

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
of the
LAKE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
October 26, 2016

The Regular Hearing of the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Water Authority was held at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 in the Lake County Administration Building, County Commissioners Chambers at 315 West Main Street, Tavares, Florida.

Members Present-District #

Staff Present

Peggy Cox, Chairwoman (#1)
Adam Dufresne, Vice Chair (At Large)
Doug Bryant (#4)
Charles Clark (#5)
John Harris, (At Large)
Carolyn Maimone (#3)

Michael J. Perry, Executive Director
Patricia Burgos, Environmental Prog. Mgr.
Ron Hart, Water Res. Prog. Mgr.
Sergio Duarte, Water Res. Proj. Mgr.
Ben Garcia, GIS Manager
Carole Barice, LCWA Attorney
Linda Marino, Administrative Assistant
Anna Ely, Recording Secretary

A list of others present that signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the Water Authority.

1. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 p.m. and everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairwoman Cox noted that Water Authority Board candidates, Diana Mullins and Elizabeth Kapoor were in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MR. HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAKE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY, MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016 – REGULAR MEETING. Ms. Maimone seconded the motion.

Motion approved 6-0.

VICE CHAIR DUFRESNE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAKE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY, BOARD MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016 – FINAL BUDGET HEARING. Ms. Maimone seconded the motion.

Motion approved 6-0.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Perry gave the water level report and stated that after Hurricane Matthew, Lake Apopka had neared the regulatory schedule, but with the decrease in rain, the water level is now dropping. He noted that it was the same for the Middle Lakes/Superpond and Lake Griffin.

He stated that during the hurricane, the Clermont Chain water level went from 97.05 feet to 97.4 feet, which made staff a bit nervous. He noted that fortunately the water level never exceeded the maximum range.

He stated that combined flow for Big and Little Creek is at 238 cps at this time. He noted that after hurricane Matthew, the flow for Big Creek was 352 cps, which was the highest on record since Hurricane Donna in the 1960s. He also stated that at its highest, Little Creek was at 327 cps, which was higher than anything on record.

He stated that although the high influx of water made it difficult to bring the water levels down quickly, but the water levels never exceeded the Regulatory Range during this event.

He noted that November is usually the driest month of the year and stated that the county could use a dry month to bring the lakes levels back down and give a cushion in case of another big rain event.

Mr. Perry showed photographs of Emerald Lakes taken on the Saturday after the hurricane and noted that there was very little water in the streets although the water was close up to the boat dock.

He noted that the flow from Big and Little Creek is starting to subside and staff should be able to get the water back down to the decision point soon. He stated that currently Lake Minnehaha is at 97.39 feet compared to 97.08 feet at this time last year.

Mr. Perry stated that he spoke with many Lake County residents while staffing the booth at the Wings and Wildflowers Festival and people informed him that they are happy with the higher water levels. He noted that only one person from that area had complained about the water levels being too high and stated that they thought the water level should be lowered to 96 feet.

He reported that the year-to-date rainfall is 1.17 inches below average rainfall and stated that it is a sign of a healthy lake system for water levels to fluctuate.

Mr. Perry also informed the Board that the Agency's Money Market Investments and CDs will mature in December and staff will be bringing reinvestment information back to the Board in November.

He also informed the Board of the upcoming Christmas Holiday Parades and Chairwoman Cox noted that the parade in Clermont will be on a Saturday and that she wouldn't mind doing that one.

Mr. Perry asked that any Board members to let him know if they wish to participate any of the upcoming local Christmas parades.

Mr. Perry reminded the Board of Linda Marino's upcoming retirement and stated that the Agency has advertised for her replacement and has received approximately 20 applications at this time. He explained that they plan interviewing in mid-November and hope to have someone in place by December.

He noted that Gail Goldberg would be retiring at the end of February and staff would start looking for a replacement in late December so they can have someone in place by early February.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

MS. MAIMONE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. Vice Chair Dufresne seconded the motion.

Motion approved 6-0

- a. Approval of 2017 Board Calendar

AUTHORIZE STAFF TO FILE THE LCWA BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED.

