**Minutes of the SRLDD Board Meeting 1/11/22**

Called to order by Rene Simon 1809

Romero/Simon/Ducote/Clarke present, Cestia arrived 1828

PUBLIC COMMENTS

M Broussard announced his candidacy for IPC District 3 seat

D Fangue stated the drainage ditch next to his house on Teal Dr is holding water/silt consistently at about 12” – suggests it needs to be excavated, 10” PVC pipe drain placed – he has spoken to Bruce at the Golf Course about it – M Cormier will d/w Golf Course personnel

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of minutes 8/10/21 and 10/14/21 – W Ducote motioned to accept as written, 2nd R Romero – passed

Certified Copies of the Official Returns from Election presented 55Y/33N (regular) and 43Y/13N (abs ballots) – total 104Y (not sure why this is not the same at 55+43) and 46N

Resolution read by R Simon – “up to 30 mil” language discussed with R Simon, D Wattigny – Moved to accept by R Romero and 2nd by A Clarke, passed w/ 1 absent (Cestia had not yet arrived)

Millage for this year est 15-17 = $60k-$70k to pay our bills and bond loan per R Simon

A Clarke read the recent report from Bernard/Habetz and Associates dated Jun 2 2021 to the assembly

R Simon explained in more detail the “Bond Issue” – essentially the District will obtain a loan (Community 1st and First Nat’l Bank of Jeanerette both involved) – loan will be for approx. $400k @ 2-2.5% interest/tax-free (of note we currently have only $21k of operating capital) – Also of note, we are eligible for $250k of Priority 1 state funding, but we have to match 25% to obtain it. Reviewed Jerome Weber (Community 1st Bank) “Full Disclosure” handout – M Cormier noted incidentally that we are going to need about $27k soon to move the switch gear from current location to higher ground

B Cestia suggested that loan repayment be structured to reduce interest if possible – He noted that his ongoing work w/ the capital outlay group is a “slippery slope” regarding what the funds can be used to pay for, but that it is overall the process is proceeding favorably

W Ducote moved to set millage at 17 – unanimous 2nd – Resolution presented per D Wattigny for 2022, to be collected approx. Jan 2023.

Per R Simon bond issuance needs to proceed to secure funds now for needed and ongoing work

D Wattigny reviewed resolution “highlights” – borrowed funds to be repaid w/ tax proceeds thru 2031

This resolution provides preliminary approval for R Simon to ask for the bond, to ask the state bond commission for approval, and to authorize him to employ bond counsel – R Simon reviewed a Letter of Engagement for counsel (Foley & Judell). B Cestia motioned to approve, unanimous 2nd – Final approval to take place in March.

OLD BUSINESS

Pump Station repairs – M Cormier confirmed he is doing routine periodic checks on the generator

District working to acquire portion of levee near pump station – in progress

B Cestia gave Capital Outlay report

Ongoing discussion re: we as SRLDD Board will submit priority projects to BH&A and they will then formulate on our behalf the presentation to the state/capital outlay board/Mr Lee and this will then determine which projects are paid for with what funds

ADJOURN 1908