

FRIPP ISLAND PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT

Minutes: Commission Meeting on February 12, 2008

Present: Richard S. Combes, James L. Parks, Edward F. Hroncich, Gary C. Bond, and Patrick A. Reilly, William N. Woodward

Absent: None

Staff: Marion E. Wilson, Manager
Joshua E. Horton, Fire Chief
Angie Hughes, Recorder

Consultants: None

Guests: Rita Riley, Kate Hines (FIPOA)

1. Chairman Combes called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
2. The Commission approved the minutes of the January 8, 2008 Commission meeting, upon motion of Mr. Woodward.
3. Committee Reports
 - (a) The Commission reviewed the Manager’s Report for January (*Att A*). The Commission approved reserving the remaining balance of the vacuum sewer fund in its current bank account for use in paying the bond debt, by motion of Mr. Woodward.

The Commission reviewed the December 31, 2007 financial statements (*Att B*).
 - (b) Mr. Parks, The Bridge & Erosion Committee Chair, introduced an email and notice of public hearing regarding the Hunting Island beach re-nourishment project (*Att C*). He requested that Mr. Wilson contact Wilbur Smith Associates for an opinion on whether the borrowing of sand from the intended site will cause additional scouring of the channel around the bridge.
 - (c) The Budget & Planning Committee did not meet. Mr. Bond stated that next month the Committee will be reviewing the preliminary budgets and requested that the Committee chairmen forward any planned project expenditures to Mr. Wilson for budget inclusion.
 - (d) The Commission reviewed the Fire Department monthly report for January (*Att D*).
 - (e) Mr. Hroncich, the Regulations & Policies Committee Chair, reported that he received pricing information from a radar equipment vendor that would rent equipment to the District for \$295.00 for a two-week period, then interpret the data collected and report it to the District. The District could then decide if it wanted to purchase the solar-powered equipment at a price of about \$4,000.00. He stated that the Committee would present its recommendation after reviewing the speed data collected during January using speed detection equipment borrowed from Beaufort County.
 - (f) The Water Committee did not meet.

(g) Mr. Woodward, the Wastewater Treatment & Collection Committee Chair, reported that the Committee met at the WWTP to discuss landscaping adjacent to Fairway Club and the appearance/condition of the Fripp Island Resort's wooden fence. He stated that the Committee will investigate ways to work with the Fripp Island Resort to improve the area's appearance.

4. There was no Old Business.

5. New Business.

(a) Mr. Wilson informed the Commission that the District's bond counsel, Ms. Margaret C. Pope has resigned from Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A. (HSB) and has opened her own legal firm. As a result, the Commission must decide whether to continue with HSB for bond counsel or to switch to Ms. Pope's new firm, Pope Zeigler, LLC (*Att E*). Mr. Reilly stated that the following points are relevant to the Commission's decision:

- 1) A non-compete agreement does not exist between HSB and Ms. Pope.
- 2) Ms. Pope's departure was amicable.
- 3) The Commission was previously dissatisfied with the attorney whom would probably replace Ms. Pope if the District remained with HSB.
- 4) Ms. Pope's fee schedule would be comparable to the rates charged by HSB.
- 5) Ms. Pope would continue to personally represent the District in legal matters if the Commission selected her new firm.

Upon a motion by Mr. Woodward, the Commission unanimously voted to have Ms. Pope's new firm, Pope Zeigler, LLC, represent the District.

(b) Mr. Wilson reviewed the SCWARN Mutual Aid Agreement (*Att F*) and recommended the District's participation. The Commission approved the District's participation in the SCWARN Mutual Aid Agreement, by motion of Mr. Woodward.

(c) Chairman Combes informed the Commission that the Fripp Island Garden Club has prepared a landscape plan for the common area adjacent to the District's elevated water tank located at 303 Tarpon Boulevard. He stated that the Garden Club has solicited contributions from the Fripp Island Resort, FIPOA, and the PSD to pay for the project. The FIPOA has agreed to contribute up to \$1,000 and the Resort agreed to contribute the balance after other contributions of about \$1,500. Upon a motion by Mr. Woodward, as amended by Mr. Bond, the Commission approved a contribution not to exceed \$1,000.00 contingent upon approval of the final landscape plan by the District as it relates to water conservation. Chairman Combes requested that Mr. Wilson obtain an opinion, in writing, from the District's bond counsel regarding the legality of the District providing free water service for the proposed landscaping.

6. The Commission entertained comments from Kate Hines (FIPOA) and Rita Riley regarding FIPOA's road widening work, landscaping at the water tank, the SCWARN Mutual Aid Agreement, and the Hunting Island beach re-nourishment public hearing at DHEC-OCRM.

7. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m., by motion of Mr. Bond.

Marion E. Wilson
Secretary