

UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 17, 2021
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT AT MEETING1:

CHAIRPERSON JULIA BOTEL, Ed.D, DISTRICT 4	CHAIRPERSON BOTEL
CHAIR PRO TEM DOUGLAS LAWSON, DISTRICT 5	CHAIR PRO TEM LAWSON
BOARD MEMBER TRADRICK MCCOY, DISTRICT 1	BOARD MEMBER MCCOY
BOARD MEMBER KASHAMBA MILLER-ANDERSON, DISTRICT 2	BOARD MEMBER MILLER-ANDERSON
BOARD MEMBER SHIRLEY D. LANIER, DISTRICT 3	BOARD MEMBER LANIER
MAYOR RONNIE FELDER, Ex Officio Member	MAYOR FELDER
CITY MANAGER JONATHAN EVANS.....	CITY MANAGER EVANS
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES JONATHAN BATISTA	INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES BATISTA
DISTRICT CLERK CLAUDENE ANTHONY.....	DISTRICT CLERK ANTHONY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY DAWN WYNN	DISTRICT ATTORNEY WYNN
DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR RANDY SHERMAN	DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN

TRANSCRIBED BY:

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**CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021 AT 5:30 P.M.**

(The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood words due to the recording quality.)

[Before meeting discussions at 14:30]

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Botel: ...Utility Special District Board of Directors meeting for February 17, 2021. The time is 5:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Botel: Madam Clerk.

District Clerk Anthony: Chairperson Julia Botel?

Chairperson Botel: Here.

District Clerk Anthony: Chair Pro Tem Douglas Lawson?

Chair Pro Tem Lawson: Here.

District Clerk Anthony: Board Member Tradrick McCoy?

Board Member McCoy: Here.

District Clerk Anthony: Board Member KaShamba Miller-Anderson?

Board Member Miller-Anderson: Present.

District Clerk Anthony: Board Member Shirley Lanier? [Pause]. *Ex officio* Board Member Mayor Ronnie Felder? [Pause]. City Manager Jonathan Evans?

City Manager Evans: Present.

District Clerk Anthony: Interim Executive Director Jonathan Batista?

Interim Executive Director Batista: Here.

District Clerk Anthony: District Clerk Claudene Anthony is present. District Attorney Dawn Wynn?

District Attorney Wynn: Here.

District Clerk Anthony: District Finance Director Randy Sherman?

30 **District Finance Director Sherman:** Here.

31 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

32 **INVOCATION**

33 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

34 **Chairperson Botel:** We'll have a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance,
35 led by Commissioner Miller-Anderson.

36 [Moment of silence]

37 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** I pledge allegiance...

38 **All:** ...to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it
39 stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

40 **Chairperson Botel:** ANY PERSON WHO WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON AN AGENDA
41 ITEM, PLEASE COMPLETE A GREEN PUBLIC COMMENT CARD LOCATED AT THE
42 FRONT DESK AND GIVE IT TO THE STAFF PRIOR TO THE ITEM BEING TAKEN UP
43 BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR DISCUSSION. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
44 WILL BE GIVEN A TOTAL OF THREE MINUTES TO SPEAK ON ALL ITEMS LISTED ON
45 THE CONSENT AGENDA, AND THREE MINUTES TO SPEAK ON EACH REGULAR
46 AGENDA ITEM. THE TIME LIMIT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT MAY BE REDUCED BY A
47 VOTE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BASED ON THE VOLUMINOUS NATURE OF
48 PUBLIC COMMENT CARDS. IN NO EVENT WILL ANYONE BE ALLOWED TO SUBMIT
49 A COMMENT CARD TO SPEAK ON AN AGENDA ITEM AFTER THE RESOLUTION IS
50 READ OR ITEM IS CONSIDERED.

51 **AGENDA APPROVAL**

52 **ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, SUBSTITUTIONS**

53 **Chairperson Botel:** Do we have any additions, deletions or substitutions from the
54 Manager, Executive Director or Board of Directors?

55 **City Manager Evans:** Yes, Madam Chair. We have Resolution 6-21UD. If I can
56 have the City Clerk read that Resolution title into the record.

57 **District Clerk Anthony:** Item No. 4 is added onto the Regular Agenda.

58 **City Manager Evans:** It's listed as Item No. 1 on the online...

59 **1. District Clerk Anthony:** Okay. It's Resolution Number 6-21UD A Resolution of the
60 Board of Directors of the City of Riviera Beach Utility Special District, Palm Beach
61 County, Florida, approving the emergency repairs by GlobalTech, Inc. previously
62 approved for design build services; authorizing the City Manager to approve change
63 orders up to ten percent (10%);and authorizing the Utility Special District's Finance

64 Director to make payment from Project #18154 in an amount not to exceed
65 \$222,028.69; and providing an effective date.

