



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

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**MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 13, 2007**

The trustees of the Municipal Service District held their monthly meeting on Monday, August 13, 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

Attorney Wayne Flowers

Chairman Becker called the meeting to order at 6 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He also introduced Jack Palmer and Tim Lane from the Ponte Vedra Community Association.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for July 9, 2007 were discussed. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of July 9, 2007.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Michael Steele, 548 Lake Road – Wanted to address the MSD regarding the algae growth in the lagoons and wanted to know what can be done to eliminate this growth. Trustee Crane said that it is because of the low water levels and there is no planned activity with the Ponte Vedra Club or the County to eliminate the problem. Jack Palmer said that he talked to Dale Haney and that part of the problems is that with it being hurricane season the dam at Corona Road is being kept at the current level which is very low and no changes to the dam level will be done until hurricane season is over.

Carl Bloesing, 12 LaVista Drive, -- I wanted to offer my compliments to the MSD Board and the PVCA for the re-landscaping of the medians and that they are extremely attractive.

Dr. Ron Renuart, 138 Osprey Cove Lane, - I am a physician in the Ponte Vedra area and running for the House of Representative in District 18 and I want to introduce myself.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### **POLICE REPORT – TRUSTEE CRANE**

Trustee Crane reported that there were a few calls outside the MSD area and they were reviewed. There were 3 parking tickets issued, 204 citations, 130 warnings, 13 alarms and 2 repeat alarms. Lt. Amans said that the high number of alarms was from a thunderstorm that went through the area.

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

Trustee Hollon reported that he spoke with the owner of Creative Designs and Landscaping and asked him what needed to be done to maintain the plants planted in the medians. He said that he will maintain and monitor the watering for 3 months and suggested around October we put down some granular fertilizer and continue every 3–4 months.

The MSD sign on Avenue C was to be moved down to A1A south when entering the MSD from Guana and the County said the State will not allow the sign to be put on the right of way.

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

Trustee Jurenovich reported that he received a letter from Clerk of Court, Cheryl Strickland, that stated we would no longer be receiving fines after the end of the fiscal year and thanked me for following up. I have been in touch with Dave Williams regarding the Solana Road beach access and that work was to begin last week but there are some delays.

Trustee Jurenovich passed out a proposed revised draft budget taking out the fines and forfeitures but I have not included in these figures the Sheriffs office increase.

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

Trustee Long reported that he has not had a lot of luck with the County regarding the drainage ditch behind Morning Side Drive. They also have not installed the grate but I am still in contact with them. We are trying to get the handrail at Corona and Ponte Vedra Boulevard funded in the next fiscal year. I have talked with Mr. Kennedy regarding the parking problem at Miranda and the two days he visited the site there was only one car parked on the edge of the road. He did not feel it was necessary to put up permanent signs but he did place some temporary A-frame signs to alert people of the parking violations. Chairman Becker provided Trustee Long with a questionnaire from JEA and asked him to report on it at next months meeting.

### **SANITATION – TRUSTEE REESH**

Trustee Reesh has no new report but will address the issues listed under Old and New Business when we get to them on the agenda.

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

Trustee Donovan reported that he has had some inquiries regarding the transformer pads that are being installed on Ponte Vedra Boulevard on the Duval County side. These pads are to facilitate the 12,000 volt aerial feed to Ponte Vedra Boulevard which is being done away with due to storm hardening and they are going to a 26,000 volt underground system.

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

Trustee Crane reported that we are still waiting for the Deputy pictures and that last month we had 1,792 hits and this month we have had 1,789 hits.

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT – ATTORNEY FLOWERS**

Attorney Flowers reported on the Sunshine Law. He refreshed everyone on the law and how it pertains to this Board. He reviewed the three basic requirements.

1. All meetings must be open to the public.
2. Reasonable notice must be given to the meeting.
3. Minutes must be taken at the meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Seaview Park Garbage** – Trustee Reesh reported that he met with the 4 members of the management team of Seaboard Sanitation. They discussed the procedures they wanted to implement to the Seaview Park residences (letter handed out). This letter will be handed out by Seaboard to every household in Seaview Park and some of the Board members and residences will follow up. Trustee Reesh asked for any comments on the letter. Chairman Becker suggests that on letter that they included the phone number where to call regarding household appliances pick up. Chairman Becker also suggested that the letter be handed out on Ponte Vedra Circle too and that the heading be changed to “Residents of Ponte Vedra Beach” and not isolated one group. Trustee Long suggested that we also distribute the letter through the website.

**MSD sign on Avenue C** – Chairman Becker asked if we could have the sign removed on Avenue C until we can find an acceptable place to put it up. Trustee Hollon said he would ask the County to remove the sign.

**Newsletter** – Chairman Becker said the newsletter is being formatted and he will distribute the file once it has been formatted.

