

**WATER AND SEWER EXPANSION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Date: February 13, 2008
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location: City Hall, Committee Room A

Attendees:

Jeanell Wilson, Chair
John Craddock, Vice Chair
Al Sinclair
Harriet McDonald
Susan Rudd

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order / quorum determined. The Board approved the minutes from the January 9, 2008 Board Meeting.

General Update

1. FDEP Nutrient Quantification Study-On hold, awaiting drafts of agreements.
2. BJP S.T.P.O. Oakwood Villas-Went through MBRC with no discussion.
Establishing project codes. Bid opening was held on February 5, 2008 and winning bid was in the amount of \$5.9 million. Will sign contract with contractor on April 10, 2008. All bids were very favorable.
3. Lincoln Villas Pilot Project- Went through MBRC with no discussion as well. First town hall meeting will be held on February 25, 2008. An engineer team has been selected and SOW is being prepared.
4. Grant-Working on CIBR grant which has been very tough to get funding.
5. Government Relations-Currently meeting with each individual Duval delegation member. Have met with both Sen. King and Rep. Stan Jordan.

Status of Current Projects

- Shakir Economy Motel-water
 - Project is on hold. Clearing up outstanding liens for finalization of loan.
- Glendale Road-water
 - Agreement between JEA and WSEA in place. Will be signed by all parties involved before moving forward with construction.
- Iroquois Avenue-sewer
 - Construction has started. Project should be complete by late March/early April.
- The Hartley Press-sewer
 - Closing will take place soon.

Jeanell Wilson asked if volume of calls/interest from homeowners increases when related articles are written in the paper. Deborah Lamb stated that she notices more interest when articles are released. Fred Odom stated that marketing the WSEA in a “public service announcement” style to get the word out about the WSEA is a possibility in the future. It would be beneficial to educate the public more.

Harriet McDonald discussed JEA bonds that are being issued and asked if that is something that the WSEA could piggyback on. Mr. Odom explained that this has been looked at in the past but does not fit for the WSEA. It is cheaper to go through the State Revolving Fund which we have already qualified for.

Mrs. McDonald stated that she thinks the city is responsible for mandatory sewer hookups. Mr. Odom said there has been dialogue with the city; however at this time no one is taking initiative to enforce mandatory connections. He added that Mrs. McDonald’s passion for mandatory hookups is just as strong for other’s passions not to hook up. Mrs. McDonald suggested inviting city council members to future WSEA board meetings.

After a discussion of creating more awareness for failing septic tanks, Mr. Craddock stated that more attention will come to this issue once the warmer months are here. As bacteria increases, people will focus more attention on the issue.

Mr. Odom stated that the Duval County Health Department (DCHD) does not have enough resources and political support to enforce connections. The WSEA has been engaging with JEA, Public Works, Property Appraiser’s Office, and Clerk of Courts to get one process together in efforts to have a more centralized database for control. It can be a difficult process due to many different opinions.

Mrs. McDonald stated that failing septic tanks and river pollution is getting good publicity and slowly making progress. She requested that the WSEA be notified when the SJRWMD holds another River Summit which was recently held at the World Golf Village in St. Johns County.

Other Items for Discussion

Motion to approve projects to provide sewer infrastructure to the communities of Oakwood Villas and Lincoln Villas was given by Jeanell Wilson. Seconded by Mr. John Craddock and voted in favor by all board members present.

Next Meeting

March 12, 2008- City Hall Committee Room A

Request for Public Comment

None

Meeting adjourned