

**OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, May 8, 2018 8:30 A.M.

Okeechobee County Historical Courthouse, Room 270  
Okeechobee, Florida

**Chairperson Creasman called the meeting to order at 8:34 A.M.** with the following members and alternates present:

**Board Members:**

John Creasman\*  
Michael Myers\*  
Steve Nelson\*

**Alternates:**

Jeff Fadley\*\*  
Harry Moldenhauer\*\*\*

**Absent:**

Melanie Anderson  
Tommy Clay  
Derek Tremain

\*Voting Board Members

\*\*Voting in Tommy Clay's absence

\*\*\*Voting in Melanie Anderson's absence

**OUA Members:**

John Hayford  
George Gall  
Kristy Hamblen  
Jamie Mullis

**The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Creasman.**

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 2 'Meeting Minutes from April 10, 2018 and April 24, 2018' Motion by Steve Nelson to approve the Meeting Minutes from April 10, 2018 as presented. Second by Jeff Fadley. Vote unanimous (5-0), motion carried.**

**Motion by Steve Nelson to approve the Meeting Minutes from April 24, 2018 as presented. Second by Jeff Fadley. Vote unanimous (5-0), motion carried.**

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 3 'Employee Recognition' The Board recognized Lynette Lowe for her 30 years of service to the OUA. Mrs. Lowe was unable to attend the meeting.**

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 4 'Consent Agenda' Motion by Steve Nelson to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:**

Consent Agenda Item No. 5 'Finance Report for the period ending April 30, 2018'

Consent Agenda Item No. 6 'Invoice from Eckler Engineering, Inc, - SWTP Improvements in the amount of \$12,451.80'

Consent Agenda Item No. 7 'Invoice from McNabb Hydrogeologic Consulting, Inc. in the amount of \$3,500.00'

**Second by Harry Moldenhauer. Vote unanimous (5-0), motion carried.**

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 8 'NW 36<sup>th</sup> Ave Water Main Improvements' Executive Director advised that the Board previously approved an OUA project to install a water main on NW 37<sup>th</sup> Ave in**

Basswood. Since that time, property owners on NW 36<sup>th</sup> Ave on the corner of NW 36<sup>th</sup> Ave and NW 32<sup>nd</sup> St. have contacted the OUA to inquire about connecting to the OUA water main. The preliminary cost to install a 2” water main is \$10,600 to serve eight lots, or a cost of \$1,320 per customer. If fire protection is approved, then staff recommends installing a 6” water main instead of the previously mentioned 2” water main for an estimated cost of \$45,000. This would allow for future expansion as well as fire protection. Funding for this project would come from the fire hydrant fund. As another option, a 2” water main could extend from the terminal end of the previously proposed 6” water to tie in to the existing main on NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street. The 2” water main would extend 1,040 feet up NW 36<sup>th</sup> Ave at an estimated cost of \$31,000. Staff sent letters to the property owners on NW 36<sup>th</sup> Ave, three property owner’s immediately responded with a favorable response. After a discussion, **motion by Steve Nelson to approve the project as presented. Second by Harry Moldenhauer. Vote was as follows:**

<b>John Creasman</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jeff Fadley</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Harry Moldenhauer</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Michael Myers</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Steve Nelson</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion failed (3-2), lack of super majority rule.**

**Motion by Jeff Fadley to approve the install of 6” water main only \$45,000 and no construction costs to the property owners, all construction costs are to be paid by the OUA out of the Fire Hydrant Fund. Second by Michael Myers. Vote unanimous (5-0), motion carried.**

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 9 ‘CDBG Whispering Pines WM Improvements’** Executive Director Hayford gave an update to the Board concerning this project.

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 10 ‘Representation by Thorn Run Partners’** Executive Director Hayford advised that currently the OUA is represented by Alcalde and Fay in Washington, DC. The representative for their firm was Jim Davenport. Mr. Davenport recently resigned from Alcalde and Fay and took a position with Thorn Run Partners. Since that time, Mr. Davenport has continued to work on the behalf of the OUA. Alcalde and Fay have yet to contact staff regarding Mr. Davenport’s departure or who would be his replacement as a representative to the OUA. Thorn Run Partners have submitted a proposal to represent that OUA for the same fee established for Alcalde and Fay. Staff is requesting approval to prepare and send a written cancellation notice to Alcalde and Fay and execute the Thorn Run Partners proposal. Staff would also like there to be a review period for the contract. **Motion by Harry Moldenhauer to approve the preparation of the written notice of cancellation to be sent to Alcalde and Fay. Second by Jeff Fadley. Vote unanimous (5-0), motion carried.**

**Motion by Steve Nelson to approve the proposal from Thorn Run Partners as presented. Second by Michael Myers. Attorney Conely advised that the proposal is a thirty day contract. Vote unanimous (5-0), motion carried.**

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 11 ‘Public Comments’** There were none.

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 12 ‘Items from the Attorney’**

Attorney Conely advised that the sale of the Coker property happened on May 7, 2018. Funds will be electronically transmitted to the OUA.

Attorney Conely advised that the sale of LVA property has a small issue. Taxes were not paid. The OUA owes the tenant a refund for prorated portion of rent that was paid for 2017-2018. The taxes need to be paid. The refund can be issued minus the taxes due. Executive Director Hayford advised that the taxes have been paid and that a check is ready to be sent to the tenant for the prorated rent.

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 13 ‘Items from the Executive Director’**

Executive Director Hayford advised that the install of the new 3 million gallon storage tank at the SWTP will front on SR 78, it will be 30-35feet high. Since the tank will be very visible, should the OUA consider any kind of artwork for the tank? After a brief discussion, the Board elected to have Board Member Tommy Clay to work with staff to find a solution of the storage tank aesthetics.

Executive Director Hayford advised that the Preliminary FY19 Budget has been handed out at this meeting. It will be presented at the June 2018 Board Meeting. Please review and should there be any questions, comments or concerns, staff is available to meet the Board Members individually to discuss.

**Chairperson Creasman addressed Agenda Item No. 14 ‘Items from the Board’**

Board Member Michael Myers thanked Executive Director for the photos of the trees that were planted at the Cemetery Road WWTF.

Board Member Michael Myers advised that he would like the Board to consider a different time for monthly Board of Director’s meeting, 8:30AM is a very difficult time for some of the members. Executive Director Hayford advised that it is the Board’s decision on when the meetings are held, staff can correct the advertisements to the public.

Attorney Conely advised that he is not available on the second Tuesday of the month in the evening due to the School Board meetings.

Board Member Michael Myers asked if the location of the meetings were actually beneficial. Executive Director Hayford advised that currently the OUA main office does not have the set-up to meet the requirements for videoing the meetings, however, if the main office is renovated, this equipment could be installed and the meetings could move back the OUA main office.

Executive Director did advise that the Board will need to decide what is to be done with the profits from the recent land sales. This will be brought back the June 2018 meeting.

**There being no other business, meeting adjourned at 9:56 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)