66 **District Clerk Anthony:** And that Item is added...

67 **Chairperson Botel:** Item No. 4.

68 **District Clerk Anthony:** Is it.., it's gonna fall up under the Regular Agenda and not the
69 Consent Agenda.

70 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Any other additions, deletions or substitutions?

71 **City Manager Evans:** Not from Staff, Madam Chair.

72 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

73 **DISCLOSURES**

74 **Chairperson Botel:** Are there any disclosures by Board of Directors? [Pause]. Thank you.

75 **Board Member McCoy:** Madam Chair? So let's, let's talk about No. 4.

76 **Chairperson Botel:** Okay.

77 **Board Member McCoy:** Is this not the same Item that we had seen before, that came
78 before us, that was referenced that it had a scrivener's error?

79 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** No.

80 **Board Member McCoy:** I'm, I'm sorry. Is that.., you said no?

81 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** No. I think you're referring to the lift station Item.

82 **Board Member McCoy:** He has...

83 **Chairperson Botel:** Could you...

84 **Board Member McCoy:** ...no microphone. **Chairperson Botel:** Could you, could you
85 speak into...

86 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Oh.

87 **Chairperson Botel:** ...the mic a little bit...

88 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Sorry about that.

89 **Chairperson Botel:** ...Mr. Batista?

90 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** For the scrivener err'.., errors Item, I believe
91 that, that was the lift stations, not the high service pumps.

92 **Board Member McCoy:** But GlobalTech is the same firm, correct?

93 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** No. For that one, that was EAC.

94 **Board Member McCoy:** Okay. Alright. Thank you.

95 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.. Would someone care to make a motion to, to adopt the
96 Agenda?

97 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Madam Chair? So, No. 4 is just fixing the Item that's
98 already.., 'cause it's already listed as No. 4 on the Agenda. Is it changing? We're not
99 adding it.

100 **Chairperson Botel:** It.., I think it was not on the Agenda as it was posted earlier in the day.

101 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Oh but...

102 **Chairperson Botel:** ...My, my...

103 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** ...it's on this one.

104 **Chairperson Botel:** It, it's, it's what we received... Oh, it's on the one you have there, but
105 year. It wasn't on the one that I pulled down earlier in the day.

106 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Oh okay.

107 **City Manager Evans:** Right.

108 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Okay.

109 **Chairperson Botel:** So, it's No. 4.

110 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Okay.

111 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

112 **Chairperson Botel:** Would someone care to make a motion and a second to adopt the
113 Agenda?

114 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** So moved.

115 **Chairperson Botel:** Do we...

116 **Board Member McCoy:** Second.

117 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. The Agenda is moved and seconded. Madam Clerk.

118 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member McCoy?

119 **Board Member McCoy:** Yes.

120 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member Miller-Anderson?

121 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Yes.

122 **District Clerk Anthony:** Pro Tem Lawson?

123 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Yes.

124 **District Clerk Anthony:** Chair Botel?

125 **Chairperson Botel:** Yes.

126 **District Clerk Anthony:** Unanimous vote.

127 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

128 **CONSENT AGENDA**

129 **Chairperson Botel:** ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER THIS ITEM ARE CONSIDERED TO
130 BE ROUTINE AND ACTION WILL BE TAKEN BY ONE MOTION. THERE WILL BE NO
131 SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS UNLESS A COUNCILPERSON SO
132 REQUESTS, IN WHICH EVENT, THE ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE GENERAL
133 ORDER OF BUSINESS AND CONSIDERED IN ITS NORMAL SEQUENCE ON THE
134 AGENDA.

135 **MINUTES**

136 **2. JANUARY 20, 2021 UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES.**

137 **RESOLUTIONS**

138 **Chairperson Botel:** Could we have a motion to approve the Consent Agenda?

139 **Board Member McCoy:** Motion...

140 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** So moved.

141 **Board Member McCoy:** ...to approve.

142 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Second.

143 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Do we have any public comment on the Consent Agenda?

144 **District Clerk Anthony:** Madam Chair, Members of the Board, there are no public
145 comment cards on the Consent Agenda. The acceptance of public comment cards on the
146 Consent Agenda is now closed.

147 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. The motion is to approve the Consent Agenda. As your
148 name is called, please answer yes or no.

149 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member Miller-Anderson?

150 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Yes.

151 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member McCoy?

152 **Board Member McCoy:** Yes.

