



***Municipal Service District  
of Ponte Vedra Beach***

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**MEETING MINUTES**

**MARCH 12, 2007**

The trustees of the Municipal Service District held their monthly meeting on Monday, March 12, 2007 in the Ponte Vedra Branch Library at 6 PM.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Robert D. Becker, II, Chairman

Douglas C. Crane

William Donovan

Alva A. Hollon, Jr.

Gary S. Jurenovich

Curtis Long

Robert R. Reesh (absent)

Attorney Wayne Flowers

Chairman Becker called the meeting to order at 6 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2007 was discussed. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of March 12, 2007.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Denis Abromavage, 530 Morning Side Drive – In the back of my house between Morning Side Drive and Le Master there is a storm water drain that goes out to the lagoon. It is 3 foot by 3 foot square and there is standing water. This is no longer used for drainage and it is a danger because a child could fall into the drain along with being a health hazard with standing water for mosquitoes. I have called the county and contacted Road and Bridge to see if they would do anything about it. What they told me was they don't use it anymore and they have filled the drains in the road with concrete. They told me to do anything I want with it. I feel that the county left it as is and did not fix the places that can not been seen. I don't know where to go from here. I think it is an issue because you don't want a child to get hurt. Chairman Becker asked Mr. Abromavage who he spoke with at Road and Bridge and he said it was Brian Collins. Trustee Jurenovich said that the homeowner contacted him and he looked at it and it is a mess. It is an old drainage easement that is not used anymore. Chairman Becker asked Trustee Long to contact Mike Adams because he was involved with the drainage during the storm drain project to see what can be done to address

the situation.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### **POLICE REPORT – TRUSTEE CRANE**

One parking ticket, 99 traffic citations, 60 warnings and 1 DUI. There were false alarms at 350 San Juan and 1077 Ponte Vedra Boulevard. There have been some burglaries to cars on Jefferson and Phillips where the cars were unlocked. Deputy Amons said on San Diego there has been a problem with people parking on San Diego Road and walking to beach coming the returning back to the cars and leaving trash on the homeowner's lawn. Chairman Becker asked Deputy Amons if there are No Parking signs at the juncture and he said not that he is aware of. Trustee Crane is working to have No Parking signs put up at this intersection. At 1016 Ponte Vedra Boulevard, I don't know if it is kids with baseball bats or beer bottles but, someone is breaking mailboxes. Trustee Donovan said that he is on his fifth mailbox. Deputy Amons said that he will check into this. Trustee Jurenovich asked why there haven't been a lot of Deputies patrolling the streets. He said it has been weeks since he has seen on in the neighborhood. Deputy Amons said that most have been working radar but will look into it.

Trustee Crane wanted to discuss an e-mail he received. It was asked to extend the left turn lane from Solana to A1A so that more cars can go through. The other thing is that the number of people who run the stop light. Chairman Becker asked Trustee Long to go to the DOT to see what they can do and Trustee Long said that he would check with them about changing the timing of the light.

### **STREET SIGNS/RIGHT-OF-WAY – TRUSTEE HOLLON**

I have talked to Laurie Braddock about the possible park sight in Seaview Park and it has been turned over the County Attorneys office and they will make a recommendation to the commission.

As far as these islands are concerned everyone says that the soil needs to be replaced. I have talked to Miller Brothers Irrigation and what he is telling me is that the existing back flows, taps and meters are okay but the lateral lines would be cheaper to replace than repair. I am going to ask him to look at them and give me an estimate. We will have to see if we need to do this in phases or at one time depending on the cost.

I also received an e-mail from a resident on San Juan who was interested in the sidewalks and what was happening in the 900 block on Ponte Vedra Boulevard. I put him in touch with Dana Current and there may be some interest in that part of the community for sidewalks. Dana said that as far as the sidewalks are concerned they are waiting for the County to approve the Inter Local Agreement. Attorney Flowers said that it is on the Agenda for the March 20 meeting.

Chairman Becker told Trustee Long that he made a mistake on the sign on Avenue C where it should have been addressed to Trustee Hollon. Trustee Long said that he spoke with Mrs. Switkes 111 Ocean Course Drive regarding the MSD sign. She thought it was a little big and did not fit into the community. Chairman Becker said her concerns have some merit because that is a dead end street and what they are trying to prevent is the sign attracting more traffic. I do see that the sign could be misleading as an entrance into the MSD. I think the sign could be placed in a better place and we can look into a better place to put these signs. Trustee Crane asked if there were signs when you come out of Guana State Park coming north on A1A. Chairman Becker thinks not and will see if the sign on Avenue C could be moved.

### **TREASURERS REPORT – TRUSTEE JURENOVICH**

The SunTrust accounts have been closed and everything has now been moved to Peoples. We have been writing checks on the Peoples account. The only thing different is that Peoples does not have a branch in St. Augustine so the county couriers can not take the deposits so they are being mailed to Peoples and to our office.

