MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER (A)
Chairman Asdourian called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (B)
Commissioner Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL (C)
Present were Chairman, David Asdourian, and Commissioners, Stephen Gibbs, Robert Majeska, Andrew Tobin and Susan Heim. Also present were General Manager, Peter Rosasco; General Counsel, Nicholas Mulick; District Clerk, Diane Bockelman; and District Managers.

AGENDA ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR DELETIONS (D)
Approval of Agenda (D-1)
- Commissioner Heim requested the addition of a discussion item as Item N-1.
- Commissioner Majeska requested an update on the storage building at Wastewater Treatment Plant as Item K-1.

Motion: Commissioner Gibbs made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, and Commissioner Majeska seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENT (E)
No speakers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (F)
Minutes of May 7, 2019 (F-1)

Motion: Commissioner Gibbs made a motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2019, and Commissioner Heim seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT (G)
Recognize District Staff (G-1)
Ms. Ines Perez, Customer Support Specialist II, was recognized for earning a certificate in Translation / Interpretation from Miami Dade College.
Update on FKWQIP D.C. Trip (G-2)
Mr. Rosasco and Commissioner Majeska provided a summary of their trip to Washington D.C. for the Florida Keys Water Quality Improvement Program (FKWQIP) and distributed a written report of the trip from Mr. Fred Hicks, the District's Federal Lobbyist.

BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT (H)
Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Calendar (H-1)
Ms. Connie Fazio, Senior Finance Manager, presented the fiscal year 2020 budget calendar.

KLWTD FY19 – 2nd Quarter Financial Reports (H-2)
Ms. Fazio presented the financial reports for the 2nd quarter of fiscal year 2019.

ADMIN AND CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT (I)
Reimbursement for Low-Flow Discount Program (I-1)
Ms. Bockelman presented a request by the Lucia S. Chang Revocable Trust for a refund in the amount of $12,660.00 for Tax Parcel AK#1622028, located at 99510 Overseas Highway pursuant to the District’s Non-residential Low-flow Discount Program. Staff recommended approval of the request.

Motion: Commissioner Tobin made a motion to approve Staff’s recommendation, and Chairman Asdourian seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:
  Commissionler Tobin - Aye
  Chairman Asdourian - Aye
  Commissioner Gibbs - Aye
  Commissioner Majeska - Aye
  Commissioner Heim - Aye
  Motion Passed: 5 to 0

OPERATIONS REPORT (J)
No report.

CONSTRUCTION REPORT (K)
Storage Building at Wastewater Treatment Plant Update (K-1)
Mr. Ed Castle, District Engineer, reported that bids for the storage building were higher than expected and a full report on the matter will be presented at the next meeting.

ENGINEER’S REPORT (L)
Shallow Gravity Well (L-1)
Mr. Castle made a presentation regarding a proposed emergency shallow gravity well project. He made a request for authorization to put the project out to bid.
Motion: Commissioner Heim made a motion to authorize costs to put the project out to bid, advertise the bid, and permit and engineering fees, and Commissioner Majeska seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion:
  Commissioner Heim - Aye
  Commissioner Majeska - Aye
  Commissioner Gibbs - Aye
  Commissioner Tobin - Aye
  Chairman Asdourian - Aye
Motion Passed: 5 to 0

LEGAL REPORT (M)
No report.

COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS (N)
Commissioner Heim's Update (N-1)
Commissioner Heim reported that she plans to speak to someone in the Village of Islamorada's Wastewater Department on behalf of the Tavernier Community Association ("TCA"), not as a member of the District's Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Gibbs to Address KLWTD Board and Staff (N-2)
Commissioner Gibbs gave a farewell speech at his last KLWTD meeting as a member of the Board.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION (O)
Unfinished Business (O-1)

ADJOURNMENT (P)
The Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

David Asdourian, Chairman
Diane Bockelman, Clerk

Seal
May 20, 2019

TO: Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District

FROM: Hicks-Richardson Associates

SUBJECT: Report on 12th FKQWP Unity Trip to Washington DC

We are delighted to report that tomorrow at 10:30 AM the full House of Representatives Appropriations Committee will mark up the FY2020 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. Based on the Committee report that has just become available this bill will include $100,000,000 for the Army Corps of Engineers Environmental Infrastructure [EI] Program. $77,000,000 was provided for EI in FY19 and the FKQWP Washington DC recent round of visits advocated for a FY2020 level of $80,000,000. So the reality of the House Committee funding level exceeds our request. After markup in full House Appropriations the Energy and Water Appropriations bill will move to the House floor, with consideration likely before the 4th of July recess. The Senate has yet to move its version of the FY2020 Energy and Water Appropriations bill that will follow a similar path in that body. The greater the amount of funding for Corps Environmental Infrastructure the better the chance that the FKQWP will receive additional funding via the Corps’ FY2020 Work Plan.

