



## WATER AND SEWER EXPANSION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 10, 2010  
Time: 2:00 P.M.  
Location: City Hall/Committee Room B

### **Attendees:**

Jeanell Wilson-Chair  
Al Sinclair  
Susan West

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order / quorum determined. The Board approved the minutes from the February 17, 2010 board meeting.

### **General Update**

1. Lincoln Villa Pilot Project- Service Area 1-Construction Status: Sewer is 77 percent complete. The water portion is 96 percent complete. The project is scheduled to be completed towards the end of this year.
2. Grant Update on STAG- Environmental Information Document (EID) was submitted to EPA on January 24, 2010.
3. Property Appraiser-Danny Turner met with their office and they are researching the best way to implement data.
4. Charter Revision Update-A handout was given to the board which highlighted key points to the revision. WSEA is meeting with various agencies to implement revision. The board members will receive a redline copy. The main issue with the revision is an expansion of an involuntary program.
5. Budget Recommendations-The Finance Committee recommended that the 2010-2011 budget be approved after review from entire board. Another copy of budget will be provided to all board members for review before the final approval at the April board meeting. Jeanell Wilson added that in view of Mayor Peyton's layoff issue, salaries should be frozen. Susan Rudd suggested revisiting the "Temporary Hours" line item and to determine what amount of that allowance has been spent.

### **Other Items for Discussion**

- D&W Electric-The WSEA is financing a sewer project for D&W Electric. They now would like to grant an easement to another party for a billboard. They have requested approval from the WSEA. D&W are current on their loan payments and this grant of easement will have no impact on the loan with WSEA. **Susan West motioned to approve the grant of easement for billboard. Motion was seconded by Al Sinclair and voted in favor by all members present.**
- 4561 Ortega Blvd- This property opted out of the Forest Park Sewer Project. Since then the home was sold and the new homeowner would like to connect to the line. The board discussed the policy and how this situation should be handled. Nothing

is recorded on a property when they choose not to participate in a project. WSEA has flagged properties that opted out of projects. If customer calls to connect to the line, the WSEA will be connected by JEA first. The policy in place is those who opted out have to pay lump sum and no financing when they choose to connect. The homeowner who purchased the home from the owner (who opted out of sewer project) was not notified of policy when home was sold. Originally, WSEA was under the impression that Equality Environmental Division (EQD) would enforce connection if home was sold, but EQD does not enforce WSEA projects. Danny Turner explained that the issue arose when a plumber confronted WSEA about the new homeowner wanting to connect to central sewer. The plumber asked about WSEA's policy. The customer does not know about the policy or price to connect. Their portion of the project, if they chose to connect would be approximately \$19,000 for the infrastructure and that does not include the onsite costs. Since WSEA owns the line, they can decide how it's handled. Mr. Sinclair suggested the original homeowner should be notified and that the burden should be on them. Mr. Odom added the original homeowner could claim they weren't property notified. WSEA mails out letters to all homeowners in the area once a line is available. They also mail a letter and deferral packet to homeowners who opt out of project. Jeanell Wilson suggested notifying homeowner of new project but do not offer financing upfront, but to find out if homeowner is interested in moving forward first. The WSEA plans to send the homeowner a letter with cost estimate and contact information. **Susan West motioned to approve the notification of homeowner with cost estimate. If homeowner requests payment plan from WSEA, board will discuss before approval. Al Sinclair seconded and motion was voted in favor by all members present.**

- D.C. Trip-Fred Odom and Jenny McCollum and Councilman Reggie Brown visited D.C. in late February to meet with several representatives from the House and Senate. Mr. Odom stated there is now a plan to fine tune what needs to be done regarding the "new start" issue. Using the State Revolving Fund (SRF) requires using a dedicated funding source. The plan for the WRDA grant is to have Congresswoman Brown write a letter to the Army Corp of Engineers requesting funding for projects. Councilman Brown articulated the need for such projects.
- Tree Hill Nature Center-Susan West mentioned the revised payment plan issue for Tree Hill. She suggested the WSEA send a letter to them in the summer letting them know that payment plan will be ending in September. A draft of the letter will be presented to board in June.

#### **Request for Public Comment**

None.

#### **Items for Next Meeting**

The next board meeting will be held on April 14, 2010 at City Hall in the Don Davis Room.

**Meeting adjourned**