

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

November 20, 2019

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 November 20, 2019 at 9:05 AM in the Board Room at 625 St. Joseph Street. Special Counsel, Ms. Yolanda Grinstead, called the roll and confirmed the following members were present: Director Joseph Peychaud, Director Lynes Sloss, Director Ralph Johnson, Director Alejandra Guzman, Director Robin Barnes, Dr. Tamika Duplessis, Director. Maurice Sholas and Councilmember Jay H. Banks, Hon. Latoya Cantrell.

The following member(s) were absent: Director Janet Howard.

Also present were Ms. Brenda Thorton, CommuniRep; Mr. Lloyd Lazard; Mr. Happy Johnson; Ms. Nina Reins.

Staff present were: Mr. Ghassan Korban, Executive Director; Mr. Robert Turner, General Superintendent; Ms. Yvette Downs, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Christy Harowski, Chief of Staff; Mr. Richard Rainey, Chief Communications Officer; Ms. Yolanda Grinstead, Special Counsel; Mr. Darryl Harrison, Deputy Special Counsel; Mr. Dexter Joseph, Budget Department; Mr. Robert Jackson, Customer Service; Ms. Patti Wallace, Purchasing; Ms. Irma Plummer, EDBP; Mr. Jason Higginbotham, Emergency Management, SWBNO; Ms. Brionne Lindsey, Board Relations.

Prior to beginning the meeting, Mayor Cantrell gave her opening remarks. Mayor thanked everyone for lending in through the election cycle, which was very successful. Huge wins as it relates to our recurring revenue for infrastructure for Sewerage and Water Board and public works. The 500 mil in million Bond sales approvals to allow the city to move forward. She stated the 3 million as it related to maintenance creating a revenue stream did not pass but was still a healthy debate. Cantrell requested for the Executive Director Ghassan Korban to move forward with the study as it relates to civil service and the implements it has caused with the Sewerage and Water Board. This process should take no longer than six months to be resolved.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mayor Cantrell presented a motion to accept the minutes of the October 16, 2019, Board Meeting. Director Maurice Sholas 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:

- Mr. Korban started his report by congratulating everyone and the people of the city. The Board of the people spoke and truly admire what Sewerage and Water Board trying to accomplish under the leadership of Mayor Cantrell. He thanked the city for allowing his team to move forward.
- Drainage Pumping Status
 - 99 of 99 drainage pumps (mitigate rain and flooding)
 - 20 of 21 constant-duty pumps (aka “dry weather pumps” which are used to manage ground water in canals on any given day)
 - Mr. Korban stated station 1 at the Broadmoor location is at 99% operational capacity and in final testing. Overall, we are in good standing.
 - At the Claiborne major pump station, pump 1 is out of service and will be renovated and upgraded in 2020.
 - Mr. Callahan did a presentation on leadership and safety.
 - Mr. Callahan introduced the new Human Resources Director, Mr. McClendon. Mr. McClendon thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to be a part of this team and look forward to plenty success.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee Report

Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis reported on the summary and actions taken by the Audit Committee. The Pension Committee Report for the month of November was presented and recommended for approval.

Mayor Cantrell asked for a motion to adopt amendments as proposed. Director Joseph Psychaud move to adopt Audit minutes as proposed. Councilmember Jay H. Banks seconded. The motion carried.

Finance and Administration Committee Report

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

Mayor Cantrell asked for a motion to adopt the Finance and Administration report as amended. Councilmember Jay H. Banks moved for approval and was second by Director Dr. Tamika Duplessis. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were discussed at the October 9, 2019 Finance and Administration Committee Meeting:

- Resolution (R-175-2019) Recommendation for Award of Contract 1377 – Water Hammer Hazard Mitigation – Claiborne Avenue Pump Station and Off-Site Improvements
- Resolution (R-176-2019) Recommendation for Award of Contract for Furnishing Positive Displacement Type Cold Water Meters – Req. No. MH-190004
- Resolution (R-182-2019) Recommendation of First Renewal for Contract 2129 – Water Main Point Repair, Water Service Connection, Water Valve, and Fire Hydrant Replacement at Various Sites Throughout Orleans Parish for a One-Year Period
- Resolution (R-170-2019) Ratification of Change Order No. 1 for Contract 5225 – Hurricane Katrina Related Repairs to N. Broad Street Drainage Underpass Pumping Station
- Resolution (R-180-2019) Ratification of Change Order No. 1 for Contract 30207 – New Orleans East Basin Sewer Rehabilitation – Read Blvd. East and Viavant Neighborhoods Sewer Rehabilitation
- Resolution (R-178-2019) Ratification of Contract Amendment No. 3 for Professional Services Between the Sewerage and Water Board and Meyers Engineers, LTD for Design and Engineering Services for the Waterline Replacement Program
- Resolution (R-187-2019) Amendment No. 2 To Professional Services Agreement Between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Leonard C. Quick & Associates, INC. (Florida Avenue Phases II, III, IV)
- Resolution (R-171-2019) Final Acceptance for Contract 5225 - Hurricane Katrina Related Repairs to N. Broad Street Drainage Underpass Pumping Station
- Resolution (R-181-2019) Final Acceptance for Contract 30207 – New Orleans East Basin Sewer Rehabilitation – Read Blvd. East and Viavant Neighborhoods Sewer Rehabilitation

- Resolution (R-196-2019) Resolution Authorizing Preliminary Approval for Water Revenue Bonds
- Resolution (R-197-2019) Resolution Authorizing Preliminary Approval for Sewerage Service Revenue Bonds

- Resolution (R-193-2019) Resolution Authorizing the Execution of The Cooperative Endeavor Agreement Between the City of New Orleans and Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans
- Resolution (R-172-2019) Resolution Renewing Independent Financial Auditing Contract
- Resolution (R-173-2019) Resolution Approving Audit Committee Charter
- Resolution (R-174-2019) Resolution Approving Internal Audit Charter
- Resolution (R-167-2019) Resolution Approving MWPP Audit for Eastbank Sewer Treatment Plant
- Resolution (R-177-2019) Resolution Approving MWPP Audit for Westbank Sewer Treatment Plant

Mayor Cantrell presented a motion to accept the Corresponding Resolutions in globo. Director Maurice Sholas moved to accept the Corresponding Resolutions in Globo. Director Ralph Johnson seconded. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

- Mr. Lloyd Lazard, representing himself, complimented Sewerage and Water Board on a job well done.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were submitted for informational purposes only:

- Preliminary Financial Results through September 30, 2019
- Human Resources Report October 1-31, 2019
- Report of the General Superintendent
- Report of Special Counsel
- FEMA October Project Worksheet Status
- DBE Participation on Contracts

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 AM.