

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

January 19, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD OF NEW ORLEANS

ROLL CALL

The Board of Directors for the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) met on Wednesday January 19, 2022 at 9:02 AM via Microsoft Teams. Special Counsel Ms. Yolanda Grinstead, called the roll and confirmed the following members were present: Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis, Director Joseph Peychaud, Director Lynes Sloss, Director Ralph Johnson, Director Alejandra Guzman, Director Robin Barnes, Director Janet Howard, Director Maurice Sholas, Director Nichelle Taylor and Councilmember Freddie King.

The following member(s) were absent: Hon. Mayor LaToya Cantrell

Staff present were: Mr. Ghassan Korban, Executive Director; Mr. Ron Spooner, Interim General Superintendent; Ms. Christy Harowski, Chief of Staff; Ms. Yolanda Grinstead, Special Counsel; Mr. Darryl Harrison, Deputy Special Counsel; Mr. Dexter Joseph, Budget Department; Customer Service; Purchasing; Ms. Irma Plummer, EDBP; Mr. Jason Higginbotham, Emergency Management, SWBNO; Ms. Tanyell Allen, Board Relations.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis presented a motion to accept the minutes of the December 15, 2021, Board Meeting. Director Joseph Peychaud moved for approval of the minutes. Director Robin Barnes seconded. The motion carried.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Ghassan Korban presented a slide overview that focused on the following topics:

- Executive Director Korban started his report by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and Carnival season. Mr. Korban welcomed two new members to the Board of Directors team, Councilmember Freddie King, III and Director Nichelle Taylor. The Sewerage and Water Board welcomes and thanks you for your willingness to join the Board and be active. Mr. Korban acknowledged a long-standing employee, Mr. Robert Jackson, who worked for SWBNO for 33 years. Mr. Jackson has retired from SWBNO and we thank him for his service and wish him well in his retirement and future endeavors.

2022 Goals

- **West Power Complex Construction:** Site is nearing completion. T7 procurement process started. Frequency changer is being built, complex long lead equipment
- **Begin Smart Meter Project Execution:** Selection anticipated late spring and first meters anticipated in Q4.
- **Intimates Master Plan:** Customizing plans to maximize available IJJA funding for Drinking Water and Sewer Treatment and Collection
- **Strategic Plan Implementation:** Conduct rate study, improve affordability program, procure asset and financial management systems and fill key positions.

Pumping Status/ Drainage:

96 out of 99 Pumps Available for Use

- **DPS 6:**

1 Pump is out of service for mechanical issues. Pump assembly shipped to Original Equipment Manufacturer in Wisconsin for repairs.

F Pump emergency rotor repairs complete; Facility Maintenance is repairing “slinger rings” that provide oil to the bearings.

- **DPS 12:**

D Pump is back online as of January 10, 2022.

- **DPS 14:**

#4 Pump gear box repairs underway --- Still with Vendor

Power Update:

- C7 and C8 Basin Site is almost complete for future West Power Complex.
- Turbine 4 and 6 are available for use. T6 ready anti-icing equipment undergoing additional testing during weather events.
- Turbine 1 out due to vacuum issue; contractor on site for repairs.
- Turbine 5 repairs continue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Strategy Committee Report

Director Robin Barnes reported on the summary and actions taken by the Strategy Committee. The Strategy Committee Report for the month of January was presented and recommended for approval.

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis asked for a motion to adopt the Strategy reports as amended. Director Lynes Sloss move to adopt Strategy minutes as proposed. Director Janet Howard seconded. The motion carried.

Governance Committee Report

Director Ralph Johnson reported on the summary and actions taken by the Governance Committee. The Governance Committee Report for the month of January was presented and recommended for approval.

Director Dr. Tanika Duplessis asked for a motion to adopt the Governance reports as amended. Director Joseph Peychaud move to adopt Governance minutes as proposed. Director Robin Barnes seconded. The motion carried.

Finance and Administration Committee Report

Director Lynes Sloss reported on the summary and actions taken by the Finance and Administration Committee. The Finance and Administration Committee Report for the month of January was presented and recommended for approval.

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis asked for a motion to adopt the Finance and Administration reports as amended. Director Maurice Sholas move to adopt Finance minutes as proposed. Director Alejandra Guzman seconded. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were discussed at the January 12, 2022 Finance and Administration Committee Meeting:

- Resolution (R-127-2021) Award of Contract 1376 – Water Hammer Hazard Mitigation Program - High Lift Pump Room and Panola Pumping Station Improvements

- Resolution (R-001-2022) Award of Contract 1407 – Sycamore Filter Gallery Structural/Filter Modifications Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Industrial & Mechanical Contractors, Inc.

- Resolution (R-003-2022) Award of Contract 2156 – 43” Water Main Replacement on Eden

and Grape Street Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and BLD Services, LLC

- Resolution (R-005-2022) Award of Requisitions AL210054 and CM210070- Furnishing Sodium Hypochlorite to the Algiers Water Plant and Carrollton Water Plant Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and DPC Enterprises, LLC
- Resolution (R-006-2022) First Renewal for Contract No. 2142 - Water Main Line Replacements and Extension at Scattered Locations throughout Orleans Parish Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Wallace C. Drennan, LLC
- Resolution (R-007-2022) Ratification of Change Order No. 6 for Contract 1403 – Demolition of Abandoned C-7 and C-8 Basins and Other Site Improvements at the Carrollton Water Plant Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Cycle Construction Company, LLC

- Resolution (R-012-2022) Ratification of Change Order No. 5 for Contract 1377 – Water Hammer Hazard Mitigation Program – Claiborne Ave Pumping Station and Off-Site Improvements Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and M.R. Pittman Group, LLC

- Resolution (R-008-2022) Authorization of Amendment No. 11 to the Agreement Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and CH2M Hill, Inc for Program Management, Design and Engineering Services for the Retrofit Power Plant Hazard Mitigation Grant Project

- Resolution (R-009-2022) Authorization of Amendment No. 7 to the Agreement between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and GEC, Inc. for Design and Engineering Services for the Water Line Replacement Program

- Resolution (R-010-2022) Ratification of Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, the City of New Orleans and the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority for the implementation of the Pontilly Drainage HMGP Project

- Resolution (R-011-2022) Authorization of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and the City of New Orleans for the Carrollton Power Plant Static Frequency Converters 2 and 3 Capital Bond Funds

- Resolution (R-014-2022) Authorization of Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Echologics, LLC or Leak Detection and Fire Flow Testing Services January 2022

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis presented a motion to accept the Corresponding Resolutions in globo. Director Janet Howard moved. Director Lynes Sloss seconded. The motion carried.

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis presented a motion to enter executive session. Director Joseph Peychaud moved. Director Janet Howard seconded. The motion carried.

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis presented a motion to exit executive session. Director Joseph Peychaud moved. Director Lynes Sloss seconded. The motion carried.

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis presented a motion to Defer Executive Director compensation matters to the next meeting with Mayor Cantrell in attendance. Director Joseph Peychaud moved. Director Maurice Sholas seconded. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following person(s) appeared before the Board of Directors to make comments:

- Ms. Jacqueline Shine, representing herself, submitted a comment in reference to issues concerning Sewerage and Water Board employee compensation/merit pay increases.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were submitted for informational purposes only:

- Preliminary Financial Results
- Report of the General Superintendent
- Safety Report
- Contracts Under \$1 Million or Less Report
- FEMA Project Worksheet Status
- DBE Participation on Contracts Report

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:58 AM.