

**SEACOAST UTILITY AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING**

December 18, 2024

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Ron Ferris, Chair
Robert Weisman, Vice Chair
Frank Davila, Member
Karen Marcus, Member
Bambi McKibbon-Turner, Member

ALSO PRESENT: Nat Nason, General Counsel
Rim Bishop, Executive Director
Jessica Moore, Authority Clerk

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

*****DETERMINED THE CONSENT AGENDA*****

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Considered a motion to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2024

Considered motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of November 20, 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 7-2024 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AUTHORITY DOCUMENTS AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Considered a motion to approve Resolution No. 7-2024 – Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute Authority Documents and Providing for an Effective Date, as recommended by staff.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2024, SEACOAST UTILITY AUTHORITY SERVICE CODE AMENDMENT

Considered a motion to approve Resolution No. 8-2024, Seacoast Utility Authority Service Code Amendment, as recommended by staff.

MOTION

Board Members McKibbon-Turner/Weisman moved to approve the consent agenda, as recommended by staff.

The motion carried unanimously.

*****ENDED CONSENT AGENDA*****

CUSTOMER BILLING DISPUTE – JOHN GEORGE, 2442 BAY VILLAGE COURT, PALM BEACH GARDENS

Executive Director Rim Bishop introduced the customer, John George.

Mr. George informed the board that two people have made a relatively unpleasant experience pleasant, and that is Executive Director Rim Bishop and Billing and Field Tech Supervisor Channa Martinez.

Mr. George summarized the incident, which he believes began on May 28, 2024, when he was out of the country. He stated that his monthly water bill had been increasing consistently, providing a summary of those increases. He stated that the issue started when the Authority changed the meter transmitter three times, and when that did not work, the meter was changed. Once the meter was changed, his water bills went down and are now consistent.

Debbie Thomsen, Mr. George’s wife, stated that the Authority informed them that it would adjust the high bills after the customer identified and corrected the source of the high water use. Despite the fact that the source was not identified, staff adjusted the customer’s bill in accordance with Seacoast policy, charging only the lowest commodity rate for the unidentified water use.

Mr. George requested that his charges be reduced to an amount similar to his typical monthly billing, as he believes the issues stems from the Authority’s equipment.

Chair Ron Ferris asked how much he would like to pay and, wondering if and how the Authority’s equipment might have malfunctioned, and asked staff for a brief explanation of how the metering system works. Mr. Bishop provided that summary.

Mr. George would like \$398.07 credited to their account, which is the amount remaining from the adjustment that was made.

Mr. Weisman stated he ran the County water utility department many years ago, and these types of issues arose continuously. What needs to be determined is whether there is cause for an adjustment to be issued.

Mr. Bishop stated the amount of Mr. George’s bill that remains in dispute is \$398.07.

MOTION

Board Members Weisman/Marcus moved to approve the requested billing credit of \$398.07 to the account of John George, 2442 Bay Village Court, Palm Beach Gardens.

The motion carried unanimously.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT CHEMICAL RENEWAL - POLYMER

MOTION

Board Members Marcus/Weisman moved to approve Wastewater Treatment Chemical Renewal - Polymer, with SNF Polydyne through December 15, 2025, pursuant to the terms of the competitively bid City of Boca Raton contract at a price of \$1.85/lb., estimated annual cost of \$425,000.00, as recommended by staff.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Weisman complimented staff on the quality of a briefing given to interested consultants at this morning's SCADA selection committee meeting.

STAFF REPORT

Executive Director Rim Bishop stated the engineer's report and the financial report were in the packet. Chief Operations Officer Brandon Selle was present for any engineer report questions. Chief Financial Officer Daniela Russell was present for any financial report questions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, Chair Ron Ferris adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:29 PM.

APPROVAL:

RON FERRIS, CHAIR

ROBERT WEISMAN, VICE-CHAIR

FRANK DAVILA, MEMBER

KAREN MARCUS, MEMBER

RICHARD READE, MEMBER

ATTEST:

JESSICA MOORE, AUTHORITY CLERK