

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

**Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Board of Commissioners  
June 14, 2021**

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

Others Present: Chad Wisdom, John McPherson, James McCain, Sue Colson, Tim Norman, Taylor Col, Clay Childers, Jan Childers.

1. Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Stephen Rosenthal, Chair.
2. Pledge and Prayer.
3. Adoption of Agenda. **Motion** by Dottie Haldeman to adopt the agenda with the addition of a presentation by Tim Norman regarding the design of the proposed new water treatment plant. **Second** by Leslie Sturmer. Passed by a vote of 5-0.
4. Tim Norman: Mr. Norman, engineer with Mittauer Associates, presented the following with regard to the proposed new water treatment plant:
  - Background on the history of attempts to design a new water treatment plant (WTP) that would meet all water quality standards, and the multiple pilot tests conducted, especially with regard to the need to achieve lower THM levels.
  - The newest attempt using granulated activated carbon (GAC) has worked and so GAC filtration has now been added to the end of the process in the proposed new WTP.
  - Also proposed for the new WTP is a pellet softening process to replace the current lime softening process. There are many advantages to this new process and it is being pilot tested with the District's raw water. The pH will be raised to remove some organics and soften the water, with CO<sub>2</sub> used to bring the pH back down.
  - A two-stage ion exchange will be next in the treatment process, based on success with the current Miex ion exchange system in removing organics.
  - These treatment processes will maximize the removal of organics, iron, etc., prior to the final filtering by GAC, and will thus help extend the life of the carbon.
  - The location of the plant will be the District's wellfield, rather than the existing WTP location. The added room and elevation of the wellfield site will more than offset the additional cost of piping waste and treated water from that location.
  - The treatment processes will be fully enclosed in an 8,000 square foot metal building that can be built at grade due to the elevation of the wellfield site.
  - The backwash discharges from the various treatment processes will need to be piped to the wastewater treatment plant for treatment and disposal. Current rules no longer allow onsite discharge as is currently practiced. In the case of a saltwater intrusion

emergency, the discharge from reverse osmosis will be piped and discharged into nearby surface waters.

- The total estimated cost for the project, including hard and soft costs, is \$12,500,000.
- There are a number of funding options, including Rural Development and Florida State Revolving Fund, with differing grant and loan levels having different impacts on needed rate increases.

Mr. Norman requested that the Board approve moving forward with this plan and its submission to Rural Development for a preliminary determination of eligibility. The Board discussed the proposed plant and its cost. **Motion** by Dottie Haldeman to move ahead with the project and budget as proposed, with submission to Rural Development. **Second** by Joe Hand. Passed by a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Norman requested that the Board approve moving forward with pilot testing the pellet softening system, at a potential cost of \$6,000. **Motion** by Tabitha Lauer to move ahead with the pilot testing. **Second** by Dottie Haldeman. Passed by a vote of 5-0.

City Commissioner Sue Colson reminded the Board to keep in mind the issue of sea level rise as the Board moves forward with the design of the new plant, and to not forget the impact of sea level rise on the wastewater treatment system.

5. Approval of Minutes. **Motion** by Dottie Haldeman to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of May 10, 2021, as presented. **Second** by Joe Hand. Passed by a vote of 5-0.
6. Financial Reports. Budget, Balance Sheet, Checkbook Activity, and Employee Leave reports were presented for review. **Motion** by Dottie Haldeman to accept the financial reports as presented. **Second** by Tabitha Lauer. Staff was asked to check on the item 6560 on the profit and loss statement which does not make sense. Tabitha Lauer asked about the procedures for making sure that customers pay on time, and suggested that greater use of water shut-offs be used to ensure prompt payment. Passed by a vote of 5-0.
7. Public Input. Clay Childers thanked the Board for deciding to move ahead with the new water plant.
8. Resolution 2021-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CEDAR KEY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT  
CHANGING THE FEES CHARGED FOR WASTEWATER HOOKUPS;  
PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CODIFIER; AND ESTABLISHING AN  
EFFECTIVE DATE.

The resolution was read by short title by the District's attorney. **Motion** by Dottie Haldeman to adopt Resolution 2021-01 as presented. **Second** by Leslie Sturmer. Tabitha Lauer stated that she felt that customers should always pay all costs of water and sewer hookups, even when directional drilling was required. There was discussion by the Board regarding whether it was fair to charge a customer the full cost of directional drilling in situations where customers happen to be on the opposite side of the road from the main line. The Board agreed that there was generally a need to look at the District's hook up charges to determine if they have kept pace with rising costs, and asked staff to look into this and report back. Passed by a vote of 4-1 (Lauer voting no).

9. Resolution 2021-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CEDAR KEY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT; AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR POSTING ON THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The resolution was read by short title by the District's attorney. **Motion** by Leslie Sturmer to adopt Resolution 2021-02 as presented. **Second** by Dottie Haldeman. Staff was questioned about whether the numbers on the budget amendment were accurate and it was determined that they were. Passed by a vote of 5-0.

10. Bill Adjustment. **Motion** by Dottie Haldeman to approve the bill adjustment request by Oak Forest LLC as meeting the requirements for an adjustment. **Second** by Tabitha Lauer. Passed by a vote of 5-0.

11. General Manager Report.

a. *Water Plant.* The GM reported that excellent THM results were obtained in the most recent DBP testing, and that the monthly average was now within limits so that a notice would not be required for the next quarter. He stated that staff would continue to work to achieve these results with the GAC filtration and water plant improvements.

b. *Wastewater System.* The GM reported that CROM Corporation began concrete repairs at the WWTP, and that the condition of the concrete was much worse than initially thought, with significantly more materials and repairs needed. This will result, he reported, in higher costs so that the budgeted amount will only cover approximately 1/3 of the project originally slated for this budget year. He also reported that the lift station refurbishment has been looked at by two separate contractors, and that an estimate received by one contractor was \$59,000 per lift station.


c. *Cell Service.* The GM reported that Verizon was set to begin installation of the new antennas during the week of June 21.

d. *Covid-19.* The GM reported that the District continues to follow mask-wearing and separation protocols at the District office, and that wastewater samples continue to be taken to UF for analysis. He reported that half of the staff had been vaccinated.

12. Attorney Report. The attorney reminded the Board that the Form 1 financial disclosures were due by July 1.

13. Commissioner Comments. There was discussion about the joint meeting with the City Commission scheduled for June 15. Leslie Sturmer stated that we should avoid using the term "bad water." She noted that well water along the coast was often a challenge to treat, but that the term "bad water" should be avoided.

14. Public Input. Public input was requested, but none was provided.
15. Adjournment: There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

  
Stephen B. Rosenthal, Chairperson

  
Leslie Sturmer, Commissioner &  
Secretary of the Board

Date: 7/12/2021