153 **District Clerk Anthony:** Pro Tem Lawson?

154 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Yes.

155 **District Clerk Anthony:** Chair Botel?

156 **Chairperson Botel:** Yes.

157 **END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

158 **AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS**

159 **3. Chairperson Botel:** Item No... Do we awards and presentations?

160 **District Clerk Anthony:** **WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE**

161 **District Clerk Anthony:** Madam Chair, Members of the Board, we do not have public
162 comment cards on this Item. The acceptance of public comment ` on this Item is now
163 closed.

164 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Will this presentation be made by Mr. Batista?

165 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Yes. And also t wo consultants, Nigel Grace and
166 Andrea Holtz.

167 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

168 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** I can't really hear him. I can't really hear.

169 **Chairperson Botel:** Could you.., Mr. Batista, if you don't mind, could you just lower that
170 when you're speaking? [Chuckle]. Thank you.

171 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Alright.

172 **Chairperson Botel:** Appreciate that. [Pause]. Let the record show that Commissioner
173 Lanier has joined us. Welcome.

174 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** So before I begin this presentation, I, I wanna
175 deliver a quick message.

176 I, I finally understand what it means to be a public servant. When I look at the Utility Special
177 District, I see an empty shell that comes to life as people answer the phones, pay the bills,

178 operate the treatment plant, and respond to issues throughout the City. If there were no
179 Staff to serve the customers, there would be no Utility. And if there were no customers, a
180 Utility would have no purpose. More than, more than anything, I want all of my customers to
181 know that you are not forgotten and that the calvary is coming.

182 To the customers who experience.., experience water main breaks, have no water, and
183 wonder whether Utility Staff will go home at 5:00 p.m., you will not be abandoned. To the
184 customers who are angry with the water they use to wash their cars and have their
185 grandchildren play with, you will not be ignored. To the customers [inaudible] shutdown,
186 their facilities due to the inconsistent water quality and lift station issues, my Utility will
187 contribute to your economic prosperity rather than your downfall. Just as the Council
188 Members serve the residents of Riviera Beach, we serve the customers.

189 The Utility I have adopted struggles to provide excellent service because it been..,
190 [stammer], it has been through too many foster homes, neglected for too many years, and
191 although I'm not to blame for the Utilities past, I am currently a responsible guardian of its
192 future. For the sake of my Utility, my Staff and my customers, I can and must do better than
193 my predecessors. Any who dare throw careless insults at my Utility in my presence, will
194 face the [inaudible] of a father protecting his son. In my opinion, the Utility has the potential
195 to be a great underdog story where we must surmount impossible odds to redeem
196 ourselves. There was a time when the Utility was flying high and produced water people
197 were happy with.

198 Now, we find ourselves in a plane at night, and due to the turbulence of a storm and
199 equipment failures, crash landing in the ocean, we awake to find ourselves stranded on an
200 island with a collection of FedEx boxes. This is how the movie 'Castaway' started but not
201 how it ended. Once a FedEx engineer, the man played by Tom Hanks mastered the art of
202 spear fishing, survived four years on the island, and made his way back to civilization. The
203 next time any of you see the symbol of the Utility, I want you to think of your favorite
204 underdog movie and what made it inspiring. The island is not the end for my fellow
205 survivors, but the beginning of a story worth listening to.

206 This is the state of the Utility Part One.

207 Now for the Agenda, we'll be covering the USD overview and the challenges that have been
208 faced. We'll also be covering the water system in detail, particularly the water treatment
209 plant, and actions taken. I believe that 2021 will be the year of noticeable improvements
210 based on what has been done and what already is being doner. There's also other ongoing
211 Utility system priorities, covering the entire Utility. But, we're not going to focus too much on
212 that in this presentation, that will be for a follow up. We'll have some concluding remarks.
213 And then, there will be [stammer] separate presentation on the grant program.

214 So, first of all some key stats when it comes to the USD. Formed in 2004, the 1958
215 population was thirteen thousand back then. Our service area population now is about forty-
216 two thousand people. We.., our service area includes the municipal boundaries of the City,
217 along with Gramercy Park, Palm Beach Shores, and Mangonia Park. In terms of our Staff,
218 we have fifty-seven positions, over five divisions, and currently we have eleven vacancies.
219 Our annual operating budget is \$29.5 million for this Fiscal Year.

220 When it comes to the Staff organization, this is just a basic look at the org chart. We
221 recently had four new hires, including the Compliance and Safety Officer. And, one of the
222 main challenges at this Utility Special District is the high turnover. We've had Staff , across
223 multiple divisions, especially the water plant, come and go at an alarming pace. At one
224 point, the water plant had almost half the positions vacant.