Chairman Becker said he has two questions. The first is regarding the rent. I see that we are paying \$632 and the budget is a little lower. Trustee Jurenovich said that we do the budget in October and they went up on the rent in January. Chairman Becker the said that he thought that the fines and forfeitures were going to go away. Trustee Jurenovich said that the checks keep coming.

Trustee Jurenovich said that the MSD does not have any employees but does have one Independent Contract which is the secretary. I have given all of you a hand out from the IRS that I would like for each of you to read over the next month. What this document does is describes the difference between an employee and an independent contract. We have always had a secretary/bookkeeper as an Independent Contract and the relationship we have with our secretary/bookkeeper lends itself to have that person be an employee versus being a contractor. We contract for services; there is no time limit, no place of business, not profit loss. As you go through this document, as with an employee, you tell them when and where to work, the order of work, etc. You will see that employees are paid by the hour and contractors are paid a set fee. Next month at this meeting I need to know if the Board wants to make the secretary/bookkeeper an employee or leave it as an Independent Contractor. Trustee Hollon asked if the secretary/bookkeeper is given a 1099 and Trustee Jurenovich said yes. Attorney Flowers asked Trustee Jurenovich to give everyone a little background on this. Basically our Chairman was given a call from the IRS and the IRS asked for a list on information which was given to her. In the end of her summary she asked that we look at making our secretary/bookkeeper an employee. Attorney Flowers was on the call and she asked that we present this to the Board and report back to her. Attorney Flowers said that it is there job to do the hard sell to make people employees. The Secretary position has always been an Independent Contractor and if you choose to make her an employee then we will have a commitment to the IRS. Trustee Jurenovich said that next month we will review this.

### **ROAD AND SEWERS – TRUSTEE LONG**

The Corona Road construction project is underway. The biggest problem will be the work done in the evening. There will not be any detours but they will begin at 9pm and there will be some sawing so we may get some complaints. Chairman Becker asked if the palm trees were gone forever and Trustee Long said that he gave the project manager a call to see about replacement and he has not heard back. Trustee Crane said the people that live in the Carlyle would like to see a new better looking guard rail that goes across the lagoon.

### **SANTITATION – TRUSTEE REESH**

No report as Trustee Reesh is absent.

### **ELECTRIC AND CABLE – TRUSTEE DONOVAN**

We had a request from Matt Bowman to find out about the work to remove the over head power lines from Spinnakers Reach to Micklers and the power company has that in their 2008 budget to start and be completed in two years. The other thing I have been researching is the never ending saga on the poles on Solana Road. I thought they were going to take care of it and then it went up the line and BellSouth said they were going to stick with the A52-2 tariff where they can actually assess that money for the purpose of pole removals for beautification. I reinvestigated this and

talked at length with the PSC and the Power Company and found out that as of February 2007 there were proposed rules by the PSC government that all facilities above ground be moved to underground. We sent a letter to BellSouth which they did not respond to and after repeated calls I got a call today and offered them an invitation to this meeting to state their case before we re file a PSC case and they declined to appear. They did say that they will have their attorney send us a letter back in the forthcoming months. This is a really complicated document to read but it basically says that facilities in high wind loading areas, they call this storm hardening, are requested to have them relocated. I do not see where we need to subsidize this under the A5 tariff. However, it went into law in February but they are not going to enforce this until May and after talking the PSC in length I think we should re file this case in May and get really specific why the power company abandoned these poles to begin with and I think we would have a worthwhile case. We are basically still at a standstill but all we have to provide is a location for them to bury the facilities. Chairman Becker said that he thinks we should wait until May.

### **WEBSITE REPORT – TRUSTEE CRANE**

Our website is up to date with what is being sent. We had 217 visits to the website in February. We had 270 hits in January.

### **ATTORNEY’S REPORT – ATTORNEY FLOWERS**

Attorney Flowers has no report this month.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Crane said the newsletter. Chairman Becker asked that you please turn in your newsletter report if you have not already.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Someone spoke from the audience and asked if the cleaning up of the canal by Micklers is a yearly thing and how long it would take? Trustee Crane said he spoke with them and said that they will be there for six months. They are only going 2 feet down and 40 feet wide. Trustee Crane thinks they should go down 5 feet in order to kill the vegetation.

Trustee Hollon said that in reading the St. Augustine Record and the Times Union recently that there is a new tax proposal in Tallahassee that would have a dramatic effect on property tax revenue to counties and local government. I was wondering if there is any consideration as to how this would impact us. St. Johns County would stand to lose some 70 million dollars. Trustee Jurenovich said this would definitely affect us. Trustee Crane said to contact Joe Vonasek to get all the information. It would be a loss of 10%.

### **ADJOURN**

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to adjourn.

Submitted, Ann Jurenovich, MSD Secretary  
(An audio tape of the meeting is on file at the MSD office)