- b. Approval to Memorial Bench at Hickory Point

Ms. Burgos gave a description of the bench and noted where it would be located on the fishing pier.

MR. HARRIS MADE A MOTION A AUTHORIZE INSTALLATION THE OF THE JOHN KIENKE MEMORIAL BENCH AS PER THE REQUESTED COLOR AND LOCATION AT HICKORY POINT PARK. Ms. Maimone seconded the motion.

Motion approved 6-0.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- f. Offer of Purchase on Old Building

Mr. Perry explained that since that since Board memos had gone out, staff had received another offer on the old office building. He stated that a copy of the offer from SDG Logistics had been provided to the them at their seats.

He stated that both offers are for the same amount, with the same escrow amount, but the offer from SDG does include a three percent commission, while the offer from LifeStreams would have no brokers or commission involved.

Ms. Maimone explained that the offer from LifeStreams is also a cash deal, while the offer from SDG not only has a three percent commission cost; there is the possibility that the offer may have financing.

She also explained that the LifeStream offer is with a 45 day due diligence period while the offer from SDG is proposing a 90 day due diligence period, with LifeStream requesting a November closing date and SDG proposing a February closing date.

Mr. Perry stated that the Board had previously rejected an offer for substantially more than the current offers, and that offer has now been withdrawn. Mr. Perry noted that the Board could choose to accept one of the current offers, reject the offers or counteroffer.

Ms. Maimone explained that if the Board chooses to counteroffer, they would have to choose which offer they wished to counteroffer.

She also explained that the Board could also inform each party that there are multiple offers, with differing contingencies so they can come back to the Board with their highest and best offer and least contingencies. She stated that this would be her recommendation, as both offers are considerably lower than what the Board would consider taking. It was noted that both offers are for the old office building and the lot across the street.

Mr. Bryant stated that both offers are low and not anywhere near the value of the property and suggested that because both offers are so low, the Board should entertain not accepting any offers at this time.

Chairwoman Cox asked how old the appraisal was and Mr. Perry stated that the appraisal was completed approximately six months ago. She noted that the market value would not have changed much in that time, and noted that the Board had not received any offers close to the appraised value.

She explained that the appraised value was \$330,000 and the Board had agreed that \$310,000 was the minimum they would accept when the sale of the property had been previously put out to bid. She noted that in response to the bid the Board had received an offer of \$245,000 and when the Board responded with a counteroffer, the offer was withdrawn.

Chairwoman Cox stated that she agreed that sending a letter to both companies informing them that there are multiple offers was a good option.

Mr. Harris stated that he would like to see the Water Authority receive enough to at least recover some of the costs of the new office building.

Mr. Clark asked if the Agency really wanted to try to get more money from LifeStreams. He stated the programs they provide are valuable to the community and stated that it would be like taking money away from the community.

Ms. Maimone stated that this is a real estate transaction and should be looked at as such, without any emotional involvement.

Mr. Harris stated that the Water Authority has to have some fiscal responsibility and shouldn't just give the building away. He stated that he was in agreement with Ms. Maimone and would like to see what their best offers might be and then the Board can decide.

Mr. Bryant stated that looking at the Water Authority's legislative mandate; they have the power to sell real property in a manner that is proper. He asked Attorney Barice if she had any idea how far they could go below appraised value.

Attorney Barice stated that the Board has a fiduciary duty and that would be a factor for the Board when responding to any offer.

Chairwoman Cox noted that they also have a legal obligation to respond to the current offers and they can accept, reject, counter or as Ms. Maimone explained, they can ask them to come back with their highest and best offers. She stated that the longer the Board delays, the higher the chance that the offers would be withdrawn.

MR. HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO ASK BOTH PARTIES TO COME BACK WITH THEIR HIGHEST AND BEST OFFER AND LEAST CONTINGENCIES AND BRING BACK TO THE BOARD ONCE THOSE BIDS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. Ms. Maimone seconded the motion.

Motion approved 4-2 with Vice Chair Dufresne and Mr. Bryant in objection.

Carolyn Maimone left the meeting.

d. Approval to Award 2016-17 Mini-Grants

Ms. Krisovitch informed the Board that the Mini-Grant Committee met on October 10 to review the mini-grant applications that had been received. She stated that the Water Authority had received seven Educational Mini-Grant applications and two Community Grant Applications.

She explained that the Mini-Grant process had been reviewed and changes had been made to the process during the previous year. She stated that the new procedures had worked well for both the Water Authority and the School District, so no changes were made to process for this year.

She stated that most of the Educational Mini-Grants received were field trips to Water Authority properties or other closely related water resource properties.

She noted that one of the Community Grants was a continuation of a Mini-Grant from last year to the Harris Chain Power Squadron. She explained that last year their grant was to put signs regarding boating safety at local public boat ramps. She stated that this year's grant is to put brochure holders on the signs.

She explained that the other Community Grant was to Trout Lake Nature Center to fund in-classroom visits for those schools who are unable to travel to Trout Lake.

In response to questions from Chairwoman Cox, Ms. Krisovitch stated that the total to be awarded was \$9,691.41 of the \$30,700 budgeted.

Mr. Bryant asked if the Agency would be offering Mini-Grants again later in the year, since the amount award was only about one-third of the amount budgeted. Mr. Perry stated that they would not be as schools have deadlines and would not have time to apply for and complete field

MR. BRYANT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE GRANT RECIPIENTS AND DISBURSEMENT OF THE FUNDS TO THE WINNERS OF THE FY 2016-17 EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY “DROP-BY-DROP: YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!” MINI-GRANT PROGRAM TOTALING \$9,691.41. Mr. Harris seconded the motion.

Motion approved 5-0.

e. Authorization to Release the Storm Grant Application

Mr. Hart informed the Board that two stormwater projects were completed this year. He explained that one was with the City of Clermont and involved two parts, one of which was to install stormwater drains underneath the street at Lake Winona, the other part to construct a swale along Lake Winona to contain the water draining to the lake.

He stated that the second project to be completed this year was the Wolf Branch Road Project with Lake County. He explained that the project included two retention ponds, one on each side of Wolf Branch Creek, to contain water that normally runs across the road. He also noted that they also installed a CDS Unit, which is a vortex type unit to capture the stormwater and capture any sediments before the water runs off.

He informed the Board that 52 projects have been completed with help from funding by the Water Authority since 1996. He stated that these projects have total \$19,000,000 with the Water Authority providing \$5,600,000 in funding.

He stated that these completed projects remove 1,100 pounds of total phosphorous from the waterways each year. He explained that the total phosphorous removed to date is over 11,000 pounds with a cost of \$653 per pound to remove.

Mr. Hart stated the Board approved \$900,000 in the budget for stormwater projects and staff is asked permission to release the Stormwater Grant to the County and Cities. He noted that the deadline date for the return of applications is December 16, 2016 and staff will bring them back to the Board for approval in January.

MR. BRYANT MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO RELEASE THE 2016/2017 STORMWATER GRANT APPLICATION TO THE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC AGENCIES. Mr. Harris seconded the motion.

Motion approved 5-0.

i. Approval to Contract for Villa City Dam Modification Design

Mr. Hart stated that the Water Authority has been working on the Palatlahaha River system, revising and modifying the dams along the River. He stated that the modifications to M-1 and M-4 have been completed. He noted that the modifications to M-5 and M-6 are out to bid at this time and those bids are due on November 5th. He stated that staff would be bringing the results of that bid back to the Board in December.

He explained that staff is now in the planning stages for the modification of the dam at Villa City. He stated that staff is asking the Board's permission to design and permit a fixed crested weir similar to the other structures.

Mr. Harris asked how everything fared downstream during the last release of water and Mr. Hart stated that most of the structures fared quite well.

He stated that M-6 as it is fairly narrow and with natural wetlands immediately downstream the water does not push through there very easily or readily, which, at times, can cause a bottleneck.

He noted that during the last release of water, M-4 was an issue due to the elevation. He explained that during permitting the St. Johns River Water Management District refused to allow the elevation of the structure to be any lower and in his opinion, the elevation is about two inches too high. He stated that because of this, the water level in that area exceeded regulation by almost two inches.

Mr. Dufresne asked if there were still gates at Villa City and Mr. Hart stated that there are at this time.

Mr. Hart noted that the Water Authority had a similar issue on M-6 as M-4, with the District wanting the weirs to be at a higher elevation than the Water Authority was recommending. He explained that staff wanted the elevation at 91 feet, while the District wanted to issue the permit at 91.5 feet. He stated that staff knew that water would back up if the elevation were that high, so they stood their ground and the District eventually issued the permit at 91 feet.

In response to Vice Chair Dufresne, Mr. Hart explained that residents in the area don't want the Water Authority operating the structures and determining who floods and when.

He explained that the Water Authority would have liked to have done a full restoration, but the District would not allow that due to impacts it would have to the wetlands. He stated that the fixed weirs would simulate a more natural flow at higher elevations.

MR. BRYANT MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH DREDGING AND MARINE CONSULTANTS FOR THE DESIGN AND PERMITTING MODIFICATIONS TO THE VILLA CITY DAM. Mr. Harris seconded the motion.

Motion approved 5-0.

g. Participation in Litigation Regarding General Chemical

Mr. Perry explained that this item is related to the participation in litigation regarding General Chemical. He stated that Attorney Barice had brought this to the Board's attention last month. He stated that the Board had deferred their opinion and asked for more information. He stated that at this point it is the Board's decision whether they wish to participate or not in the litigation proposed by Salem Law Group.

He stated that he felt the Board needs to provide Attorney Barice with some direction as to whether they wanted to be involved in this suit or any other suit against General Chemical. He stated that his recommendation would be that the Water Authority doesn't get involved in any litigation now or in the future.

Chairwoman Cox noted that when this was brought to the Board last month, Mr. Clark had asked that they wait until more Board members were in attendance to discuss the issue.

Chairman Cox noted that Ms. Maimone had asked for an estimate of how much had been spent in attorney's fees regarding General Chemical and Attorney Barice stated that she had spent a total of three hours through this month.

It was clarified that the invitation by Salem Law Group is not to be part of a class action suit, but rather to participate in a lawsuit against General Chemical along with other companies who had been overcharged by General Chemical.

Mr. Clark asked Mr. Perry why he was recommending not getting involved in the litigation and Mr. Perry stated that he was not sure the agency would get a very decent return and he felt there was a possibility that the Water Authority would spend more money than it would get in return.

Chairwoman Cox asked how much the Water Authority had been overcharged, and Mr. Hart stated that it was approximately \$400,000.

Mr. Clark asked in what way the Water Authority might lose money, and Attorney Barice explained that in contingencies set forth by the Salem Law Group, it stated that should there be no recovery; the Water Authority wouldn't have any expenses. She stated that if it was deemed a frivolous lawsuit, the defendant (General Chemical) could conceivably sue the Water Authority for attorney fees and costs, which could be a risk.

Attorney Barice explained that the Salem Law Group would be handling the litigation, but she didn't know to what extent the Water Authority would be called upon to testify. She stated that as they are not a local government attorney, she would be keeping an eye on the proceedings and there would be minimal fees as she monitored the suit and ensured that the Water Authority would be protected. She explained that the Salem Law Group has agreed to reimburse the Water Authority for any expenses up to \$5,000.

Attorney Barice stated that if the Board wishes to pursue this any further, she would suggest that they ask representatives of the Salem Law Group to come and give a presentation to the Board and explain their proposal.

Mr. Bryant stated that \$400,000 is no small sum, and suggested that they postpone further discussion and have staff invite the Salem Law Group to come and make a presentation to the Board.

MR. BRYANT MADE A MOTION TO INVITE THE SALEM LAW GROUP TO COME AND MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD, EXPLAINING THEIR PROPOSAL; AND TO ASK ATTORNEY BARICE FOR AN ESTIMATION OF POSSIBLE ATTORNEY FEES IN THE FUTURE. Mr. Clark seconded the motion.

Motion approved 4-1 with Dufresne in objection.

Chairwoman Cox reminded the Board that come December there would be several new Board members. Attorney Barice clarified with Chairwoman Cox that the Board wished for the Salem Law Group to make the presentation at the November Board Meeting.

Vice Chair Dufresne asked that Attorney Barice look into the Salem Law Group.

h. Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council Letter

Chairwoman Cox stated that she would like to delay the discussion of the letter of response to the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council Letter for another month as she has not had a chance to go over all of it.

Mr. Clark stated that as the letter contains LCWA opinions, the Board needs to go over the letter and decide how the Board feels about each item, as they are items the Board has not discussed and voted on previously.

Chairwoman Cox stated that they would delay discussion of this topic until next month.

a. Benthic Invertebrate Report

Sandi Hanlon-Breuer gave a PowerPoint presentation on the condition of the Clermont Chain of Lakes.

She informed the Board that Lake Minneola North and South scored Very Good on the LCI Index as well as Lake Louisa North. She stated that the lakes scored high in the number of species that are pollution sensitive. She noted that Lake Minnehaha East and West also maintained a score of Very Good while Lake Louisa South scored a score of Good.

Chairwoman Cox noted that there has been some microcystis in Lake Minneola this summer and Ms. Hanlon-Breuer stated that even so, the lake is still in good condition, as the overall bugs in the lake that are pollution sensitive are in high numbers.

Ms. Hanlon-Breuer also noted the discovery of *Slavina evelinea* in Lake Minnehaha West, which represents a new geographic location for this oligochaete (or fresh water worm) in all of North America. She stated that she sent slides to Mark Wetzel at the University of Illinois and he had confirmed the identification.

Chairwoman Cox asked if *Slavina evelinea* was a food source for fish and Ms. Hanlon-Breuer explained that they are a very tiny bug found in the sediment and therefore part of the food chain for sediment feeders.

Mr. Harris thanked Ms. Hanlon-Breuer for her report, stating that she does a great job. It was noted that seeing her report makes it worthwhile to see the good that can be done when dealing with stormwater runoff.

Mr. Clark stated that since there were Water Authority candidates in the audience, it would be interesting if she would explain what the LCI is and why it is significant.

Ms. Hanlon-Breuer stated that the LCI stands for the Lake Condition Index, and was invented by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as a way of assessing the condition of water bodies. She stated that the LCI is used to classify lake health and SCI is used to classify streams. She explained that it is a way to compare lake conditions from year to year.

Mr. Perry explained that the reason bugs can be used as an indicator of lake health as they usually stay in one place and don't travel like fish.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one who wished to make public comment.

CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSION ITEMS

b. Annual Report Presentations from Education Contractor and Contracted Naturalist

Marianne Krisovitch informed the Board that educational programs reached approximately 500 more people this year than last year and contacts are on the rise.

She stated that she and Mr. Crail worked with 20 different schools, held ten special events and in conjunction with the Lake County Water Monitoring Program, they have trained an additional 61 people to help monitor some of the 1,400 lakes in Lake County.

She noted that they did 16 field trips to Hickory Point and Bourlay Historic Nature Park and stated they reached over 3,000 students this year, with the majority of them being elementary school level.

She stated that she and Mr. Crail also work with high school students and Lake Sumter State College students on field trips to the NuRF, teaching about dip netting and macroinvertebrates. She noted that Mr. Hart also gives them a tour of the centrifuge and explains how the NuRF works.

Ms. Krisovitch stated that they also provided 15 adult presentations with a total attendance of approximately 3,000 adults. She explained that the educational programs included the Citizen's Lakes Academy, Lake Clean Ups, the Lake County Fair, Lake Envirothon and Wings and Wildflowers. She noted that Mr. Crail would be at the Scottish Highlands Festival next month in Mt. Dora in an effort to expand their connection with the community.

She explained that they had also visited seven different libraries with the Water W.ON.D.E.R.S. Program and reached 272 students. She stated that they also reached 75 students with the Science in the Park program.

She informed the Board that the next Lake Clean-Up would be on Saturday, December 10th from 8:30 am until noon at Wooton Park and Hickory Point.

Ms. Krisovitch introduced volunteer Pete Smith and informed the Board that he has been busy marking storm drains around the county. She explained that Ben Garcia had created an app to help map and record the storm drains that have been marked and that Mr. Smith has completed

the cities of Tavares and Howey-in-the-Hills. She thanked Mr. Smith and presented him with a certificate proclaiming him “Storm Drain Marker Extraordinaire” and stating that he has put out several-thousand storm drain markers.

Marc Crail stated that it is a privilege to be involved with the Water Authority’s outreach program and stated that it is fun for him to be working with our youngest citizens. He explained that working with the children, also helps to make an impact on adults. He thanked the Board for their continued support.

c. Annual Report Presentation from Trout Lake Nature Center

Eileen Tramontana, Executive Director for the Trout Lake Nature Center addressed the Board and stated that they are very grateful for the Water Authority’s support. She gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting their different activities over the past year.

She explained that they have been working to revise grade-level education programs to meet the new educational standards. She stated that revisions have been completed through the 4th grade, and they hope to have the 5th grade program updated by next year. She noted that the 5th grade program would be focusing on weather.

She also stated that they have been updating and renovating the facilities, with new carpet and painting, as well as working to expand their audience, trying to reach people who don’t normally go to an environmental event.

She stated that they are piloting new programs and have added a turtle education area, which the Water Authority helped to fund through their community grants last year. She noted that they also have a gopher tortoise that came from the Water Authority that they have named Mr. G. She also noted that a portion of the grant was used to purchase a Turtle Resource box that can be loaned to schools to teach about aquatic turtles.

She stated that the Center also did ten in-school presentation, which reached appromimately 1900 students and held six summer education programs about birds.

Ms. Tramontana also explained that they are continuing to do water monitoring of Trout Lake and have completed the Lake Monitoring Program with Ms. Krisovitch.

She stated that they held a Spring Break Camp for third to fifth grade and the Water Authority was very helpful with that program.

She stated that they have also painted and replaced flooring in the Education Building, along with building the Turtle Education Area. She also noted that they rebuilt the Bobcat Footbridge and have developed plans for a new science building, parking lot and loop road.

She stated that they have several upcoming activities including a Trails and Treats program for Halloween, an Open House, Eco-Adventure Boat Tours and holiday morning bird/nature hikes.

Chairwoman Cox noted that Trout Lake Nature Center also holds many excellent Friday Night Naturalist programs each year.

Mr. Harris left the meeting.

j. Executive Director Evaluation

Chairwoman Cox stated that all the evaluations had Mr. Perry rated as above average on most items. She noted that the evaluation form needs to be revised, as some of the items on the form, the Board has no way of knowing.

Mr. Perry stated that there are three changes to his contract that he is asking the Board to approve. He noted that normally his contract is reviewed every five years, but as he only has four years remaining before the end of his DROP Program (December 31, 2020), he would like to have his contract extended until that time instead of coming back for review in 2018.

He stated that another item involves his severance package, which is for twelve months. He noted that it is not consistent with recent changes in the law, and he would like to recommend that the severance package be reduced from twelve months to four months, to make it consistent with the changes in the law.

He asked that in exchange for the reduction in severance pay he would like to request to be able to sell back 100% of both his accrued annual and sick leave when he retires in 2020. He stated Attorney Barice would also like to tighten up some of the language.

Chairwoman Cox noted that Mr. Perry's current contract will terminate in 2018 and what he is proposing is that it be extended to December 31, 2020, at which time he will finish DROP. She noted that his contract, participation in DROP and his retirement would all fall on December 31, 2020. She also noted that his proposal would also shorten his severance package from twelve months to four months.

Mr. Clark asked for clarification of the annual leave and sick leave changes.

Mr. Harris left the meeting.