**IRS - Secretary Position** – Attorney Flowers reported that he sent out today to the Board the IRS position on the Secretary position. We need to report to the IRS how we want to proceed. We can appeal their decision, we can make the Secretary an employee and pay the sum of \$780.30 for 2004 taxes not paid so that no action will be taken for tax years 2005 or 2006 or we can restructure the relationship between the Secretary and the Board. Attorney Flowers asked for comments or questions.

Trustee Hollon said the that he read an article that the IRS is making a nationwide move and not just picking on the MSD. After reading Attorney Flowers memo, we are going to have a hard time winning an appeal. Based on what would be involved in fighting this I think we should settle the 2004 taxes and move forward with the Secretary as an employee.

Chairman Becker said he thinks going forward is more of a concern because the PVCA and the MSD were established as being volunteer organizations and not having employees. I think that if we get to where we have employees then someone can so determine that the Trustees need to be a paid position.

Trustee Crane made a motion that we pay the IRS the amount owed for 2004, contingent on their agreement to waive 2005 and 2006, and we make the Secretary/Bookkeeper an employee beginning the next fiscal year October 1, 2007. The secretary will receive a 1099 and a W2 for the tax year 2007. Trustee Hollon seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

## **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bob Rojahn, 42 Alhambra Street – My discussion is regarding the Sheriffs increase. There is

increased traffic and I have seen in the past couple of years less police patrols in the neighborhood. My main concern is are we getting what we pay for and are there any quantifiable results that can be seen.

Reasa Pabst, 1194 Ponte Vedra Boulevard – I have lived here for 15 years and firstly, we have put the garbage at the end of the road since we have lived here because of security reasons. Secondly, is the construction parking where I cannot see to get out of my driveway where cars are going 50 – 60 miles per hour. After discussion, Trustee Long will contact Mr. Kennedy since this is a State road and will get back to the homeowner.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Sheriff's Request for an Increase** – Trustee Crane handed out an information sheet to all the Board members and reviewed it. Todd Thompson, Director for Law Enforcement Operations for the Sheriff, addressed the meeting for the Sheriff who could not be here tonight. The MSD officers who patrol this area are there because the Board approached the Sheriffs Office years ago and wanted more of a police presence and agreed to pay for it. Unfortunately, everything is going up this year. You are getting a tremendous deal because anyone who enters into an agreement with the Sheriffs Office must pay a straight forward \$30 per hour. Your contribution to the Sheriffs Office covers a portion of the salary and benefits. It does not cover the cost of vehicle, fuel, maintenance, etc. There is not a financial hardship to the Sheriffs Office if you do not renew the contract but what you get with this contract is a deputy 24 hours a day 7 days a week even on Christmas that has nothing other to patrol than the MSD and cannot leave the MSD unless directed by their supervisor.

Trustee Hollon asked that if we do not renew the contract with the Sheriffs Office would that mean there would only be two deputies patrolling the area from county line down south to the Gate station and west to US1. Colonel Thompson said that is correct and stated that the MSD is unique in that it is the only entity that we provide contract law enforcement to in this manner. Marsh Landing and others hire a deputy to patrol for traffic on certain times but they pay the per hour rate.

Chairman Becker said that what he hears is that the community doesn't get to know the officers patrolling the area and he thinks that the turnover is affecting this relationship. Colonel Thompson said that there is turnover because there is not a lot of "action" in the MSD. Trustee Jurenovich asked if turnover is a problem with younger deputies have you ever looked at the profile of bringing an older deputy closer to retirement into the area. Lt. Thompson said that now three of the four deputies have asked to be in the MSD. Trustee Jurenovich said the biggest complaint he hears is that the resident wants accountability. How can we prove to the residents that they are getting their monies worth? Colonel Thompson said the MSD deputies are regularly spot checked by GPS.

Chairman Becker made the comment that every year we ask the Sheriff if they are going to have a budget increase and we always get this information last minute. You came here tonight with an increase after last month we voted on a millage and I ask that you give us, as well as the tax payers, the courtesy of letting us know earlier so that we can budget accordingly. Colonel Thompson said that the Sheriffs Office will probably ask for an increase every year to coincide with the cost of living increase. Trustee Crane suggested that we change the dates of the contract from June to June to help with budgeting.

Lt. Amans suggested that a workshop be held with the Sheriff. Trustee Crane made a motion to

approve the Sheriffs request for an increase and to request a workshop with the Sheriff to discuss how we want this areas serviced and request to change the contract with the Sheriff from April to April. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried to approve the increase in the Sheriff contract and hold a workshop.

**Lawn Waste Pickup** – Trustee Reesh reported that at the last PVCA meeting Tim Lane asked about an extra day yard trash pickup during the growing season. I called the manager of Seaboard multiple times and we don't have an answer. We do not know how much this truck will cost and we do not know if we will have the funds to pay for it. Trustee Reesh is to see how much an additional truck would cost.

**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)