

## **BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021**

There was a special meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held on Thursday, April 1, 2021. A recording of this meeting can be found at the Department office.

1.) **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:52 pm by President Erika Pocock. A quorum was determined by the President.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** President Erika Pocock, Vice President Robert Berkmoes, Secretary/Treasurer Ralph Warner, Commissioner Thomas Murphy, Commissioner Rudy Cabata, Commissioner Ron Lamoreux, Superintendent William Casarella, Assistant Superintendent Albert Fiorillo and Office Supervisor and Recording Secretary Maria Nason

2.) **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

None.

3.) **WELL 10 DRILLING CONTRACT PROPOSAL:**

Superintendent Casarella presented a proposal from Weston and Sampson for the drilling and oversight of Well 10 totaling \$400,000.00. A summary breakdown of project costs was presented and discussed. Commissioner Warner made a motion to accept the proposal from Weston and Sampson in the amount of \$400,000.00. Commissioner Cabata seconded the motion and it was passed on a voice vote.

4.) **WATER RATES/JOBGING**

Superintendent Casarella reviewed the current jobbing rates with the Board. He presented his recommendations for increasing fees. After much discussion, the item was tabled and will be discussed at the next regular board meeting.

Superintendent Casarella recommended a rate increase for the next fiscal year due to the upcoming infrastructure improvements the Department will need to undertake. He suggested working on a three-to-five-year plan to cover the future projects, including the building of a manganese plant. The Board discussed the need to educate the public about the project so they would understand why the Department needs to raise rates. Fire protection rates were discussed. He also advised the Board they may want to consider increasing these rates as well.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to table the discussion and to address it again at the next regular board meeting.

**5.) EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED FOR STRATEGIC NEGOTIATIONS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS:**

Commissioner Warner made a motion for adjournment to Executive Session, barring the public and the press but to include Superintendent Casarella, and Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lamoreux and it passed on a voice vote at 7:35 p.m.

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to reconvene back to Regular Session at 8:13 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and it passed on a voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Warner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lamoreux seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Attest: William M. Casarella  
William M. Casarella, Superintendent