

Onslow Water & Sewer Authority
Board of Directors' Regular Meeting Jacksonville City Hall
Thursday, May 21, 2020
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Having a quorum, Vice Chairman Royce Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Board members present included Vice Chairman Royce Bennett, Secretary/Treasurer Paul Conner and Directors Timothy Foster, Gregory Hines, Michael Lazzara, Joann McDermon, and Pat Turner. Absent was Chairman Jerry Bittner.

INVOCATION: Vice Chairman Royce Bennett requested that Jeff Hudson, CEO, provide the invocation. Mr. Hudson led the Board and audience in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Vice-Chairman Royce Bennett led the board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – Vice Chairman Bennett provided general guidance to the audience regarding the meeting.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Director Gregory Hines made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Secretary/Treasurer Paul Conner made a second. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA** – A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Paul Conner to approve the consent agenda items as presented. A second was made by Director Gregory Hines. The motion passed unanimously. Therefore, the February 2020 & March 2020 Financial Reports, February 2020 and March 2020 OPS Reports were accepted, the March 19, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes and the Motion to approve the Audit Contract for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 with RSM US LLP and arrangement letter in the amount of \$50,800 were approved.

3. **SPECIAL PRESENTATION** – ONWASA CEO, Mr. Jeffrey Hudson presented the Board and audience with a brief PowerPoint video to express thanks to ONWASA's utility workers for their work during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

4. **BUSINESS**
 - A. **Budget Presentation**

Vice Chairman Bennett called on ONWASA CEO, Mr. Jeffrey Hudson, to present the item to the Board. Mr. Hudson provided a detailed presentation on the proposed budget. [A copy of the presentation may be found at Exhibit A and are fully incorporated herein by reference.]

 - B. **Public Hearing**

Vice Chairman Bennett opened the public hearing and called on Mr. Hudson to conduct the public hearing.

Mr. Hudson conducted the public hearing for the proposed 2020-2021 ONWASA Budget. No members of the public signed up or wished to speak. Vice Chairman Bennett closed the public hearing.

C. Consideration of the Proposed 2020-2021 Budget

Vice Chairman Bennett stated that the 2020-2021 Budget was now available for consideration by the Board.

Action: Secretary/Treasurer Paul Conner made a motion to approve the ONWASA budget ordinance for fiscal year 2020-2021 along with the proposed rate schedule and project budgets 1, 2, 11, 16, and 17 along with corresponding budget amendments as presented. A second was made by Director Joann McDermon. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT – Vice Chairman Bennett asked Mr. Hudson if any persons signed up to speak during the public comment period of the meeting. No individuals had signed up to speak.

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S COMMENTS – Vice Chairman Royce Bennett called upon Mr. Hudson to provide any comments. Mr. Hudson began by thanking the Board for their deliberation over the budget. He also thanked the ONWASA Leadership Team and the ONWASA Finance Office for their work on the budget. Mr. Hudson provided an update on natural disaster preparations.

7. BOARD OF DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS

Director Tim Foster expressed his gratitude for the preparations the ONWASA team has in place. He added that preparations said preparation is the one word that comes to mind. Preparation takes care of a lot of outstanding job preparing for what we know and what we don’t know.

Michael Lazzara thanked CEO Jeff Hudson and team for being so thorough in the budget process. He added that Mr. Hudson and his team are doing a great job moving ONWASA forward in the right direction.

Director Pat Turner thanked Mr. Hudson and staff for the excellent job on the budget process.

Director Joann McDermon stated she is very impressed with everything presented.

Director McDermon expressed appreciation for the (budget) presentation being easy to understand and well thought-out.

Director Gregory Hines said the budget presentation was great. He added we are really working for the citizens we serve. Director Hines also welcomed Joann McDermon to the Board.

Secretary/Treasurer Paul Conner stated all of us are very fortunate to have the ONWASA team we have in charge of the organization.

Vice Chairman Bennett thanked Mr. Hudson for the thorough budget presentation. He expressed his appreciation for the work the staff did to assist with maintaining the rates for customers.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Director Michael Lazzara to adjourn at 6:43 PM. Director Gregory Hines seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned.

The minutes were approved on September 17, 2020.

Onslow Water & Sewer Authority Board of Directors



Jerry Bittner, Chairman

ATTEST:



Heather Norris, Clerk

