

Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date:

March 7, 2017

Agenda Item Number: L-1

Agenda Item Type:

Information / Presentation

Agenda Item Scope:

Review / Discussion

Recommended Action:

Discussion

Department:

Commissioner's Item

Sponsor:

Commissioner Gibbs

Subject:

Hiring of a New General Counsel

Summary of Discussion:

Reviewed / Approved

Financial Impact

Attachments

Operations: _____

\$ 0.00

1. Pros and Cons of a Full-Time or Part-Time District Counsel

Administration: _____

Finance: _____

Funding Source:

District Counsel: _____

District Clerk: _____

Budgeted:

Engineering: _____

N/A

Approved By: _____

General Manager



Date: _____

3-2-17



Please print 10-15 hard copies to be passed out at the meeting.

1 message

Steve Gibbs <gibbsail43@gmail.com>
To: Katherine Jackson <katherine.jackson@klwtd.com>

Wed, Feb 15, 2017 at 5:45 PM

Pros and cons of a full-time or part-time District counsel

Comm. Tobin suggests we look at hiring a District lawyer part time. I asked for a week to think over the question. I have given this much objective thought. Here are my conclusions:

First, a full-time salaried District lawyer:

Advantages:

- *At administration building every day to answer questions from staff;**
- *Part of the team;**
- *We can find a savvy and successful lawyer from up north who is ready to retire and would enjoy an annual salary of \$80,000 with no benefits;**
- *Ability to build understanding of our legal history and fully comprehend the will of the Board.**

Disadvantages:

Part-time salaried lawyer:

Advantages:

- Salary of \$6,666 per month* instead of \$9,000;**
- Local resident with local knowledge;**
- ?**

***based upon \$80,000-per-year salary**

Disadvantages:

- Not available in person for daily questions and legal advice to staff;**

- Lawyers with private practice may not be readily available for consultation, etc.;
- Contract must state, say 20-25 hours a month at a fixed rate, but lawyers are able to create extra work and at \$250 per hour over the maximum the cost could soar;
- Not part of the team.

In conclusion I suggest we hire a full-time lawyer at \$80,000 a year and search for someone ready to live in a semi-tropical climate. If we can find no one by April 1, we should then seek a part-time attorney with the following restrictions:

1. Base contract that would demand attendance at up to three BOD meetings per month plus one staff meeting every week;
2. Contract would establish maximum number of hours worked before any extra charges would be billed;
3. Alert chairman and GM when within five hours of maximum so that we are aware when the \$250 per-hour charges begin;
4. A minimum of three days per week in the administration building all day to aid staff and answer legal questions;
5. Lawyer's practice must be in Key Largo to avoid paying for commuting costs;
6. Room for more as we think of them

Thank you for careful consideration of all ideas.

Steve