

**EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 AT 9:00 AM
IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM
ROOM 103, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
ARCADIA, FLORIDA**

The Board of County Commissioners held an Emergency Meeting on September 30, 2014 with the following persons present:

Commissioner, Buddy Mansfield, Dist#1	Office Manager, Lauri Terry
Commissioner, James Selph, Dist#2	Purchasing Director, Cindy Talamantez
Commissioner, Gabriel Quave, Dist#3	Utilities Director, Eddie Miller
Chairman, Elton Langford, Dist#4	Facilities Director, Richard Metzger
Commissioner, Bob Miller, Dist#5	Senior Staff Accountant, Brian Wagner
County Administrator, Mandy Hines	Utility Coordinator, Donna Smith
County Attorney, Don Conn	Senior Accountant, Pete Danao
Transcribing Secretary, Jill Thompson	Road & Bridge Director, Shawn Edwards
Administrative Services Director, Linda Nipper	

CALL TO ORDER 9:00 AM

PRAYER- Chairman Langford

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION & CONSIDERATION

This meeting is to consider Utility Project Bids for the US 17 Project from 760A to Heard Street.

Eddie Miller requested direction from the Board on how to move forward on this project.

Don Conn stated the reason why a Special Meeting was called is because notice was received from the Florida Department of Transportation last Friday that the County has (5) days to respond and inform them whether or not we are going to proceed based on the bids they received.

Mandy Hines stated the Base Estimate is the engineering estimate that we built all of our planning around. The DOT recommended bid award came in at just over \$2,100,000 which was approximately \$277,000 under our engineered estimate for the waterline. We are required to pay DOT a percentage for CEI Services and also for contingency. The deposit required with the Department of Financial Services in order to move this project forward is \$2,433,465.40.

Ms. Hines does not intend to draw the allowances unless they are needed for construction.

Ms. Hines commented on the Waste Water side, the base bid came in at \$1,900,000. CEI Services will have \$236,000 for a total deposit of \$2,200,000 required by the FDOT. There is a balance of almost \$900,000 in the Waste Water line as a cushion for cost overrun. Further discussion ensued regarding costs and funds. There is approximately \$1,200,000 in loan funding through SRF. There are other funding sources that will be applied for. To date, we have secured approximately 40% of the project costs in Grant funds.

Today the Board needs to notify the DOT that we either reject the bids and they move forward with the highway work outside of the utility work or we accept the bids and evidence that the money is on deposit.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mansfield to accept the Bid for Utility Work along US 17 from 760A to Heard Street and authorize the County Administrator to notify FDOT of the County's

acceptance. Seconded by Commissioner Quave.

Commissioner Selph questioned if we reject this today and come back in 10 years, the project would be much more difficult to accomplish as well as the cost increasing? What impact would rejection have with Representative Albritton? Ms. Hines stated we have already invested \$240,000 in this project and rejection today would have a negative impact.

Commissioner Miller commented that looking back at anticipated numbers; he feels a decision was made long before now. He questioned Ms. Hines if we are ok from a financial standpoint? Eddie Miller commented he will do everything as a department to keep the costs down and he is not uncomfortable with any area of this project. Further discussion ensued regarding financing.

Ms. Hines commented that Plans have not been presented to the Board. Chairman Langford confirmed there would be lines available on both sides of US 17. Mr. Miller reassured him utility lines would be available on both sides of US 17.

Commissioner Quave commented he is happy this project is moving forward. This will generate revenue for the County.

Ms. Hines commented that we will not have information regarding SWFWMD until early 2015.

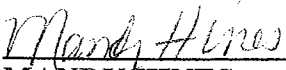
Commissioner Selph commented this Board has been very clear that as this project moves forward, there will be no mandatory hook-ups. New construction will be required to hook-up if there is no well or septic already in place. Further discussion ensued.

Motion carried unanimously.


ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Langford adjourned the meeting at 9:26AM.

ATTEST:



MANDY HINES
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA


ELTON A. LANGFORD
CHAIRMAN