This success in the House Appropriations Committee was preceded by the May 9th visit of Commissioner Majeska and General Manager Rosasco with their colleagues in Marathon and Islamorada for the 12th annual FKQWP trip to Washington DC. The purpose of the trip was to advocate for Corps of Engineers Environmental Infrastructure funding. In addition to the KLWTD representatives the group included John Bartus, Chuck Lindsey, and Dan Saus for Marathon, Mike Foster, Ken Davis, Jim Mooney and Roget Bryan for Islamorada, along with Federal representatives Rick Marks, Jim Davenport, and Fred B. Hicks. The three goals of the trip were: (1) demonstrate Keys unity with regard to Army Corps of Engineers funding; (2) provide updates on how the current funding is making a difference in terms of sewer construction in the Keys, and (3) advocate for $80 million in FY2020 Corps EI funding. It is the EI program that provides the money which KLWTD, Marathon, and Islamorada compete for each year in the Corps’ annual Work Plan.

Although planning and Hill and Army Corps contacts in support of FY2020 funding began in early January the FKQWP annual visit to DC was ideally timed coming just
six days before the House Energy and Water Appropriations markup and 12 days before the full House Appropriations markup of the bill. In addition to the $100,000,000 provided for Corps Environmental Infrastructure an additional $2.5 billion over the Administration request for FY2020 which is $357 million more than the FY19 Corps funding level.

The annual FKWQIP trip began with a challenge issued in 2007 by Senator Bill Nelson that if the local sponsors wished to seriously compete for Army Corps national funding they first had to demonstrate unity among themselves. This message has been conveyed annually in Washington DC by a mix of elected officials and professional managers during a series of Congressional and Federal agency meetings. Their effort has resulted in $63,467,000 in funds either earmarked by the Congress, provided through the ARRA [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act] or via the Army Corps’ Annual Work Plan. The total FKWQIP authorization level is $100,000,000 so we are just short of the two-thirds mark of securing the fully authorized amount.

In a single day of walking and talking the group met with the head of the Regional Integration Team for the South Atlantic Division Army Corps of Engineers and a total of 8 Congressional offices including six House Members and both of our Senators. Five of the 8 visits were with offices where the Member serves on either the House or the Senate Appropriations Committee with two of the visits concentrated on Members who serve on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development which has jurisdiction over Army Corps of Engineers spending. For FY2020 the request of the FKWQIP local sponsors and also of a House South Florida Delegation letter to House Appropriators was for $80,000,000 in funding for Corps Environmental Infrastructure. If as expected the Congress once again chooses to funding the Corps EI program, then the three FKWQIP local sponsors will compete for a portion of these funds via the Corps annual Work Plan which will likely be released about 60 days after the President signs the FY2020 Energy and Water Bill into law.

Before the trip, General Manager Rosasco updated two handouts suitable for distribution by all three of the FKWQIP local sponsors. This included “Florida Keys Wastewater Projects/A Wise Investment in the Economy and the Environment” which featured a map of the Florida Keys so that our Hill and Corps contacts could see how KLWTD, Marathon, and Islamorada are situated in the Keys. The second handout was titled, “Florida Keys Water Quality Improvement Program/Fiscal Year 2020 Federal Funding Priorities” and featured a brief background on the program and a short paragraph titled “Congressional Request for FY2020.” The handouts were designed to convey essential details on the history and accomplishments of the FKWQIP that could be understood after just a few seconds of reading. Both handouts were well received in each of the offices we visited.

Our meetings included:
• Brad Schwichtenberg, head of the Regional Integration Team for the South Atlantic Division, Headquarters Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Schwichtenberg plays an important role in the creation of each year’s Corps Work Plan.

• Congresswoman Debbie Mucarsel-Powell and her Legislative Director Courteny Fogwell. Ms. Mucarsel-Powell not only represents the Florida Keys but also serves as the Vice Chair of the Subcommittee on Water and the Environment of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. This is the Committee/Subcommittee of jurisdiction for the Army Corps of Engineers. This was Ms. Mucarsel-Powell’s first meeting with the FKWQIP group.

• Congressman Brian Mast and Legislative Director Barry Smith. Mr. Mast represents North Palm Beach, Port St. Lucie, and Stuart and is a Member of the House Appropriations Committee.

• Chris Sweet, Legislative Director for Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart. Mr. Diaz-Balart represents Doral, Naples and is a Member of the House Appropriations Committee.

• Michael Harris. Legislative Assistant, office of Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, who represents the Sunrise/Aventura area. Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz serves on the House Subcommittee on Energy and Water Appropriations.

• Ben Talus, Legislative Assistant, Congresswoman Donna Shalala who represents Miami. Ms. Shalala succeeded Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen who was the original major supporter of FKWQIP funding. Our meeting was directed towards the goal of continuing this tradition of strong support.

• Brad Solyan, Legislative Assistant for Congresswoman Lois Frankel who represents the Boca Raton. Ms. Frankel is a Member of the House Subcommittee on Energy and Water Appropriations.

• Senator Rick Scott and Legislative Correspondent Kyle Hill. This was our first opportunity for the FKWQIP group to brief Senator Scott personally on the program and our FY2020 funding request.

• Wes Brooks, Legislative Assistant for Senator Marco Rubio. Senator Rubio serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee.