item No. 9 ‘Items from the Board’ There was none.

There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 10:38 A.M.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED that if a person decided to appeal any decision made by the Okeechobee Utility Authority with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he/she may need to insure that verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. A CD recording of this meeting is on file in the Executive Director’s office.

Chairperson

Executive Director (Secretary)