225 Another important point is the Director turnover. After Ed Sierra was here for about eight
226 years, from 2001-2009, we started to see a pattern of Director turnover increasing from
227 Gloria Shuttlesworth, from 2009-'10, Lou Aurigemma was here for about six years, between
228 2010-2016. And then, turnover increased rapidly after that, where Troy Perry was here for
229 about a year, Willie Horton for about a year and a half, Leighton for a few months, and then
230 so on.

231 In this next figure, the bottom purple line shows little dots that represent when new Acting
232 Directors came onboard. So, you had 2010 and 2016, was Lou Aurigemma, and then you
233 can see the dots increasing in frequency. And I have that shown with the blue line above it,
234 which shows how the Utility system Capital Improvement Plan spending has occurred. So,
235 in, in the years of Aurigemma, between 2010-2016, there's about one to \$6 million spent
236 every year.

237 And then, following that, we had.., in 2016, over \$30 million was provided in bond money
238 and ironically, spending decreased after that. Then, as the years progressed, spending
239 fluctuated wildly and now we're in a new era where we have to catch up. Where all the
240 previous spending, which was inadequate to maintain the Utility, now it needs to be
241 jumpstarted in the future years.

242 So, not much has changed over the past several decades, but that is about to rapidly
243 change. In, in the two photos shown, you have the plant in 1970's. The only real difference
244 between the 1970's photo and the 2019 photo, is there was a water tower, there was a
245 sludge thickener in use, and different maintenance building. But, for the most part, the
246 treatment process has remained the same. And now, we're in process of having the most
247 largest capital improvement upgrade to the water plant since 1979.

248 So, for the benefit of the general public, I, I created with my team, a little overview of the
249 Utility. And the message here is what comes in, must comes out. The little blue lines are the
250 pipes. And from the wells to the water treatment plant, I think, in my opinion, the water
251 treatment plant represents the heart of everything. It's what pumps water from the, the plant
252 itself to the customers throughout the entire system. And it also acts like a liver, where it
253 regulates chemicals and removes contaminates. But, instead of talking about blood, we're
254 talking about water here.

255 And, of course, customers are at the center of all this. If there were no customers delivered
256 to, then there would be no need for Utility. And once the water gets to the customers, they
257 use it, and then send wastewater to our sewer mains, which are shown by the green lines,
258 make it to the lift stations which pump the wastewater all the way to our ECR plant, which is
259 shared by multiple entities.

260 So, it may be a little difficult to see from here but at the heart of the whole distribution

261 system is the water treatment plant. The blue lines represent all the water mains throughout
262 the City, and the black line surrounding everything in the aerial is the City boundaries. So,
263 essentially, without the water plant, there would be no way to pump water to all these water
264 mains surrounding the treatment plant.

265 Now, when it comes to the treatment plant, most of the treatment processes are on the right
266 side of this figure, and we have a massive area just dedicated to collecting the sludge in this
267 system. Because it's a lime softening system, there's a great deal of lime that used, and
268 also lime sludge that's produced.

269 So now, for this next part, I'm gonna have Nigel Grace with Brown and Caldwell go into the
270 details of our treatment processes.

271 **Mr. N. Grace:** My mask always seems to get stuck behind my glasses arm.

272 Good evening everyone. It's certainly a pleasure being here.

273 As Mr. Batista just mentioned, you, you have a treatment plant that's several decades old,
274 with the last major improvements being done in the 1970's. The existing facility is every bit
275 the same as what you had forty, fifty, sixty years ago, with only the exception of time and
276 the impact of aging. And, we've had, you know, discussions where we've overviewed the
277 plant and identified some of the major challenges within the existing plant. And, and those
278 challenges continue to persist. The City is doing a lot of things to update the facility. And
279 what we, we highlight here, are.., for each of the major processes illustrated here, the
280 various types of challenges that exist and how those challenges come to bear to impact
281 water quality.

282 What we're gonna.., what I'm gonna do over the next few minutes, is really step you
283 through all of these building blocks of the plant and focus less on the challenges because I
284 think we're all aware of the, the issues the, the facility is facing, but more focus on what's
285 being done about it. What, what, what work is in progress or about to, to get going. Starting
286 with the well field, you've seen the photos in the past. Two years ago, this City, I believe,
287 had only seven of, of twenty-seven wells in operation. Today you have twenty-three.
288 Significant progress has been made, but there's more work to be done.

289 As you peel back the onion, the layer of the onions, you find additional issues. These wells
290 are gonna be serving your future water plant. You know, they're decades old and they need
291 significant rehabilitation. So, the City has retained a consultant to do a deep dive in these
292 wells, do a condition assessment, develop a plan for your well field that would be
293 implemented, that would not only serve the current needs that exist in water plant, but
294 would also position your well field to supply future needs.

295 Then, the next step in the journey of the water through the plant, as it arrives at, at the plant
296 and goes through this air stripping system, this is what was deployed a couple decades ago
297 to, to address some of the groundwater contamination in, in the area. It's been in service
298 continuously since then. You have some operational maintenance challenges that we're
299 currently in the process of looking at, to identify some improvement needs within that, that
300 particular process.

301 The next major process, along the journey of the water, is the lime softening unit. And, this
302 treatment plant does two basic things. It removes hardness from the water. That's a primary
303 purpose for which that was built decades ago. The secondary primary, I guess the
304 secondary purpose of this treatment plant is disinfection. They, they.., this photo here
305 represents your newly renovated lime softening treatment process. It took almost a year.
306 That, that process is in good shape, but you have two additional softening processes. And
307 both of those softening units will ultimately need to be rehabilitated. Prior to doing that, they
308 have to be taken down, one at a time, drained, cleaned, inspected to determine the specific
309 scope of what needs to be done. And then, ultimately, that will be assigned to one of your
310 two design build contractors to, to implement. So that, that work is in progress. I know the
311 City's developing a proposal from one of your design build consultants to facilitate the
312 draining and cleaning of that.

313 The lime slaking process is a key process that makes the previous lime softening units that
314 we looked at, work. This provides and applies the lime in a measured, controlled manner
315 that allows for the, the removal of hardness. The only problem is, is that the existing system
316 does not have any ability to measure and meter the lime in a controlled manner. And, one
317 of the two existing units has been out of service for many years. So, the City's in the
318 process and is.., currently has under contract with Cardinal to, not only design, but
319 construct two new lime softening.., lime feed systems that look somewhat similar to, to what
320 we're looking at in this photo.

321 So, this new system.., now you're gonna start seeing construction within the next month or
322 two, begin on this. We'll be able to handle the entire softening process for the entire
323 treatment plant. So this is a major step in the right direction.

324 Your filtration system similarly has significant needs. We knew that it had needs from a year
325 or so. We recently concluded in the evaluation that took a deep dive into these filters. And
326 there's some significant, let's say, the issues that need to be addressed. The City's
327 currently working with one of its design build contractors, GlobalTech, to put together a, a
328 proposal that will make all the necessary repairs to, to your sixteen filtration units. And, and
329 this is a critical process because this is the last area that prevents particulates from entering
330 the system, so it's important that this be in pretty good shape.

331 And the next step along the journey of the water, is, is your transferring high service pumps.
332 Your high service pumps, as Mr. Batista indicated, is what delivers the water from the plant
333 into the distribution system. The transfer pumps serve the purpose of, of basically moving
334 the water across the street to the storage tank, or backwashing the filters. Your high service
335 pumps have significant issues. In fact, only two of your seven pumps are currently in
336 service, which is really putting the plant perilously close to the very edge. If you lose
337 another pump, that would certainly compromise the ability to meet your water demand.

338 So, I, I think that's the authorization you just approved, an emergency authorization, to have
339 a contractor restore some reliability and function to that particular process. Your transfer
340 pump's in, in better shape but there are also issues that limit the ability of those pumps and
341 the system that its' connected to, to effectively clean the filters. So, another proposal is
342 being developed for a contractor to remedy those deficiencies. Again, it may seem like a
343 steady stream of upgrades, but it took decades for the plant to get to this point, and these

344 are must do items that if you do have a failure, then it basically shuts the door on your, your
345 treatment facility. So, these are high priority initiatives that need to occur.

346 Your chemical feed systems, you have a diverse array of chemical feed systems within the
347 plant. Probably the most important one of which is your chlorination system. A number of
348 your, your chemical feed sys'.., all the chemical feed systems suffer the same thing, you
349 know, inability to effectively control and meter the chemicals. That inability translates into
350 also an inability to maintain consistency of treatment and consistency of quality.

351 Currently under contract with both Cardinal and, and GlobalTech, is a fairly comprehensive
352 array of upgrades that will replace all the chemical feed systems. And additionally, add the
353 capability of, of using carbon dioxide to, to condition the water and, and help target a more
354 optimum finished water quality.

355 All of these projects have already been well under way. The designs are essentially
356 completed. They're in the final stages of permitting, and you're gonna have a, a whole
357 wave of construction that's gonna start soon, within the next month or two, that will peak
358 over the summer, and, and, and taper off towards the end of the year and early part of
359 2022.

360 So next, you have, you know, our chemical building. We all have the sight of that building
361 every time you're coming in to Blue Heron. That building today still houses three important
362 functions, electrical gear that's used to operate the plant, your chorine system, as well as
363 some, some controls. One of the.., two.., both of the design build contractors are gonna be
364 installing replacement systems in different parts of the plant. Once that work is completed
365 and commissioned, then the City will be able to decommission the elements within that,
366 that, that particular structure and eliminate any operational use for that particular building.
367 The building itself, as, as most of you, I'm sure, have seen, the, the, the compromi'.., the
368 structure compromise has been progressively getting worse. The City recently authorized a
369 contractor to take some emergency repairs to essentially wrap the upper portion of the
370 building in, in a steel mesh, a wire mesh that would secure the, the area around the building
371 from any falling debris.

372 Once all the current functional elements within that building are removed, the City's intent is
373 to literally partially demolish the compromised portion of the building and, and then just
374 abandon it in place until such time to do a more comprehensive abandonment [inaudible]
375 plant.

376 So, so that pretty much summarizes the current active work that's under contract, or soon to
377 be placed under contract, to really bring the existing plant on par with expectation. The
378 existing contracts address much of the Phase 1 work that, that's, you know, again, nearing
379 construction.

380 Phase 2 will include some of the things I mentioned, like the, the filter improvements, the,
381 the air stripping improvement, et. cetera. And of course, they have the emergency
382 authorization, which you just authorized one of them, namely the, the high service pump
383 upgrade. So, so that's really kind of the, the portfolio of work that's either currently
384 underway, or, or pending at the existing one plant.

385 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** [Inaudible]. I'm just'a add a few points to what
386 Nigel's saying. A lot of this work deals with the Consent Order that needs to be addressed
387 by September of this year. We're..., it, it's almost like we're hitting two birds with one stone.

388 While we're doing improvements to help ourselves, and then also make the regulatory
389 bodies content with the progress that we're making. Another item that we're getting ready to
390 start very soon, is unidirectional flushing, which is essentially cleaning out over a hundred
391 miles of water mains that haven't been cleaned out for a long period of time.

392 Now, when it comes to 2021, I think, by the end of this year we'll be delivering water in a
393 way that hasn't been delivered before. First off, we'll be able to automate functions that are
394 all manual. My operators have to literally turn the valves..., manually adjust the chemicals
395 and..., for anybody who's been in a well-functioning treatment plant, normally you'll find an
396 operator sitting in a room, pressing the buttons for things to turn on and off, close or open.
397 But here, we got people running around and trying to keep things running to the best of their
398 ability, with the fact that we're understaffed at the water plant. All that's changing. We're
399 hiring operators, we're transitioning the leadership that's getting ready to retire, but there's
400 still a lot to be done.

401 With these improvements, we'll be able to improve the safety and reliability, as well as the
402 performance of these systems, improve our way of handling compliance measures, add
403 new treatment capabilities, like with the new carbon dioxide system, which doesn't even
404 exist at this plant today. We'll be able to improve water quality, because now we'll have a
405 means of controlling what happens within our system. And then, these benefits will help buy
406 us time and bridge until we can get to the new water treatment plant. So, we'll be able to
407 deliver what our customers want sooner rather than later.

408 Now, in terms of the water quality benefits, the lime softening technology has its limits. But,
409 we should be able to see improvements in things like color and hardness. When it comes to
410 the stability of our disinfectant, one of the main processes of the treatment plant, we
411 shouldn't need to flush as often and we'll ha'..., likely have higher chlorine residuals. We're
412 also going to expect [stammer] incidences of cloudy water complaints over time, because
413 we plan on improving filtration, and then also having the unidirectional flushing that was
414 mentioned before. It's, it's almost like when you go to the dentist, you get your teeth flossed
415 and all of that, well that's sort of what we're doing here, where we're trying to clean out
416 everything so we we're starting off fresh.

417 Active construction will commence early spring. We're expecting construction to begin this
418 month and next month on the main chemical feed systems, and then peak during the
419 summertime. And within the timeframe between July and September, we should start
420 realizing the benefits of all this construction work. However, given the age and cond'...,
421 condition of the water treatment plant, and we actually already faced some of these
422 unanticipated conditions. But, we're going to need to be able to do quick action, as we
423 uncover problems that either haven't been addressed, or weren't known about. There's
424 gonna have to be extensive coordination progress and oversight over the next fifteen
425 months.

