

MINUTES

BARRON WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING

May 28, 2015

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Barron Water Control District was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on Thursday, May 28, 2015, by Mark Colbert, Chairman, who verified that a quorum was present and that the meeting had been legally advertised.

Those present at the meeting were:

Mark Colbert - Board Member & Chairman
Duane Hobby – Board Member & Vice-Chairman
Judi Kennington-Korf - General Manager
George Leicht-District Field Supervisor
Debora Simicich - District Secretary
Andy Higginbotham-District Accountant
Tommy Perry – District Engineer
Duane House – Landowner

Mr. Colbert opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Colbert announced Mr. Kress' resignation from the Board.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED, APPROVED, AND ACCEPTED the resignation of Ricke Kress from the Barron Water Control District Board of Supervisors and declared Seat #3 vacant.

The process for choosing a replacement board member was discussed. It is not a requirement that the vacant position be advertised. Board members are required to own property within the District. Mr. Hughes, representative of the largest single landowner in the District, would like to have a person on the Board. They are in the process of resolving several issues with the change of ownership and should have everything in place soon. The Board would have to approve of the person Mr. Hughes puts forward for nomination to the Board.

Mr. Colbert declared this to be a Public Hearing to consider the tax levy for tax year 2015 and the budget for fiscal year October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016.

Ms. Kennington-Korf reviewed cost saving measures that have been taken in an effort to keep expenses to a minimum. She then presented the FY 2016 proposed tax rates for the District as follows:

Urban	\$67.94 per acre, an increase of \$19.94 from the 2014-15 rate of \$48.00
Urban Grove	\$33.97 per acre, an increase of \$9.97 from the 2014-15 rate of \$24.00
Irrigated	\$25.35 per acre, an increase of \$4.61 from the 2014-15 rate of \$20.74
Drainage	\$ 5.26 per acre, an increase of \$1.44 from the 2014-15 rate of \$3.82

Ms. Kennington-Korf presented Resolution Number 2015-5 to approve and adopt a final budget and tax rate levy for fiscal year October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED Resolution 2015-5, adopting the following items:

1. The tax rate levy for maintenance taxes for the urban area of the District shall be \$67.94 per acre except that land owned by other governmental agencies 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.
2. The tax rate levy for maintenance taxes for the urban grove units shall be \$33.97 per acre. This tax applies to Hendry County and Glades County.
3. The tax rate levy for maintenance taxes for the irrigated agricultural units shall be \$25.35 per acre. This tax applies to Hendry County and Glades County.
4. The tax rate levy for maintenance taxes for the drainage agricultural units shall be \$5.26 per acre. This tax applies to Hendry County and Glades County.
5. The total maintenance budget for October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016 of \$1,348,201 which proposed budget includes \$688,865 from the assessment of maintenance taxes after taking into consideration all anticipated revenues from other sources.

Mr. Colbert adjourned the Public Hearing and continued with the Board Meeting.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, It was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED minutes of the previous meeting held on January 20, 2015 as written and individually read.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, It was

RESOLVED, APPROVED, AND RATIFIED all actions taken by the Board of Supervisors at the Emergency meeting held on April 15, 2015 to address the remedy for the incorrectly applied tax rate in Hendry County was satisfied by refunding overpayments greater than \$10 and that the minutes of the meeting be accepted as individually read.

Ms. Kennington-Korf then presented the 2015 – 2016 Fund Balance Policy.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, It was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED the adoption of the 2015 – 2016 Fund Balance Policy.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED the adoption of Resolution 2015-3 amending the 2014-15 annual budget to reflect actual fund audited amounts.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED the adoption of Resolution 2015-4 amending the 2014-2015 adopted budget to reflect corrected Hendry County tax revenue.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED that the General Manager inform the Pavese Garner Law Firm that the current service agreement, either formal or informal, will terminate and the Firm will be used on as-needed basis upon their acceptance of the terms of the agreement.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED that the General Manager is to work with and engage the services of Terry Lewis of Lewis, Longman, & Walker, P.A. to further advance the removal of the District September 30, 2020 sun-setting provision.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED the addendum to the Internal Service Fund (ISF) Agreement and directed the General Manager to bring forth the ISF Agreement addendum to the Collins Slough and Gerber Groves Water Control Districts for adoption, subject to their Counsels' review.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED the modification of the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Pt. LaBelle Community Development District (PLCDD) to a perpetual document reflecting 50% of a true dollar amount to be billed each month for services contracted to the PLCDD.

The last item on the agenda was use of the District car by District employees. The discussion was previously tabled in order for staff to gather more data on the effects of staff using their private vehicles while on District business. Ms. Kennington-Korf presented the board with the information regarding the increase in costs, as could be ascertained, of using private vehicles in place of a District vehicle. She also re-iterated the amount the PLCDD pays to the Barron District (\$150 per month or \$1,800 annually) for use of the vehicle while on PLCDD business. A discussion ensued regarding reasons behind staff using the District vehicle. Mr. Colbert was of the opinion that the vehicle is here and paid for, it would be best to use it until the current vehicle wears out. Mr. House is opposed to

use of the vehicle and wants the District to get rid of the car. He would like the District to pay the employees a monthly allowance for use of their private vehicles while on District business. He is of the opinion that if an employee is involved in an accident while in the District vehicle, the District could be brought into a law suit but if they are in their private vehicle instead, the District would be left out of any charges resulting from the accident since the driver's private insurance would be held accountable. The discussion then turned to the monthly cost of not using the vehicle. Mr. Higginbotham compared the cost of the current vehicle use policy, which is to reimburse drivers for actual mileage driven, versus payment of a monthly allowance to compensate for mileage driven. He further pointed out that an allowance paid to the drivers would result in an increase in wages but a mileage reimbursement, as long as it is at or below the current federal reimbursable rate, would not be deemed an increase in wages. It was decided that the employees will not use the District car and the District will continue to reimburse drivers on a monthly basis for actual miles driven using the current Federal mileage rate.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Mr. Hobby and unanimously carried,
It was

RESOLVED AND APPROVED that the Ford Fusion owned by the District be disposed of and that employees be reimbursed at the current Federal rate for mileage driven in their private vehicles while on District business.

Ms. Kennington-Korf presented a letter from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission recognizing District Field Supervisor George Leicht and Jeff Daniels, PLCDD Field Supervisor, for their assistance in the removal of a dead manatee in a Barron District canal.

Ms. Kennington-Korf updated the Board on progress made in clearing the FY 2014 audit findings.

Options for disposal of the District car were discussed. It was decided that Mr. Leicht will investigate options available.

Mr. Perry reported that all is well within the District.

Mr. Leicht reported on what was accomplished by the field employees during the winter months.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 P.M.

ATTEST:



Mark Colbert, Chairman

Debora Simicich, Corporate Secretary

