



Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District
103355 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo, FL
Tuesday, February 4, 2025

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER (A)

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (B)

Mr. Rudy Perez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL (C)

Present were: Chairman Nicolas Rodriguez; Commissioners Sue Heim, Robert Majeska, Tim Maloney

Appeared Virtually (non-voting): Commissioner Philip Schwartz

Also present: General Manager Peter Rosasco; General Counsel Nicholas Mulick; District Clerk Shannon McCully; Finance Manager Connie Fazio; Field Manager Rudy Perez; Plant/Facilities Manager Ryan Dempsey; Weiler Engineering Steve Suggs and Lexi Connor; IT Support Manny Santana

Appeared Virtually: Project Administration and HR Coordinator Laura Weinstock

Guest Appeared Virtually: Fred Hicks, Hicks – Richardson and Associates

AGENDA ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR DELETIONS (D)

Approval of Agenda (E-1)

Commissioner Maloney requested the addition of item *Q-1 Letter to the Editor*

Commissioner Heim requested item *Q-1* be presented before *E-Public Comment*

Commissioner Heim requested the addition of items *O-2 Vote on 12,000 Gallon Cap Removal*, and *O-3 Vote on Rate Increase*, *Q-2 RAD Drill*

Motion: Commissioner Maloney made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Heim seconded the motion. Motion passed without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENT (E)

Name and Address:

John Brooke, Key Largo

Subject:

Agenda Item O-1

Burke Cannon, Key Largo

Agenda Item O-1

William Falver, Key Largo

Agenda Item O-1

Chris Zischka, Key Largo

Agenda Item O-1

Eric Neitzer, Key Largo	Agenda Item O-1
Anthony Gibus, Key Largo	Agenda Item O-1
Jeffery Belitz, Key Largo	Agenda Item O-1
Glenn Wright, Key Largo	Agenda Item O-1
Connie Duque, Key Largo	Agenda Item O-1
Sonniah Abraham, Key Largo	Agenda Item O-1

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (F)

Minutes of January 21, 2025 (F-1)

Motion: Commissioner Maloney made a motion to approve the minutes of January 21, 2025. Commissioner Heim seconded the motion. Motion passed without objection.

GENERAL MANAGER (G)

FKWQIP/ACOE Update (Laydown) (G-1)

Mr. Hicks gave an update on the current FKWQIP/ACOE funding for KLWTD.

KLWTD Safety Committee Update (G-2)

Mr. Rosasco discussed changes to the KLWTD Safety Program.

CUSTOMER SERVICE (H)

No report in agenda.

IT (I)

No report in agenda.

BUDGET AND FINANCE (J)

No report in agenda.

FIELD (K)

No report in agenda.

PLANT/FACILITIES (L)

No report in agenda.

CAPITAL PROJECTS (M)

KLWTD Grinder Lateral Kit Upgrades Project Final Balancing CO#2 (M-1)

Mr. Suggs requested approval for CO#2.

Motion: Commissioner Heim made a motion to approve M-1
Commissioner Maloney seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Commissioner Heim – Aye
Commissioner Maloney – Aye
Commissioner Majeska – Aye

Chairman Rodriguez – Aye

ENGINEERING (N)

No report in agenda.

5:00 PM Commissioner Heim made a motion to close the Board Meeting and Open the Public Hearing

Commissioner Majeska seconded. Motion passed without objection.

LEGAL REPORT (O)

12,000 Gallon Cap Removal/Rate Change – 5:00 PM Public Hearing (O-1)

Public speakers addressed the Board.

5:56 PM Chairman Rodriguez called the Board Meeting back to order.

