

**TAYLORS FIRE & SEWER DISTRICT
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MAY 12, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held at the District Office in the Board Room, 3335 Wade Hampton Blvd., Taylors, South Carolina at 4:30 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Douglas L. Wavle, Commission Vice Chairman/Secretary
Paul Bowen, Commission Treasurer

STAFF PRESENT

Bobby Baker, Fire Chief	Stephanie Hackler, Bookkeeper
Bobby Van Pelt, Assistant Fire Chief	Chris Powell, Construction Crew Leader
James Baker, Fire Marshal	
Samantha Bartow, Director of Sewer Services	
William "Red" Ables, Operations Coordinator	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stacey Bevill (Ask and Receive), Perry Deloach (Law Offices of Perry B. Deloach, Jr., LLC), Steve Hammett (Noon & Hammett), Fred Reinhardt, Jacqke Reinhardt, Susan Royal, Tina Smerdon (A.T. LOCKE), Scott Taylor (A.T. LOCKE), Pat Wavle, Jordan Wright

In the absence of Chairman Rea, Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle presented the minutes from the Regular Scheduled Meeting held on March 10, 2015 at 4:30 pm. The April 14, 2015 Regular Scheduled Meeting was cancelled. Treasurer Bowen made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle recognized Director Bartow for the Sewer Reports. Director Bartow stated in the absence of GIS Analyst King, Director Bartow would be presenting the GIS report as written and attached. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle recognized GIS Analyst King stating that she has done a great job and has been a great addition to the District for her ability to use the GIS System in order to generate all the necessary information for the District as a whole. There were no questions concerning GIS Analyst King's report.

Director Bartow presented her report as written and attached. She presented the Permit Fees as well as the Summary of Work Orders and Service Requests for the month of March and April. She also stated that by the end of the month, the District will be official members of SC811. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle inquired about the current rates for the sewer permit fees. Director Bartow responded that the Taylors Sewer permits are \$525 for an existing home switching from septic to sewer and \$725 for a new home being built. She stated that ReWa's permit fee is \$2,500 of which we retain 5%. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle asked if the District maintains that proper paper work for that and Director Bartow confirmed. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle then addressed the SC811 issue detailing for the audience the procedure that the District must follow.

He explained that when a contractor or anyone who requests to dig, we receive a ticket to go out and mark our lines. The contractor is not charged for the service, however the District is charged/billed for every ticket request to mark our lines. Director Bartow then finished her report as written and attached. Director Bartow asked if there were any more questions. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle detailed the relationship between Taylors Fire and Sewer District and Renewable Water Resources for the audience. He explained that we have the sewer collector lines that connect to the sewer main lines from ReWa. He feels we have a good working relationship with ReWa. He further stated that we are tasked with maintaining our lines in order to eliminate as much inflow and infiltration as possible and to provide better service to the District. With no further questions, Treasurer Bowen made a motion to accept the Sewer Department Reports as written. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle recognized Fire Chief Baker for the Fire Reports. Fire Chief Baker presented his report as written and attached. Fire Chief Baker announced that the four new firefighters started on April 6, 2015. Firefighter Jon Michael Frost was assigned to A-Shift. Firefighter Ian Scollon was assigned to B-Shift. Firefighter Michael Leccese and Firefighter Herman McDonald were assigned to C-Shift. Fire Chief Baker recognized Firefighter Gabriel for 3 years of service, Firefighter Horton for 3 years of service, Firefighter Trotter for 11 years of service, Firefighter C. Frost for 3 years of service, Firefighter Blackwelder for 1 year of service and Lieutenant Dixon for 14 years of service. Fire Chief Baker reported that the Cardiac Arrest Survivor Ceremony will be held on May 22, 2015 at the TD Convention Center at 2:00 pm. Lieutenant Johnson, Firefighter Condrey and Firefighter Traynham will be recognized for the cardiac arrest incident that they responded to at 15 Fairview Place on August 20, 2014. Lieutenant Dixon, Firefighter Radzak, and Firefighter Krawczyk will be recognized for the cardiac arrest incident that they responded to at 1603 Pincroft Drive on August 28, 2014. Lieutenant Dixon, Firefighter Loveridge, and Firefighter Williams will be recognized for the incident that they responded to at 510 Indian Trail on September 27, 2014. Fire Chief Baker reported on the incident response report and fire fatalities report for both March and April. Fire Chief Baker stated that he had a thank you note from Ms. Judith Kaplan concerning Lieutenant Burgess that he wanted to read for the record. The letter stated that while on a family camping trip, Lieutenant Burgess heard about a sick hiker (Ms. Kaplan) on the trail and he jumped into action. Lieutenant Burgess was the first one to reach Ms. Kaplan and was so professional and concerned. Ms. Kaplan ended the letter stating the District was very fortunate to have such a dedicated man on our team. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle inquired about why the false alarm numbers doubled in the last month. Fire Chief Baker stated the majority of the false alarms have to do with personal alarms not being maintained. When a business or homeowner's alarm goes off, we must respond. Fire Marshal Baker stated that there was one business whose sprinkler system was setting off the alarm. When responding to the call, they were told a technician was on the way to repair the sprinklers, however a second call for the same alarm came in before the technician arrived. Fire Chief Baker also stated that thunderstorms will cause alarms to go off as well. He informed the Board to expect that number to remain high for the next few months. Fire Chief Baker asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle then recognized Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt for his report. Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt presented his report as written and attached. Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt reviewed the training attended during the months of March and April, as well as the

upcoming training that will be offered in the coming months. He reviewed the level tests administered, the meetings he attended, and the fire investigations that were conducted. Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt updated the Board on Automatic Aid stating that it is running very smooth. He stated that all notifications are done by tones. Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt then discussed the new hires and the process under which they were hired. He thanked all three shifts for making this recruit class a success. Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt stated that all the ladders on trucks were tested on April 15, 2015. Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt thanked Operations Coordinator Ables and his Crew for helping get the pipes and other materials to the training tower to make a confine space prop. He also thanked the Fireman for all the hard work in the shop. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle stated that he is proud that we are at a 100% with Automatic Aid. Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt cautioned that the program was not in writing yet, however we are 100% covered due to the partnerships we have formed. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle thanked the Fire Department for their work on the program and then detailed how the program works for the audience. There were no further questions regarding Assistant Fire Chief Van Pelt's report.

Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle recognized Fire Marshal Baker for his report. Fire Marshal Baker presented his report as written and attached. He reviewed the inspections, training/meetings, and fire prevention measures for the months of March and April. Fire Marshal Baker stated the Taylors Fire Department assisted 6 families by providing and or installing 11 smoke alarms in March and April. Fire Marshal Baker thanked the District Office personnel with a special thanks to Director Bartow and GIS Analyst King for their help sending out letters to the residents of the privately owned apartments in Jamestown Commons Apartments. He reported that the Fire Department inspected several chimney flues in the attic accesses of the privately owned apartments in the complex as a result from what was found at a recent fire. There being no further questions or comments, Treasurer Bowen made a motion to accept the Fire Department Reports as written. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle recognized Mr. Scott Taylor for the Financial Reports. Mr. Taylor reviewed his reports as written and attached. There being no further discussion, Treasurer Bowen moved to accept the Financial Reports as presented. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There was no old business to discuss.

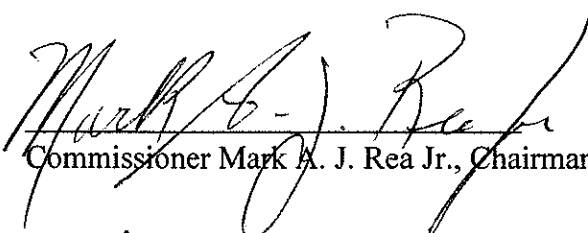
Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle stated that there is a memorandum from the South Carolina Special Purpose District Association concerning the Legal Policy Fund Procedure. Treasurer Bowen made a motion to table all discussions concerning this matter until the next Regularly Scheduled Meeting to have ample time to go over the material. This will be handled in Old Business next month. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle recognized Mr. Jordan Wright to speak on behalf of the Edwards Forest Community. Mr. Wright thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and for the services that they provide the community. Mr. Wright stated that it has come to their attention that a Right-of-Way is being enforced by the Sewer Board. He stated that as it was explained to him at the end of last year, he found the policy to be disturbing. He wanted to make it very clear that the

