



WATER AND SEWER EXPANSION AUTHORITY
BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 11, 2006
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall, Committee Room B

Attendees:

Jeanell Wilson, Chair
Dr. Chester Aikens, Vice Chair
John Craddock
Lawrence Jones
Harriet McDonald
Susan Rudd
Al Sinclair
Fred Odom, WSEA Executive Director

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order / quorum determined.

Charter Revision

Mr. Odom explained that the purpose of this workshop is to engage the board. He presented copies of original charter. The entire content of the charter is for a voluntary program. There are 22 failure areas and from the federal level, the program can no longer be voluntary. The Septic Tank Phase-Out Program is following the Better Jacksonville Plan almost identically. Mr. Odom explained that there is sensitivity to the fact that the failure areas are low to moderate income areas. He added that there will be funding available through the U-tip program.

The original charter will be preserved as far as the intent and structure of the charter. An exclusionary clause needs to be written to state that once the 22 areas have been handled, the original charter will take effect. This charter revision will go through city council. We're recommending an amendment to the charter regarding the language that specifies only the 22 failure areas. Once the 22 areas are complete, the original language stays as it was originally created.

By state law, homeowners can defer out and connect when their septic tanks fail or there is a transition of homeowners. With the Program Delivery Team (PDT), Mr. Odom hopes to get connection costs down with innovative engineering, etc.

Budget Status Update

\$800K is left in WSEA's capitol budget. The charter states that the WSEA will contribute 30 percent to the first 500 customers and is reaching that number now. A letter is being drafted to the Mayor stating where we are financially, however, not asking for money. The anticipated \$25 million WRDA authorization will move the WSEA forward. Mr. Odom is also anticipating \$10 million from state and has received \$2 million so far.

Pilot Project

The SJRWMD has committed \$2 million to the WSEA. Together, the City of Jacksonville and JEA will be doing a pilot project within their projects. The goal is to put all resources together and build up the community.

Future Workshop

Mr. Odom explained that in this workshop, the methodology for low and moderate income areas will be developed, including: participation schedule, documentation required, and structure of administration.

Dr. Aikens asked how Duval County's pollution is compared with other counties. Mr. Odom explained that this is presently a debate. Jim Dickenson wants to bring JEA's standards up.

Request for Public Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned.