

**SEACOAST UTILITY AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

July 30, 2025

**MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Robert Weisman, Chair  
Karen Marcus, Vice Chair  
Robert Cole, Member

ALSO PRESENT: Nat Nason, General Counsel  
Rim Bishop, Executive Director  
Jessica Moore, Authority Clerk

ABSENT: Ron Ferris, Member  
Richard Reade, Member

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

**\*\*\*OPENED PUBLIC WORKSHOP\*\*\***

RESOLUTION NO. 4-2025, A RESOLUTION OF THE AUTHORITY BOARD OF THE SEACOAST UTILITY AUTHORITY; ADOPTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2025, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2026 FOR SEACOAST UTILITY AUTHORITY; AUTHORIZING AN INDEXED 4.8% INCREASE TO OCTOBER 1, 2024 WATER, SEWER, AND RECLAIMED WATER RATES, INCLUDING LOW-PRESSURE SEWER AND WATER MAIN EXTENSION ASSESSMENTS, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025; AUTHORIZING LINE-ITEM BUDGET TRANSFERS BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE  
**(Read by Authority Clerk Jessica Moore)**

**A. Board Comment/Deliberation**

Board Chair Robert Weisman stated that the budget cover letter written by Chief Financial Officer Daniela Russell and Executive Director Rim Bishop provided an excellent explanation of how well the utility functions. Mr. Weisman believes the indexed rate increase is reasonable compared to other entities, the capital program is a great balance, and having fully retired its debt, the Authority can devote additional funding to its capital program. He also believes the pay package presented for all employees is complementary, and the employees are deserving.

Vice Chair Karen Marcus questioned how the 4.8% indexed rate increase is determined. Mr. Bishop explained that the index is provided by the U.S. Department of Labor and relates

specifically to utility costs. Ms. Marcus asked if the rate increase is similar to what Palm Beach County does. Mr. Bishop said that although he is not certain that they are still using the same index, he knows that it was used to adjust Palm Beach County Water Utilities rates for many years. Ms. Marcus asked how much the Authority is saving by not having any debt. Mr. Bishop indicated that the Authority is saving \$13 million per year, which is now able to go back into the utility.

Mr. Marcus echoed Mr. Weisman's comment and stated that the budget summary was excellent.

Board Member Robert Cole stated that he also looked into the indexed rate increase and found it reasonable.

#### B. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

**\*\*\*CLOSED PUBLIC WORKSHOP\*\*\***

**\*\*\*DETERMINED THE CONSENT AGENDA\*\*\***

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Considered a motion to approve the agenda.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF JUNE 25, 2025

Considered motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of June 25, 2025.

#### PROCLAMATION NO. 2-2025, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2025 AS FLORIDA WATER PROFESSIONALS MONTH

Consider a motion to approve Proclamation No. 2-2025, Proclaiming the Month of August 2025 as Florida Water Professionals Month, as recommended by staff.

#### MOTION

**Board Members Marcus/Cole moved to approve the consent agenda, as recommended by staff.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**\*\*\*ENDED CONSENT AGENDA\*\*\***

#### PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

#### MOTION

**Board Members Marcus/Cole moved to authorize staff to negotiate a three-year Professional Auditing Services Agreement with Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC, at a cost not to exceed \$126,250.00 over the initial three-year engagement period, as recommended by the Authority's Audit Selection Committee.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

#### PURCHASE OF VEHICLES

#### MOTION

**Board Members Cole/Marcus moved to approve Purchase of Vehicles from Alan Jay of Sebring, Florida, pursuant to the terms of the competitively bid Florida State Term Contract Number 25100000-23-STC, in the amount of \$160,200.71, with a supporting budget transfer of \$160,205.00 from R2511, as recommended by staff.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

#### PIPELINE CONTINUING CONTRACTOR AUTHORIZATION – HORSESHOE ACRES WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT – PHASE 1

#### MOTION

**Board Members Marcus/Cole moved to award bid for Pipeline Continuing Contractor Authorization – Horseshoe Acres Water Main Replacement – Phase 1 to CK Contractors and Development, LLC., the lowest responsive bidder whose bid will best serve the public interest in the amount of \$225,973.00, as recommended by staff.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

#### COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Ms. Marcus informed the board that the State of Florida's plans to connect MacArthur Beach State Park to the Authority's sewer system was not funded in the current State budget, so that project will not proceed at this time. Mr. Bishop stated the Authority is ready to work with the Park when they are ready.

#### STAFF REPORT

Executive Director Rim Bishop stated the engineer's report and the financial report were in the packet. Chief Operations Officer Brandon Selle was present for any engineer report questions. Chief Financial Officer Daniela Russell was present for any financial report questions.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, Chair Bob Weisman adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:10 PM.

**APPROVAL:**

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ROBERT WEISMAN, CHAIR

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KAREN MARCUS, VICE-CHAIR

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RON FERRIS, MEMBER

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ROBERT COLE, MEMBER

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RICHARD READE, MEMBER

**ATTEST:**

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JESSICA MOORE, AUTHORITY CLERK