# BRUNSWICK REGIONAL WATER & SEWER H2GO REGULAR BOARD MEETING WEDNESDAY JANUARY 15, 2025

### **OFFICIAL MINUTES**

#### CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ronnie Jenkins called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.; a quorum was present. The assembly cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

## MEMBERS PRESENT:

Present from the Board of Commissioners were members Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman, Barry Laub, Vice Chairman, Rodney McCoy, Secretary, and Commissioners Bill Beer, and Steve Hosmer. Present from H2GO were Bob Walker, Executive Director, Russ Lane, Assistant Executive Director-Operations, Scott Hook, Assistant Executive Director-Administration, Ken Brown, Finance Director, Sara Meyer, Human Resource Director, Brenda Thurman, Customer Service Manager, Adrianna Weber, Engineering Director, Lloyd Brown, IT Manager, and Deana Greiner, Clerk to the Board. Also present was Mr. Števe Coble with Coble Law Firm.

### DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA:

Chairman Jenkins asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. Staff stated that all adjustments were presented in red, which consisted of Resolution 2025-01-01, FY 2025 Fund 16 Budget Ordinance Amendment and PO for Wetland Mitigation-Well Sites 6, 7, and 8. Commissioner Beer made the motion to accept the agenda as amended. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Commissioner Laub made the motion to approve the consent agenda which consisted of December 18, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes, December 1-31, 2024, Check Register, the Financial Statements for December 2024, and Villages at Compass Pointe Section 1-Apartments Deed of Dedication. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

#### **COMMISSIONERS REPORT:**

Commissioner Hosmer mentioned a line break that occurred near Compass Point; he said staff did an excellent job in their quick response and had services restored within 30 minutes.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Jenkins opened the floor for public comments.

Tony Fascenda of 3017 Eno Lane: Mr. Fascenda expressed his concern regarding the irrigation rates; he explained that they understood the need for water conservation. Mr. Fascenda asked that the board allow customers to participate more in these discussions; he said they were not in opposition that they wanted to be able to work together in settling these issues.

David Chianese of 3037 Eno Lane: Mr. Chianese spoke in reference to an email sent to him in response to their previous request; he stated that he did not understand the State Statues given, that they were in reference to Raw Water.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Irrigation Analysis-Tiered Rates; Set Workshop Date: Mr. Walker presented to the board a power point with various charts that plotted customer usage to lot size. There was discussion on irrigation usage; it was said that one of the biggest problems was that many people set their irrigation system in the spring and then never touch it again. There was a brief discussion on rainfall; it was said that there was no real average. It was said that rain comes all at once causing run off, and it comes sporadically causing dry spells. The board decided it would be best to set up a workshop meeting to discuss this matter in more detail. Commissioner Hosmer made the motion to set a workshop meeting to discuss Irrigation Tiered Rates and ideas to promote Water Conservation for Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at 10 am. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business was discussed.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Walker stated that he had nothing to report.

#### ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Hook stated that he had nothing to report.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Monthly Report: Mrs. Meyer stated that her monthly report was included in the agenda packet. It was said that we had two new hires: one in customer service and one in Inspections.

#### FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Edmunds Service Contract Renewal Mr. Brown presented to the board a contract renewal for Edmunds; he explained that this was for the software we use for billing and accounting. Commissioner McCoy made the motion to approve the service contract renewal with

Edmunds in the amount of \$31,032.75. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution 2025-01-01 Mr. Brown presented to the board Resolution 2025-01-01; to approve the use of electronic signatures. It was said that electronic signatures would be used to ease workflow approvals between staff; it was said that electronic signatures would be used on contracts, purchase orders, and in some cases checks. Mr. Coble chimed in and stated that he helped write this resolution in accordance with State laws. Commissioner Beer made the motion to approve Resolution 2025-01-01; the use of Electronic Signatures as presented. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

FY2025 Fund 16 Budget Ordinance Amendment Mr. Brown presented to the board Fund 16 Budget Ordinance Amendment; he explained that the overall budget was not changing; that money was being moved from construction to engineering. Commissioner Laub made the motion to approve Fund 16 Budget Ordinance Amendment as presented. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

# ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-OPERATIONS:

Mr. Lane Reported that he had nothing to report.

#### **ENGINEERING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Westgate Townes Phase 1B and Phase 2 Performance Guarantee Indigo Preserve Phase 1A-2 and Phase 1C-2 Performance Guarantee Ms. Weber presented to the board three performance guarantees; one for Westgate Townes Phase 1B and Phase 2, Indigo Preserve Phase 1A-2 and Indigo Preserve Phase 1C-2. Commissioner Hosmer made the motion to approve the performance guarantees as presented; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

PO for Wetland Mitigation—Well Sites 6,7,8 Ms. Weber presented to the board the purchase order for the Wetland Mitigation for Well Sites 6, 7, and 8. Commissioner Hosmer made the motion to approve the wetland mitigation purchase order as presented; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

#### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Mr. Coble stated he had nothing to report.

## **INFORMAL DISCUSSION:**

Commissioner Hosmer asked about some of the figures on the financial statements. Mr. Brown explained that the system development fees were less because many developers paid in June when they heard the fees were increasing in July. Mr. Brown explained that a couple of items were upside down because we pay principal and interest payments at certain times of the year; he said by the end of the year it works out itself.

Someone mentioned an educational campaign; Mr. Walker stated that he hopes to have Leah from In Sea Creations share her layout for 2025 next month.

Chairman Jenkins asked if there was a cornerstone for the RO Plant; he suggested that we should look at getting one.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Commissioner McCoy made the motion for the board to enter executive session for the purpose of Consultation with Legal Counsel, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3); to discuss Contract Negotiations, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(5); a vote was called, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosmer motioned for the board to return to open session; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

There was nothing to report out of the executive session.

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

Chairman Jenkins announced the next Regular Board Meeting to be February 19, 2025, to be located at the Training Room of the Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant, at 5 p.m.

# ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner McCoy made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m., a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman

Deana Greiner, CMC Clerk to Board

Rodney McCoy, Secretary

Date of Approval