

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
SPRING LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

A Public Hearing was held Wednesday November 9, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the District Office, 115 Spring Lake Boulevard, Sebring, Florida. The Landowners and regular meeting immediately followed.

Present were:

Tim McKenna	Chairman
Bill Lawens	Vice Chairman
Kay Gorham	Secretary
Brian Acker	Asst. Secretary

Absent: Sue Dean, Asst. Secretary

Also, present were:

Joe DeCerbo	District Manager
Clay Shrum	Director of Operations
Diane Angell	District Administrator
Israel Serrano	Utilities Supervisor

Absent: Bill Nielander, District Attorney

Residents & Guests	"See Sign in Sheet"
--------------------	---------------------

**FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Call to Order and Pledge**

Chairman McKenna called the meeting to order and led the Pledge.

**SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Public Hearing**

A Public Hearing was held on the FRWA annual Fiscal Sustainability Study and Capacity Fees for Residential and Non-Residential new construction.

The public hearing and landowners meeting were published in the Legal notices in the Highlands News-Sun twice as per statute.

Brian Acker said he had spoken to Attorney Nielander who did not see any legal issues with the wording in the Resolution for Utility Rates and Fees.

The public hearing was closed, and the regular meeting commenced.

**THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2023-01 Utility Rates and Fees**

There being no further discussion.

ON MOTION by Bill Lawens, seconded by Brian Acker with all in favor Resolution 2023-01 Utility Rates and Fees was approved.

**FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2023-02 Capacity Fees**

There being no further discussion.

ON MOTION by Brian Acker, seconded by Bill Lawens with all in favor Resolution 2023-02 Residential and Non-Residential Capacity Fees was approved.

Bill Lawens said he would like to recommend that the Employee Holiday Bonus increase to \$400 and be given to the employees before the Christmas season.

ON MOTION by Bill Lawens, seconded by Kay Gorham with all in favor to give staff a \$400 Holiday Bonus was approved.

Bill Lawens thanked Phil Gentry for all of his hard work on the festival, it was a great success.

**FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Adjourn Regular Meeting**

The regular meeting adjourned, and the Landowners meeting was convened.

**SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Convene Landowners Meeting**

- A. District Manager appointed to conduct meeting

Joe explained the process for determining voting units and that all taxes need to be paid on the property in order for the votes to be considered.

B. Determine number of voting units present and candidates

The audience was polled, and it was determined that there were 17 voting units present. Lorris (Butch) Copeland presented 101 proxies. Diane will verify that the taxes have been paid.

C. Collect Proxies and determine results pending proxy certification

Lorris (Butch) Copeland was the only candidate seeking a landowner seat on the Board and received all 118 votes.

D. Public Questions and Comments

Bill Lawens thanked everyone for allowing him to serve 15 years on the Board. He said it was a good board and he felt we have accomplished a lot during his time serving.

E. Adjourn

The landowners meeting was adjourned, and the regular meeting was reconvened.

**SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Reconvene Regular Meeting**

A. Motion to accept Resolution 2023-03 canvassing and certifying the election results

ON MOTION by Bill Lawens, seconded by Brian Acker with all in favor Resolution 2023-03 canvassing and certifying the election results was approved.

B. Candidate is seated and takes oath of office

Lorris (Butch) Copeland was given the oath of office and took a seat at the table.

C. Nominations for Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary of Board

ON MOTION by Kay Gorham, seconded by Butch Copeland with all in favor to nominate Tim McKenna as Spring Lake Improvement District Board Chairman was accepted

ON MOTION BY Brian Acker, seconded by Butch Copeland with all in favor to nominate Kay Gorham as Spring Lake Improvement District Board Vice Chairman was accepted.

ON MOTION by Kay Gorham, seconded by Brian Acker with all in favor to nominate Sue Dean as Spring Lake Improvement District Secretary of the Board was accepted.

**EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Upcoming Meetings, Events and Correspondence**

- A. November 11<sup>th</sup>, Veterans Day, Office Closed
- B. November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Staff appreciation Lunch sponsored by Dog Club, @11:45 Dog Park
- C. November 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Holiday, Office Closed

**NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Approval of Minutes**

The Board received copies of the minutes from October 12, 2022 meeting. There being no further questions.

ON MOTION by Brian Acker, seconded by Butch Copeland with in favor the minutes from October 12, 2022 meeting were approved.

**TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Approval of Financials**

The Board received copies of the October 2022 financials. There being no further questions.

ON MOTION by Kay Gorham, seconded by Brian Acker with all in favor the October 2022 Financials were approved.

**ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Treasurer's Report**

An assessment deposit in the amount of \$101,911 was received in November and collections for the year are 8%. Diane is working on 45 requests for information from the auditors.

A. Resolution 2023-04 Adopting Final Budgets for FY 2022

The final budget for FY 2022 was presented to the Board. There being no further questions.

ON MOTION by Brian Acker, seconded by Kay Gorham with all in favor Resolution 2023-04 adopting the final budgets for FY 2022 were approved.

B. Resolution 2023-05 Budget Amendment FY 2023

There has been a delay in getting water meters from the manufacturer. The purchase order for FY 2022 expired on September 30, 2022. A budget amendment to move the funds into the FY 2023 budget was presented to the Board.

ON MOTION by Brian Acker, seconded by Kay Gorham with all in favor Resolution 2023-05 amending the FY 2023 budget was approved.

**TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Manager**

The Board received copies of the 2023 Field and Utility projects list for review. Joe asked the Board to let him know if they have anything they want to see added to the list.

Discussion was held on installing two fishing piers at the ECO Park. We have received a quote from Costello Brothers in the amount of \$27,950 for one 80-foot pier and one 130-foot pier. Resident Karen Palino had some concerns about making sure that they are ADA compliant. This item was tabled until the December meeting.

The District office will close tomorrow in preparation for Tropical Storm Nicole. All staff will be on call if needed.

**THIRTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Attorney**

Attorney Nielander was absent from the meeting.

**FOURTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Supervisor Requests**

Kay Gorham said she would take over the succession planning project from Bill Lawens and requested his guidance in the transition.

Brian Acker said he enjoyed his 16 years on the Board and all of the work that we have accomplished. He wished Bill Lawens the best.

Joe DeCerbo thanked Brian for his years of service and reminisced about some of their earlier projects.

Bill Lawens thanked Brian even though they didn't always agree with each other, he appreciated that Brian always did what he felt was best for the District.

Butch Copeland said he would like to acknowledge Zacks BBQ. He gave away over 500 pulled pork sandwiches at the festival because he wanted to give back to his community. We should all try and support local businesses.

**FIFTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Public Comments**

There being none.

**SIXTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Wednesday December 14, 2022 @ 10:00 a.m.

**SEVENTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Motion to Adjourn**

ON MOTION by Brian Acker, seconded by Butch Copeland with all in favor the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kay Gorham, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim McKenna, Chairman