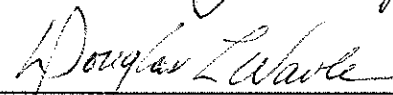
community does not want to cause any trouble or inhibit Taylors' ability to service our lines. He further stated that they do not want to leave anything in place that will endanger the lines, the environment, or our community. What the community finds the most troubling about this policy is the fact that everything within the 25ft. right-of-way is to be destroyed. He detailed that this included all landscaping, fencing, and structures both permanent and temporary were to be destroyed and replaced with grass. He stated that this would represent thousands of dollars' worth of landscaping and structures that have been there for decades and that this would be done with no compensation. Mr. Wright stated that he counter proposed through the attorneys representing the District that the homeowners will accept virtually all of the policy however they would like to plant small shrubs or something that would provide property demarcation lines and improve the visual appearance of where the sewer lines run. He stated that they wanted the freedom to plant something that would not interfere with the value of their properties. He feels that the current landscaping being replaced by "scorched earth" would lower their property values. Mr. Wright stated that he was informed that the counter offer he introduced was rejected and he was told that nothing but grass could exist within the 25ft. right-of-way. Mr. Wright stated he researched EPA regulations that he was told the Sewer Board is attempting to be compliant with to see exactly what it says. He read what he referred to as an EPA regulation aloud. Mr. Wright stated that most of the regulation is inline with what he has been told with one exception. He stated that trees and deep rooted landscaping is the only type of landscaping laid out in the guideline. He pointed out that shallow rooted plants, flower beds, and gardens were not listed in the regulation. Mr. Wright stated that the Edwards Forest Community is challenging the notion that nothing can be planted within the right-of-way with the exception of grass. They are asking that some kind of shallow rooted plants, that will improve the aesthetic quality of the land between the houses, be permitted with the understanding that these plants will not harm the sewer lines or impede the Sewer Department's access to the lines. The Edwards Forest Community feels there are alternatives to what the Sewer Board is presenting and they would like the opportunity to move forward with an alternative. Mr. Wright also stated that another idea came to mind was a greenway of sorts that would allow a trail in between the properties lined by flowers that are shallow rooted and would pose no threat to the sewer line. Should there be an emergency, there would be nothing preventing the equipment from gaining access to the right-of-way. Mr. Wright concluded his request by asking the Board for the opportunity to present a compromise. He stated that the Edwards Forest Community has an appointment with Attorney Edwin Haskill at the end of the week in order to litigate the matter should a compromise not be possible. Mr. Wright did state that they prefer not to litigate and that they do not want the District to be spending money on litigation. He felt that the money could be used elsewhere to better serve the community. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle responded that he was in agreement that he did not have a desire to go into litigation. He also questioned a few of the statements made by Mr. Wright. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle took offense to the comment concerning "scorched earth". He stated that the Sewer Department does have to take heavy equipment down the line but that they will maintain the right-of-way with grass not "scorched earth". He stated that he takes exception to that because the Sewer Department does a fine job maintaining the right-of-ways. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle detailed the purpose of the right-of-way and the necessity of access. After a lengthy discussion, Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle stated that the Sewer Board does not oppose the homeowner planting small shallow rooted plants or crops with the understanding that the District may gain access at any time deemed necessary to maintain or repair the line. It is also understood that this access may destroy whatever is planted in the right-of-way. Director Bartow further stated that it takes two crews to complete the

maintenance on the line. The line will need to be cleared and then the Cleaning Crew comes in behind to verify the integrity of the line. This process could take several months. She advised against planting anything in the right-of-way until the work is completed. Mr. Wright restated for clarification that if the homeowners have the flexibility, once the Sewer Department's work is completed, to replace the destroyed landscaping with something that is not going to be a threat to the our lines or to be a significant barrier to our future ability to do work, then they should be happy. He further mentioned that he represents many of the homeowners and he would like to get back with the neighborhood association and explain to them what has been told to him today. He stated that they would keep the lines of communication open and update us with their intentions once our work is done in order to avoid conflict. Mr. Wright then asked should our trucks have to run over a strip of sod and it is a certain type of grass, would we replace it with the type of grass previously there. Operations Coordinator stated that we would seed it, fertilize it and place straw over it.

There being no further business, Treasurer Bowen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman/Secretary Wavle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:41pm.


Commissioner Mark A. J. Rea Jr., Chairman

06-15-2015
Date Minutes Approved


Commissioner Douglas L. Wavle, Vice Chairman/Secretary


Commissioner Paul Bowen, Treasurer

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