12,000 Gallon Cap Removal (O-2)

Motion: Commissioner Heim made a motion that the last sentence of Rule 9.03 (b) (i) be stricken from KLWTD Rules and Regulations. Commissioner Maloney seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:

**Commissioner Heim – Aye
Commissioner Maloney – Aye
Commissioner Majeska – Nay
Chairman Rodriguez – Aye**

Motion: Commissioner Heim made a motion to amend the agenda to allow votes on the cap issue and rate increase (O-2 – 12,000 Gallon Cap and O-3 – Rate Increase). Commissioner Maloney seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:

**Commissioner Heim – Aye
Commissioner Maloney – Aye
Commissioner Majeska – Aye
Chairman Rodriguez – Aye**

Rate Increase (O-3)

Motion: Commissioner Heim made a motion to approve Option 4 through FY2028 with a new Rate Study in January 2028 with the inclusion that the GM give direction each year. Commissioner Maloney seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:

**Commissioner Heim – Aye
Commissioner Maloney – Aye
Commissioner Majeska – Nay**

Chairman Rodriguez – Aye

COMMISSIONER ITEMS (P)

No report in agenda.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION (Q)

Letter to the Editor (Q-1)


The Board discussed Commissioner Majeska's letter to the editor in the January 30, 2025, FreePress.

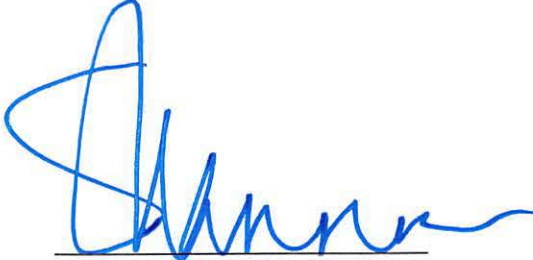
RAD Drill (Q-2)

Commissioner Heim discussed the Monroe County's Radiological Drill scheduled for February 11, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT (R)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.



Nicolas Rodriguez, Chairman

Shannon McCully, Clerk

**PRESENTATION BEFORE THE KEY LARGO WASTEWATER TREATMENT
DISTRICT ON FEBRUARY 4, 2025**

The 119th Congress convened on January 3 earlier this month. President Trump was sworn into office on January 20th.

--Here are some updates on District's Federal agenda.

--Three paths for Energy and Water Appropriations funding for the FKWQIP: (1) FY25 Energy and Water Appropriations. (2) The FY26 Energy and Water Appropriations. (3) A substantial new source for water infrastructure which is funding for disaster relief passed by the Congress in late December.

--The FKWQIP is pursuing all three opportunities. For FY25 this includes \$5.65 million in the Army Corps of Engineers budget in "Congressionally Directed Funding."

Although FY25 began on October 1, 2024, the bill had not been finished by the start of the Federal fiscal year on October 1. Additional time is needed to agree on a final bill that the President can sign. The Energy and Water FY25 Appropriations bill was put on Continuing Resolution [CR] from October 1 through March 14. This can be extended if necessary.

--It is hoped that a FY25 CR would give Congress time to work through any problems encountered and to pass and for the President to sign the Legislation.

--The second source of Energy and Water Appropriations funding is the FY2026 funding cycle, and a similar path could be taken.

--In addition to regular Appropriations cycles Congress also passed a large disaster relief Appropriations bill late in December.

--The bill was introduced on December 20 of last year and signed into law the next day.

--\$700 million for Corps Construction of which \$300 million is reserved for Environmental Infrastructure.

--The FKWQIP advocates have always stressed (1) Keys unity. (2) The fact is that there will be more competition for future Corps Environmental infrastructure than in the past.

--Nothing sinks a program faster than a group of local sponsors battling amongst themselves for Federal funding.

--We always stressed that if FKWQIP wasn't funded then no Florida agency would receive funds either. This is no longer correct.

--WRDA-24 included 7 new projects:

