

MINUTES

BARRON WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING

May 20, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Barron Water Control District was called to order at 9:30 A.M. on Wednesday May 20, 2020, by Pat McKenna, Vice Chairman.

Those present at the meeting were:

Pat McKenna – Board Member & Vice-Chairman
Ron Tritt – Board Member & Treasurer
Judi Kennington-Korf - General Manager
Maria Taylor – Secretary
George Leicht – District Field Supervisor
Andy Higginbotham-District Accountant
Tommy Perry – Johnson-Prewitt & Associates
Craig Taraszki – District Attorney (Via Conference Call)
Beth Daniels – District Attorney (Via Conference Call)
Other Attendees – See attached list (Via Conference Call)

Mark Colbert - Board Member & Chairman (Excuse Absent)

The meeting opened with prayer led by Vice Chairman McKenna followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chairman McKenna announced this is a public meeting and is also an unprecedented and uncertain time for everyone. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused us to alter the way we will be conducting today's meeting.

We are doing our best to limit exposure of the novel COVID-19 virus and are committed to using safe distancing practices and other key safety measures while serving the needs of the District. Under Federal and State guidelines, attendance of this meeting is limited to the Barron Water Control District Board of Supervisors and staff. The District is following Governor DeSantis' Executive Orders (20-69 and 20-114) which allows the utilization of communications media technology. While physical participation of this meeting is limited, if anyone listening has a question, comment, or needs additional information, we will do our best to accommodate you during or after the meeting.

To maintain decorum, during the meeting callers may be muted however, will be unmuted throughout the meeting so those participating by phone may be heard. Vice Chairman McKenna also noted he would entertain comments before a vote. He thanked everyone for their patience and understanding and the District is committed to ensuring the District taxpayers will continue to receive the highest quality service available.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Verification of proper meeting notice
- b. Verification of quorum
- c. Approval of Meeting Minutes January 22, 2020
- d. Approval of Local State of Emergency, COVID Resolution 2020-1 (A-H)
- e. Ratify decision to surplus and sell BW#100, F-150 2012 truck
- f. Ratify reactivation of BW#96, F-150 2010 truck

Upon motion duly made by Supervisor Tritt, seconded by Vice Chairman McKenna and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED AND APPROVED the Consent Agenda was adopted as presented.

Vice Chairman McKenna asked if there was any public comment, there was none.

Open 2020-2021 Proposed Tentative Budget Public Hearing

Vice Chairman McKenna opened the 20120-2021 Proposed Tentative Budget Public Hearing

Ms. Kennington-Korf presented the 2020-2021 budget clarifying a basic budget was prepared for the Board's consideration. The budget included the capital items listed for 2020-21 which includes a tractor and mower, rebuilding pump A on Super 2 along with a soft start panel (Barron's share of the cost will be 22%); and, a soft start panel for the Barron Farm 2, pump A.

	Basic budget
Budget	\$1, 951,302.10
Urban	\$59.01
Irrigation	\$25.59
Drainage	\$ 5.66
Urban Grove	\$29.51

The general fund budget was created with a goal in mind to reduce the tax rate levy assessments while increasing services. This is possible because there have been a number of occurrences that actually added to the cash-carry-forward revenue. For these reasons, the budget is higher; however, the taxes are lower than they have been in over five years.

Attached is a new five-year capital plan. You will note the inclusion of soft start panels when a pump is being rebuilt and the staging of equipment in multiple-year increments.

Vice Chairman McKenna asked if there was any public comment, there was none.

Upon motion duly made by Vice Chairman McKenna seconded by Supervisor Tritt and unanimously carried, be it resolved and approved the Barron Water Control District adopts Resolution 20120-2, the Tax Rate Assessment Levy as follows:

The tax rate levy for maintenance taxes for the urban area of the District shall be \$59.01 per acre except that land owned by other governmental agency which has been exempted from said levy by prior resolutions adopted by this Board and approved by court order. This tax applies to Hendry County and Glades County.

The tax rate levy for maintenance taxes for the urban grove units shall be \$29.51 per acre. This tax applies to Hendry County and Glades County.

The tax rate levy for maintenance taxes for the irrigated agricultural units shall be \$25.59 per acre. This tax applies to Hendry County and Glades County.

The tax rate levy for maintenance taxes for the drainage agricultural units shall be \$5.66 per acre. This tax applies to Hendry County and Glades County.

Motion passed at 10:05 A.M.

Upon motion duly made by Supervisor Tritt, seconded by Vice Chairman McKenna and unanimously carried, be it resolved and approved the Barron Water Control District adopts the total maintenance budget for the fiscal year October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021 of \$1,951,302.10 which includes \$575,393.10 from the assessment of maintenance taxes after taking into consideration all anticipated revenues from other sources.

Motion passed at 10:06 A.M.

Vice Chairman McKenna announced the Public Hearing closed at 10:06 A.M.

Audit Presentation, FY 2018-19 (via phone)

Mr. Jeff Tuscan, District auditor provided the 2019 Audit. He stated that he found no material weaknesses and no instances of non-compliance. He explained the necessity of and the process for using a "public funds" account for District monies

Upon motion duly made by Supervisor Tritt, seconded by Vice Chairman McKenna and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED AND APPROVED the District accepts the 2018-19 annual audit subject to a reconciliation of the Hendry County Tax Collectors office to the Barron GF.

Upon motion duly made by Vice Chairman McKenna, seconded by Supervisor Tritt and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED AND APPROVED the District adopts Resolution 2020-3, amending the adopted General Fund annual operations and maintenance budget for fiscal year 2019-20 balance reflecting an adjustment of \$501,210.

General Manager's Report

Item A. 2019-20 District Fund Balance Policy

The District adopted a Fund Balance Policy in 2011. According to the Policy, a range of 25% - 50% of the actual annual operating costs shall be used to calculate the unassigned fund balance. As presented, the Board's unassigned fund balance (\$550,000) in the adopted 2019-20 budget is equal to 61.53% of the net operating balance (\$893, 854.75) which exceeds the policy guidelines.

Upon motion duly made by Vice Chairman McKenna seconded by Supervisor Tritt and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED AND APPROVED the District adopts 2019-20 Fund Balance Policy.

Item B. Consider Scheduling ALICO DWS workshop. Due to COVID-19 a workshop scheduled for March 25th was cancelled. At some time in the future when more is known about the ALICO dispersed water storage project, the Board will consider holding a workshop to consider the impact to landowners and the District. Thereafter, in a duly advertised Board meeting will be held to determine the level of support for the project.

Item C. FYI

- i. USACE Lake Okeechobee level, as of 2400 hours, May 28, 2019: 10.95'

Legal Report:

Legal is up to date at this time.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Perry advised there is no new business at this time, no word from Hendry County on permit, Capital improvement cost to be shared with Super 1 and Super 2 users.

Field Supervisor's Report:

Field Supervisor Leicht advised the Board mowing has started, spring herbicide was not needed this year, due to drought pumping has increased, diver was able to recover 3 flapper gates, maintenance is ongoing on equipment.

Other Business

Vice Chairman McKenna asked for public comments, there were none.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 A.M.



Mark Colbert, Chairman

ATTEST:



Maria Taylor, Recording Secretary

