

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

**Minutes of Special Meeting  
Board of Commissioners  
December 3, 2021**

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

Others Present: Chad Wisdom, James McCain, Alicia Johns, Mandy Offerle, Frank Offerle, Jim Wortham, Greg Lang, Tim Norman, Jan Childers, Clay Childers, Sarah Solano Stokes, Heath Davis.

1. Meeting called to order at 5:06 P.M. by Leslie Sturmer, Secretary of the Board.
2. Pledge and Prayer.
3. Adoption of Agenda. **Motion** Dottie Haldeman by to adopt the agenda as presented. **Second** by Leslie Sturmer. Passed by a vote of 5-0.
4. Consideration of Contractual Relationship with Mittauer and Associates.

Chairman Stephan Rosenthal stated that the real purpose of this meeting was to decide on the pipeline. He goes on to say that he is adamantly opposed to a pipeline. Commissioner Leslie Sturmer brings up that it was discussed and voted on at the last meeting to hold off on progress with the new plant project and investigate the possibility of the pipeline and to do necessary repairs to existing Water Treatment Plant to maintain. Commissioner Tabitha Lauer agreed that she made the motion and Commissioner Dottie Haldeman agreed that she supported that vote but has some lingering concerns. Citizen Heath Davis was recognized and stated that he had a copy of Resolution 2021-09 that was voted on November 8, 2021, in a vote of 5-0 and it was in support of the pipeline. Greg Lang from Mittauer and Associates discussed that the steps forward are to start feasibility studies then the Board will know whether it's even an option. Tim Norman from Mittauer and Associates discussed the pipeline project and its moving parts that must happen. He also discussed that a rehab project for the current Water Treatment Plant would be in the millions of dollars. General Manager Chad Wisdom re-established that a refurbishment project was not a permanent "fix" but would only buy the time to get one of the more long-term solutions in place. Commission Leslie Sturmer stated her agreement to that assessment. Commissioner Tabitha Lauer brought up the premature nature of the discussions on the pipeline were from her standpoint, due to not having had the meetings with all of the entities necessary, especially Suwannee River Water Management District. General Manager Chad Wisdom stated that she was correct in that the discussion was premature, but the purpose of calling the Special Meeting was solely to discuss our Districts engineer. Commissioner Leslie Sturmer asked the question that as of Friday, December 3, 2021, what was the amount owed to Mittauer and Associates?

Tim Norman from Mittauer and Associates states that there is around \$200,000 owed in unpaid accrued cost. Greg Lang adds that the intent is that it is to be paid through grant funds in future projects and continuing to work in good faith. James McCain asks if there was to be a break with Mittauer and Associates would we still owe the \$200,000? Tim Norman's answer was, not necessarily. They would want to work with the District on funding possibilities. James McCain asks, as the pipeline is a regional project, why would Cedar Key Water and Sewer District foot 100% of the feasibility study costs, discussion ensued. Commissioner Dottie Haldeman asks James McCain his opinion on the pipeline, he said he is for it but needs more information from water tests and numbers to support it fully. Clay Childers makes a comment that everything for any new water project of any direction needs to be put in at the well site out of flood zone and be thoroughly tested. Commissioner Dottie Haldeman adds she would like to see comparison water test verses our current water tests. **Motion** made by Dottie Haldeman to retain Mittauer and Associates as our engineering group under current contractual agreement, **Second** by Leslie Sturmer vote passed 5-0.

Greg Lang wanted to discuss regional water supplies and states that we should see a good reception from Suwannee River Water Management District. Leslie Sturmer asks the question with this being a regional water project/district, would that change our Special District? Answer to this question was referred to the Districts legal counsel.

5. General Managers Report – None
6. Attorney Report – Read by General Manager Chad Wisdom
7. Commissioner Comments – Non-Additional
8. Public Input

Mandy Offerle asks when we should see our numbers and water test along with cost. Greg Lang answers that they Mittauer and Associates would start as soon as possible but could have some results as of the January Board Meeting, which lead to the discussion on refurbishment and that grant money is not available for work at existing site. The study by Mittauer is at no cost to the Water and Sewer District.

Heath Davis ask for clarification on the monies owed to Mittauer and Associates. Is money owed or not? Commissioner Dottie Haldeman states that we are not obligated to pay \$200,000 per John McPherson the Districts legal counsel. General Manager Chad Wisdom confirmed that Mittauer and Associates, if the District got future grant money, would get paid.

Heath Davis asked if the City of Cedar Key needed to request an accounting of this by letter to get this clarified since the District requested a portion of the "COVID" grant funds that the City of Cedar Key has received. Additional concerns were raised by Heath Davis that, the only discussion that should have been had during a Special Meeting was on the specific topic of the meeting which was item 4 on the agenda. Consideration of the Contractual Relationship with Mittauer and Associates. It was decided to continue that relationship between the District and Mittauer and Associates, which continues the lack of clarity on the outstanding money owed. Next point made by Heath Davis, was to ask the Board to not invest time in the Water Pipeline yet, but let the other entities run that pipeline project, and wait until everyone is met with. To which Chairman Stephen Rosenthal called the meeting adjourned.

9. Adjournment: There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 6: 14 P.M.



Stephen B. Rosenthal, Chairperson



Leslie Sturmer, Commissioner &  
Secretary of the Board

Date: 12/13/21