Broward County, \$50,000,000, Water and Wastewater

Deltona Count, \$31,200,000. Water and Wastewater

Long Boat Key, \$2,000,000/ Water and Wastewater

Marion County, \$10,000,000, Water and Wastewater

Oviedo County, \$10,000,000 Water and Wastewater

Ocala County, \$5,000,000 Water and Wastewater

Central Florida \$45,000,000 Water and Wastewater

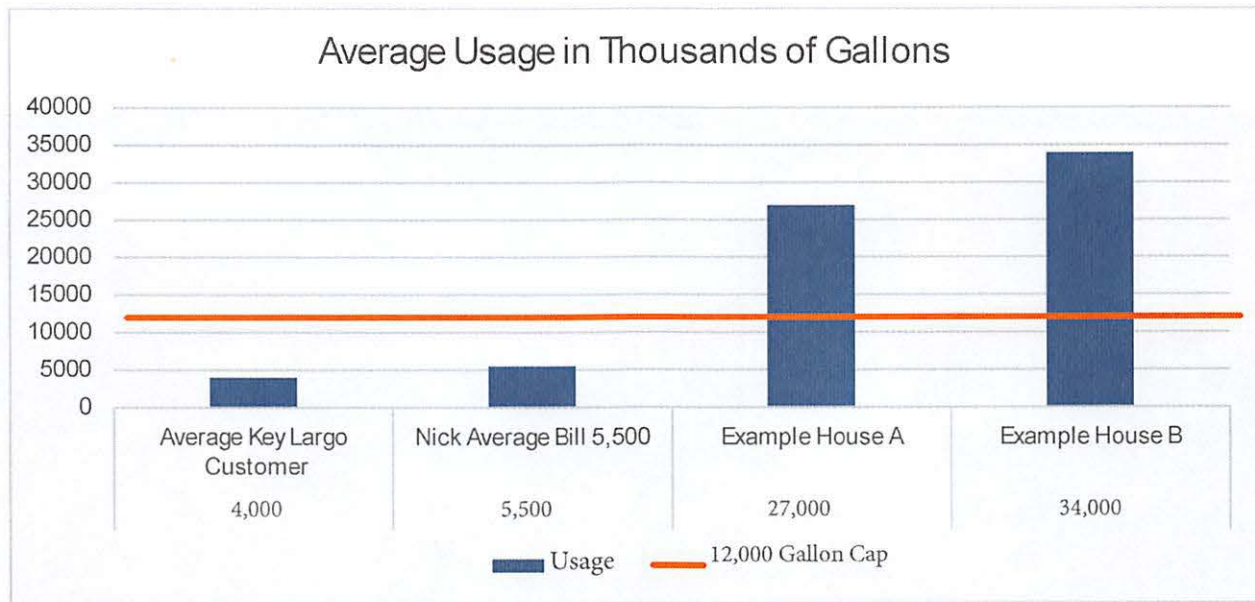
CONGRESS DOESN'T MAKE FUNDING DECISIONS LIKE IT DID IN THE PAST.

**USED TO BE MANY MEETINGS AND LETTERS WITH LOTS OF
SIGNATURES.**

NEW WAY is to submit funding requests to your Member of Congress via a special portal.

