

**CEDAR KEY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 309 / 510 THIRD STREET
CEDAR KEY, FL 32625**

**Minutes of Special Meeting
Board of Commissioners
March 25, 2019**

Board Members Present: Joe Hand, Stephen Rosenthal, Dottie Haldeman, Leslie Sturmer.

Others Present: John McPherson, David Boeff, Bunny Hand, Bob Treat, Jerry Treat, Susan Rosenthal, Mack Cox, Mandy Offerle, Molly Jubitz, Claudette Nelson, Jean Gardner, Robert Gardner, Doug Lindholt, Sue Colson.

1. Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Stephen Rosenthal, Chair.
2. Pledge and Prayer.
3. Adoption of Agenda. **Motion** by Dottie Haldeman to adopt the agenda as presented. **Second** by Leslie Sturmer. Passed by a vote of 4-0.
4. Review of Proposed Option/Lease Agreement with NexTower for placement of a communications tower on the site of the water treatment plant.

The General Manager, John McPherson, provided background information, including:

- David Boeff, with NexTower, contacted the District about putting a 300-foot tower on the water treatment plant property at the corner of SR 24 and CR 347.
- This request arose out of Levy County's need for a tower in the area for emergency services communications in the Cedar Key area which are inadequate at this time.
- Levy County confirmed this need, and that there was a need to expedite construction of a new tower due to the potential loss of space on a more-distant existing tower.
- There is room on the WTP property in the area that the City currently uses for a public works yard and that, as proposed by NexTower, the new tower would not interfere with the City's use of the area.

The General Manager then went over the specifics of the proposed option/lease agreement between the District and NexTower. In particular, he provided information showing that the rental rate offered by NexTower was comparable to what other landowners were receiving for communications towers in the region. He noted several minor changes that would need to be made to the Option/Agreement, but that Mr. Boeff had agreed to them and could be easily made on the final draft.

Bunny Hand asked about the lighting of the tower and what it would look like. Mr. Boeff stated that the lighting would be white strobe during the day with blinking red at night. A sketch of the 300-foot self-supporting tower was provided to the Board and audience.

Commissioner Sue Colson and Fire Chief Robert Robinson confirmed that emergency services radio coverage in Cedar Key was dangerously inadequate, and that this new tower was badly needed.

There was general discussion about the possibility of cell phone carriers co-locating on the tower and thereby improve cell service in Cedar Key. Mr. Boeff stated that this was possible and that he would be working to make such co-location happen.


There followed general discussion and general agreement that the tower was needed for public safety and that the WTP site was a good location for the tower.

Motion by Leslie Sturmer to authorize the Chair to sign the proposed option/lease agreement with minor final changes to be made by the General Manager. **Second** by Dottie Haldeman. Passed by a vote of 4-0.

5. Commissioner Comments: None.
6. Public Input: Public input was requested but none was provided.
7. Adjournment: There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.



Stephen Rosenthal, Chairperson



Leslie Sturmer, Commissioner &
Secretary of the Board

Date: 4/8/19