426 Now, when it comes to the rest of the Utility system, there's a lot of work happening. First

427 one being the C-17 and M Canal crossings. Those are critical force main crossings that
428 affect our neighbors, like West Palm Beach. The design is complete, and that's to
429 essentially mitigate the vulnerabilities that are there now. We're also in the process of
430 designing the intracoastal water and force main crossings that will benefit Singer Island,
431 and that's also to mitigate a force main and water main that doesn't have enough
432 redundancy. We're in the process of doing wastewater pump stations condition
433 assessment, which was approved in the past and our consultant is underway. We have an
434 inflow and infiltration study underway, which deals with our sewers.

435 When it comes to the high velocity flush. That's the unidirectional flush that was mentioned.
436 When it comes to this new water treatment plant, the water use permitting is underway.
437 Recently, the projected water demand was, was completed, so we have a decent idea of
438 what we need going into the future, at least ten years from now.

439 In terms of key Staff recruitment, I think this is one of the most important points.

440 Whereas, I mentioned before, we have fifty-seven positions and eleven vacancies. That's a
441 significant portion of my Utility. And, we're in the process of hiring a, a new superintendent,
442 as our current superintendent plans on retiring; a new operator, as he is ready to retire
443 soon; to fill the water plant operator positions; instrumentation techs, and also a collection
444 superintendent. I think an important point there is that it's, it's not enough for one person to
445 do the work of the USD, it's gonna take a strong leadership team, and a group of people
446 who are dedicated to making the place better.

447 The last item, grant funding initiatives. We're improving how we achieve grants. We, we
448 already had multiple grants approved in the recent past and we'll go into more details in a
449 separate presentation.

450 So, these just show, quickly, pictures of the force main crossings, and also, when it comes
451 to the water main and redundant force main crossings. So, we're making progress there.
452 And we'll have further details in a workshop.

453 In, in terms of the new water treatment plant, we're not gonna get into too much detail here,
454 but the way I see it, is that we have an existing treatment plant, which is the heart of op'...,
455 our operations and we're doing all of these surgeries that are required to keep the heart
456 running. And, ultimately, the goal is to transplant from where we are now to a new location,
457 with a new water treatment plant. So rather than try to keep an old heart that's barely
458 functioning alive, we wanna get to a brand new heart that can keep the body running.

459 So, we're in the process of water supply permitting. And the next step is to do facilities
460 planning to, to give the City an idea of what this place would look like. So, when, when it
461 comes to the Utility Special District, I believe that there's an alignment of direction. I, I feel
462 as though the Council Members, the customers, the Utility Special District, City
463 management, we're all on the same page on we wanted to improve, we wanna get better
464 and now it's just a matter of getting it done. I, I think of it as the beginning of a new era, the
465 USD renaissance, where we're at the very start of this underdog story and there's so much
466 to be done, and I believe the Staff that I have now are survivors. They've been through
467 turnover, they've been through equipment that's failed, they've, they've worked harder for

468 less pay. And because they've survived, they're not like your typical people. So now it's a
469 matter of investing in them and showing that we care, and taking them to a place where
470 they're appreciated. And I think everything that's happening is beginning to show, not just
471 in my Department, but across the City, where I'm getting people from other departments
472 interested in coming to my Utility and I think that's a sign that we're on the right path.

473 So, before we move onto the next presentation about grants, I'd like to open the floor to
474 questions.

475 **Chairperson Botel:** Do we have any questions from the Commissioners?

476 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Madam Chair?

477 **Chairperson Botel:** You're recognized.

478 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Thank you. Thank you for the proposal, Mr. Batista..., or, for
479 the presentation, actually. It was very passionate and shows that we're committed to the
480 water.

481 Keeping a realistic timeframe if we approved a brand new water plant tonight, if the..., what
482 would be the expeditious time of getting something open, and what is the longest time in
483 getting something open, if we approved a plant tonight?

484 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Well, if the plant was approved today, I believe
485 it's reasonable to say that we can get it built within five years. And that..., that's not just the
486 plant, we're talking about Floridan wells, we're talking about the changes to the
487 transmission system so that there's a whole package that goes with the water treatment
488 plant. And so, when you go from design to the construction of such a large project, I, I think
489 a five-year timeframe is doable, if, if everything happens according to plan.

490 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** And then the capital improvements that you outlined tonight,
491 that would be peaking in 2022, are those already included in our budget? Capital
492 improvement budget.

493 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Yes.

494 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** So we've already budgeted for all the items. Is there any way
495 to expedite that process of getting the repairs and getting things done with our plant?