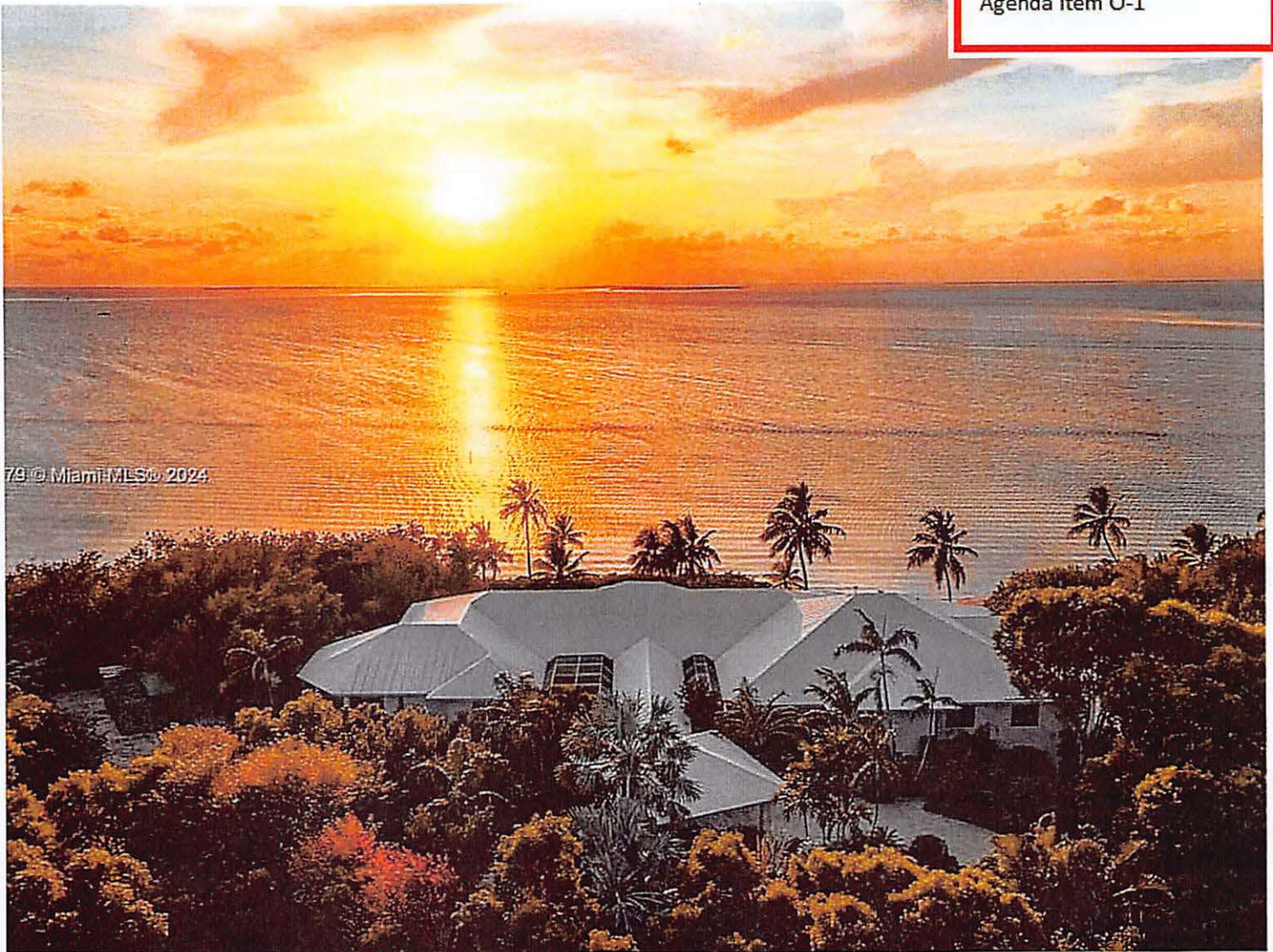
15 Appropriations requests per House Member.

Congressman G. submits his chosen request to the appropriate Appropriations Subcommittee. FL Senators do not support Congressional Funding so it's just 1 House Member.





Chairman Rodriguez's House



Example House A



Example House A



Example House B



Example House B

Approximately 97% of KLWTD Residential Customers use less than 12,000 gallons of water per month

ADDITIONAL Monthly Wastewater Flow Charge if the 12,000 Residential Cap is removed

Total Gallons Per Month:	<u>Addt'l</u> Monthly Charge if WW Flow Rate increased to \$4.53 per 1,000 Gallons
Average KLWTD Residential Customer	\$0.00
Chairman Rodriguez's Home on Bass Avenue	\$0.00
House A: 27,000 Gallons (15,000 <u>addt'l</u> billed gallons)	\$67.95
House B: 34,000 Gallons (22,000 <u>addt'l</u> billed gallons)	\$99.66

If the 12,000-gallon cap for residential customers remains in place, the monthly base and flow rates will need to be increased by more than the recommended 6.2% for Fiscal Year 2025. In this scenario, lower users would essentially be subsidizing higher users.

Option 3: Alternative Rate Increases – Maintain Residential Sewer Cap

6.8% Increase (FY25 change: \$28.97 base + \$4.55 flow charge per 1,000 gallons)

[illegible]

Option 4: Alternative Rate Increases – Remove Residential Sewer Cap

6.2% Increase (FY25 change: \$28.80 base + \$4.53 flow charge per 1,000 gallons)

[illegible]