Mr. Perry stated that currently the policy stated that you can cash in 100% of your unused annual leave and 50% of your unused sick leave and that in exchange for the drop in severance pay he would like to be able to cash in 100% of both annual and sick when he leaves.

Mr. Clark stated that he feels that annual leave is not meant to be a savings account, but meant to give the individual time to spend with family and pursue other interests, and it benefits the organization as it gives younger employees a chance to steer the ship. He stated that he felt that Mr. Perry was lacking a bit in the delegation of authority department.

Vice Chair Dufresne asked if these changes would apply only to Director Perry, or if they would also apply to any new Director. Attorney Barice explained that the changes would only apply to Mr. Perry's contract.

[VICE CHAIR DUFRESNE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CHANGE IN CONTRACT WITH MR. PERRY WITH THE WATER AUTHORITY TO PAY 100% OF THE

SICK TIME THAT IS LEFT ON THE BOOKS WHEN HE RETIRES ON DECEMBER 31, 2020.]

Chairwoman Cox stated that the recommendation also includes the payment of all accrued and unused sick leave without limitations or restrictions.

Attorney Barice explained that she and Mr. Perry need to work on the wording of the section stating without limitations or restrictions.

Vice Chair Dufresne asked whether they would rather set it aside until next month when the wording has been corrected and Attorney Barice stated that there was no need to wait, as long as it was made subject to corrections in the wording.

Vice Chair Dufresne withdrew his motion and the Board had a discussion on how the motion should be worded.

MR. BRYANT MADE A MOTION TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH DIRECTOR PERRY TO DECEMBER 31, 2020 AS AMENDED AND AS PRESENTED TO THE BOARD, SUBJECT TO MINOR WORDING CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED, WHICH WILL BE HANDLED BY THE ATTORNEY AND THE DIRECTOR. Vice Chair Dufresne seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Dufresne asked that the change in verbiage be brought back to the Board for approval once it has been updated.

Motion approved 4-0.

7. LEGAL STAFF REPORT

Attorney Barice stated that she had nothing new to report at this time.

8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

It was noted that in November, there would be a show of appreciation for the Board members that would be leaving and in December, there would be the investiture of the new Board members and election of Board Officers.

9. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Staff Reports
- b. Monthly Financial Reports – September 2016

11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Harris Chain Power Squadron presentation, Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016 (7:00 pm)
- Water Wonders - Paisley Library, Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2016 (4:30 pm)

- ELC Day in the Park, Venetian Gardens, Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016 (9am to 1pm)
- Minneola Elem Lakes Program, Lake Hiawatha Preserve, Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2016 (12:15pm)
- Flat Island Preserve, Long 4-5 mile Hike, Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016 (9 am – Noon)
- Hydrology & geology of Lake County presentation, Royal Highlands, Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016 (10:00 am)
- Board Meeting - Wednesday, November 16, 2016 (3:30 pm)
BCC Chambers/Admin. Building
- Lake Sumter State College at NuRF, Friday, Nov. 18, 2016 (9am - 11am)
- Minneola Elementary 4th & 5th grade STEM night, Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 (6 - 7:30 pm)
- Love Our Lakes clean up, Hickory Point & Wooton Park, Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 (8:30am to noon)
- Sawgrass Island Preserve, Long 4-5 mile Hike, Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 (9 am – Noon)
- Board Meeting - Wednesday, December 14, 2016 (3:30 pm)
BCC Chambers/Admin. Building
- Lake Norris Conservation Area, Dog & Owner Hike, Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017 (9am-Noon)
- Water Resource Jeopardy, 10am, Poinsettia Garden Club, Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017 (10:00am)
- Water Resource Jeopardy, 10am, Azalea Garden Club, Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017 (10:00am)
- Wolf Branch Sink Preserve Open House, Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017 (8:30 am to 3:00 pm)
- Hickory Point Park 25th Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017
- Freshwater Master Naturalist class at Hickory Point & Hidden Waters, Friday, Feb. 17, 2017 (9am – 3pm)
- Flat Island Preserve, Firefly & Bats, Friday, March 10, 2017 (6:30 pm to 8:30 pm)

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.