

MINUTES OF SKYPE STATUS CALL
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FLORIDA KEYS AQUEDUCT AUTHORITY

HELD ON

MAY 1, 2020

PUBLIC MAY JOIN MEETING BY VIA PHONE AT:
1-(850)792-4985
MEETING ID: 283073705

11:00 A.M.

The following MEMBERS were present:

J. Robert Dean. Chairman
Richard J. Toppino. Vice-Chairman
David C. Ritz. Secretary/Treasurer
Antoinette M. Appell. Member
Cara Higgins. Member

Thomas G. Walker Executive Director
Kerry Shelby. Deputy Executive Director
Robert T. Feldman. General Counsel
Timothy Esquinaldo. Internal Auditor
Jolynn Reynolds. Director of Engineering
Peter Gomez. Director of Water Ops.
Jay Miller. Director of Wastewater Ops.

A LIST OF ATTENDANCE IS RETAINED WITH THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THIS MEETING.

COVID-19 STATUS CALL

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dean at 11:00 a.m.

Pam Albury presented the roll call.

AGENDA

Chairman Dean asked if any employees had tested positive for COVID-19. Mr. Walker reported that to date no FKAA employees have tested positive.

Chairman Dean requested that Mr. Shelby present the current financial status before moving forward with the agenda.

Current Financial Status

Mr. Shelby advised that customer payments have slowed down receiving approximately 65% to 70% of what is normally collected. Mr. Shelby reported that there has not been a dramatic drop in revenue and will have more clarity once May readings come in. He added that during a typical month there are 1400 delinquent accounts and at the moment there are approximately 2800. Mr. Shelby advised that staff continues to work with customers in order to keep bills as current as possible and will provide an installment payment plan if necessary.

Stock Island Pump Station Bid Discussion

Mr. Toppino declared a conflict of interest regarding the Stock Island Pump Station Bid discussion.

Chairman Dean stated that due to the unpredictable status of the future due to COVID-19 along with the county closing off the Keys to non-residents through the end of May he believes it best to discard the bids for the Stock Island Pump Station and wait until times are not so uncertain and then schedule the rebid.

Mrs. Higgins stated that she agreed with Chairman Dean and added that spending this amount of money at this juncture with so many unknowns does not sit well with her.

Mr. Ritz asked the reasoning for wanting to rebid. Chairman Dean explained that his logic is to revisit this \$5 million dollar project in a few months instead of moving forward now in the middle of a crisis during uncertain times.

On recommendation of Chairman Dean and motion of Mrs. Higgins, seconded by Mrs. Appell, The Board approved to reject all Stock Island Pump Station bids.

Chairman Dean stated that a new bid process for the Stock Island Pump Station be revisited when times are more predictable.

Stock Island R.O. & Joe Pinder Administration Building Update

Mr. Walker reported that preliminary cost numbers and the design work to date for the R.O. are expected today from the Design/Build Team. Mr. Walker explained that staff will review and discuss the cost numbers and design work with the Design/Build Team and hope to have an item for the Boards consideration on the May agenda to keep the project moving. Mr. Walker advised that staff is waiting for DEO to submit the \$30 million grant application and expect to receive it any day.

Mr. Walker advised that bids are being accepted for the demolishing of the current Administration Building followed by the award of the bid on the agenda in May for the Boards consideration.

Mr. Walker reported that movers are set to help staff begin the staggered moving process beginning in mid-May.

Mr. Walker reported that staff had decided to go with a different delivery method instead of using a hard-bid approach regarding the selection of a contractor for the new building. Mr. Walker advised that by using the Construction Management at Risk approach will save approximately 60 days on the schedule and allow the Authority to select the best contractor for the job and have them on the job site without delay.

Mrs. Appell inquired if the construction manager would be with be the project from start to finish. Mr. Walker advised that is correct.

Mr. Toppino asked if there would be FKAA staff overseeing the construction of the new building. Mr. Walker advised yes, Mr. Bubba Osterhoudt and Mr. Joe White. Mr. Toppino said he was concerned that FKAA staff are familiar with utility construction work but not vertical construction. Mr. Walker explained that staff has worked on several vertical construction projects and added that he would also be on-site and involved in the day to day aspects of the project. Mr. Walker further explained that the Architect's team would be inspecting specialty items for major project elements, as needed, to confirm the building is constructed as designed.

Additional Comments:

Chairman Dean asked if staff had check on the status of the venue for the May Board Meeting. Mr. Walker advised yes and explained that at the moment the hotel remains closed but the catering manager stated that he hopes to have the meeting rooms and catering portion up and running by the May 27, 2020 meeting date. Chairman Dean asked if the venue is not open would a Zoom Board Meeting be scheduled. Mr. Walker advised yes.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

FLORIDA KEYS AQUEDUCT AUTHORITY

By: 
J. Robert Dean, Chairman

Attest:


David C. Ritz, Secretary/Treasurer

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS

J. Robert Dean
Richard Toppino
David C. Ritz
Antoinette M. Appell
Cara Higgins

FCAA STAFF

Tom Walker	Pam Albury
Tim Esquinaldo	Randy Acevedo
Jay Miller	Peter Gomez
Julie Cheon	Rick Ketcham
Karen Rodriguez	Jolynn Reynolds
Teri Veliz	Cindy Kondziela

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

John Sweeting (Union Rep.)