

BRUNSWICK REGIONAL WATER & SEWER H2GO
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18, 2023

OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ronnie Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.; a quorum was present. The assembly cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Present from the Board of Commissioners were members Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman, Barry Laub, Vice Chairman, Rodney McCoy, Secretary, Commissioners Steve Hosmer and Bill Beer. Present from H2GO was Bob Walker, Executive Director, Scott Hook, Assistant Executive Director-Administration, Russ Lane, Assistant Executive Director-Operations, Ken Brown, Finance Officer, Teresa Long, Deputy Finance Officer, Brenda Thurman, Customer Service Manager, Stephanie Blair, Communications Director, and Deana Greiner, Clerk to the Board. Also present was attorney Steve Coble.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA:

Chairman Jenkins opened the floor for any adjustments to the agenda. Mr. Walker requested to move the items related to the office renovation to Executive Session because they dealt with contract negotiations. **Commissioner Beer made the motion to approve the agenda as amended; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

It was pointed out that on page four of the minutes, "Commissioner Rodney" needed to be changed to "Commissioner McCoy."

Commissioner Beer made the motion to approve the consent agenda which consisted of the December 14, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

Commissioner McCoy complimented staff on working over the holiday weekend to fix a line leak. Commissioner Hosmer presented the board and staff an article he found on the contamination of freshwater fish; he pointed out that eating one fish had the equivalent amount of contamination as if drinking the same water for one month. Chairman Jenkins reported that he attended a meeting with Congressman Rouser; he explained that it was interesting to learn what Congressman Rouser wanted to see.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Jenkins opened the floor for public comments.

Paul Walters: Mr. Walters explained that he lived on Chinaberry Lane, in proximity to one of our well sites. Mr. Walters wanted to know if our well would affect his well in any way. Mr. Walker addressed Mr. Walters concerns; he said our wells were much deeper and are tapped into different aquifers than Mr. Walters well. There was a brief discussion on Chemours and water contamination. Mr. Walker explained to Mr. Walters that Chemours were testing wells in our area, and they were paying to rectify people's water supply. Mr. Walker encouraged Mr. Walters to consider having his water tested and if he had any questions to contact him for more information.

OLD BUSINESS:

Release of Letter of Credit for Seabrooke Phase 3/4:

Release of Letter of Credit for Mill Branch @ Springhill: Commissioner Laub made the motion to release the letter of credit for Seabrooke Phase 3 and 4 and to release the letter of credit for Mill Branch @ Springhill as presented. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

None Discussed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

RO Water Treatment Project Update: Mr. Walker reported that he hopes to have the CO for the RO building by Friday; he explained that there was an issue with a pump being out of spec. Mr. Walker explained that it was something very minor and was able to fix the issue. Mr. Walker explained that well site 4 was operational and well site 2 should be running next week. Mr. Walker explained that they did a 24-hour test on train #1 and it was successful; he said they were starting the 24-hour test on train 2 today. Mr. Walker said if all went well that they hope to have the plant certified by the State by next Friday. Mr. Walker mentioned the 24-inch finished water line that goes down 17 in front of Magnolia Greens; he said it was discovered that it was leaking. Mr. Walker said that there has been a crew working since Monday to fix this issue.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-OPERATIONS:

Mr. Lane said he had nothing to report.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-ADMINISTRATION:

Investment Policy: Mr. Hook presented to the board an updated investment policy; he said there were no major changes to the document, that it followed state statutes. Mr. Hook

explained that the old document still had our old name and old letterhead; he said he updated the name and letterhead.

Purchase Policy/Purchase Order Procedures/TQ&B Form: Mr. Hook said he combined a couple of documents into one policy; he explained that he wanted to increase Mr. Walkers spending limits from \$20,000 to \$30,000 to mirror the state guidelines. Mr. Hook explained that with the price of everything increasing that he also wanted to increase the department head's spending limits from \$500 to \$1000. **Commissioner Laub made the motion to approve the new Purchase Policy/Purchase Order Procedures/TQ&B Form as presented, a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Mr. Hook explained that part of the reorganization of our growing company, that they wanted to make Mr. Ken Brown the Finance Officer and Mrs. Teresa Long the Deputy Finance Officer. Mr. Hook explained that because these positions require the handling of government funds that the state requires these positions to take an oath of office and they must be bonded. Mr. Hook said that both these employees had no issues in being bonded.

Swearing in of Finance Officer: Mrs. Deana Greiner, clerk to the board, administered the oath of Finance Officer to Mr. Ken Brown.

Swearing in of Deputy Finance Officer: Mrs. Deana Greiner, clerk to the board, administered the oath of Deputy Finance Officer to Mrs. Teresa Long.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Check Register- December 1-31, 2022: No comments were made regarding the check register.

December Financial Summary: There was one question regarding the interest payments; it was said that it was for the loan on the RO Plant.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Communications Update: Mrs. Blair reported that she included in the agenda packets a recap from the year of all the social media posts; she explained that she has received mostly positive responses on our commercial that has been airing. Commissioner Hosmer complimented Mrs. Blair on opening the lines of communication between Compass Point and H2GO and the whole district.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Mr. Coble informed the board that as of the first of the year, Mr. Don Eglington from Ward & Smith has retired, and Mrs. Amy Wooten has transitioned into Mr. Eglington position.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION:

None Discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Hosmer made the motion for the board to enter executive session to discuss Consultation with Legal Counsel, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3); and Contract Negotiations, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(5); a vote was called, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosmer motioned for the board to return to open session; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

It was said there was nothing to report out of the Executive Session.

Commissioner Laub made the motion to hire Waldkirch and Saunders for the pre-construction service, not to exceed \$16,000 as presented; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Commissioner Beer made the motion for H2GO to lease temporary office space in the amount of \$157,000 per year; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:


Chairman Jenkins announced the next Regular Board Meeting to be February 15, 2023, at 6 p.m.; he said the meeting will be located at Belville Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

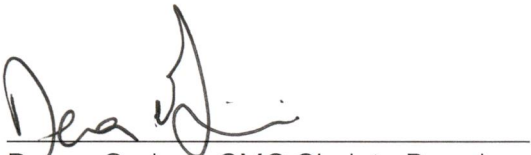
Commissioner McCoy made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m., a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.



Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman



Rodney McCoy, Secretary



Deana Greiner, CMC Clerk to Board

2/15/23



Date of Approval