496 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Well, at, at this point, I think the continued
497 support of the Council Members will, will definitely be helpful. We're..., there's going to be an
498 item coming up later that deals with the high service pumps, so beyond that, there's, there's
499 gonna be a lotta work that's coming that is being developed, like with the filters. And, as
500 more information is available, I'll do my best to present the best option for the Board to
501 consider.

502 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Okay. And the discoloration that we discussed, that's
503 something that's gonna slowly change with the capital improvements that we're focused
504 on? 'Cause I think one of our biggest concerns is healthy water, but our residents notice the

505 discoloration of the water and that's a major issue that they have.

506 Is that something that we can truly have addressed within this process or is that gonna see
507 a actual change 'til the new plants and stuff?

508 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** With the current lime softening technology, it
509 can reduce the color, but there's a limit to how much you can reduce it by because it wasn't
510 developed to do so. So, I, I think once we have an automated system with better chemical
511 feed systems as part of all this construction, we'll see a noticeable improvement. But it's
512 really gonna take a new process, like membrane filtration to take it to the next level, like,
513 with bottled water and the clarity dealing with that.

514 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Okay. And Madam Chair, question for Mr. Evans.

515 **Chairperson Botel:** You're recognized.

516 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Mr. Evans, would you be able to provide us a presentation by
517 the next meeting in reference to cost of the brand new plant, and expected.., or, ideas of
518 how we can actually pay for these plants. Something that can show the different options,
519 the different type of plants that are available, and then ability to actually pay for the different
520 type of plants that we bring to the table.

521 **City Manager Evans:** Madam Chair, if I may? With regards to the request by Board
522 Member Lawson, Staff can certainly bring that forward.

523 Also, Ms. Jacobs and I have had some conversations and discussion about a model that
524 can conceivably cut the timeframe, that Mr. Batista just shared, in half. So we would like to
525 bring some options to the Board so we can be able to spool up a presentation to share with
526 the Board how we can look to deliver a plant based on your traditional construction
527 methods, or some of the other things that we're seeing other municipalities do throughout
528 the state and throughout the country.

529 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Anything else, Mr. Lawson?

530 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Yes, Madam Chair. And, Mr. Evans, will that presentation be
531 available for our next Utility District meeting?

532 **City Manager Evans:** Yes, sir.

533 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

534 **Chairperson Botel:** Any other questions?

535 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Madam Chair?

536 **Chairperson Botel:** You're recognized, Ms. Miller-Anderson.

537 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** I don't have a question, but I did just want to thank you
538 all for bringing this forward. As we all know, during election time, we do have, you know, a

539 lot of concerns that come out and the water quality has been one of them.

540 I was around during the time in which we, in 2016, when we had such a uproar with what
541 was going on and a lot of that was because of the information not being shared, and not
542 communicated to the Board, and not being proactive in getting things done. And, what..., as
543 you mentioned, a lot of this stuff has occurred over decades.

544 And so, I, I appreciate us being the Board that's going to fix it, but I hope the community
545 understands that the water did not get this way overnight. This has been for twenty, thirty
546 years of neglect and this is why we're in the situation we're in. And so, we're doing as, as
547 much as we can. There was a lot of times where money was just being sat on and no
548 improvements were being done. And I'm glad you pointed that out.

549 And so, you know, when, when, when we're out there, we just wanna make sure that we're
550 giving the information to the people, and the people ask the questions if they still have
551 concerns. And because people kinda [stammer] excite people over nontruths. And so, I'm

552 glad..., I'm very thankful that you laid this out the way that you did because it really needed
553 to be broken down to the community to understand how we got to where we are.

554 And so, I thank you for that. And, I look forward to being able to correct some of these
555 things that have gone not taken care of for many, many years. So, thank you so much for
556 that.

557 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Any other comments? Mr. McCoy, you're recognized.

558 **Board Member McCoy:** Thank you, Madam Chair.

559 Mr. Batista, I know this question is gonna predate you but perhaps we can figure out the
560 answer, but one of the very..., initial slides you showed demonstrated the cost over the
561 years. Do you have one that shows the rates that was done that commensurates or even, I
562 guess, would be simultaneous. Right. That would be simultaneous to, I guess, the, the rates
563 for the end users, for the customers, that would also mirror in that same fashion to measure
564 exactly the effectiveness and efficiency of us implementing rate increases? And, how does
565 that work as far as the capital plan and what capital projects was done?

566 So, in that same twelve-year time period, would you be able to provide the rate..., water
567 rates?

568 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** I think I could work with Finance to come up
569 with that.

570 **Board Member McCoy:** Alright. Thank you. And also, can you also include in there
571 when they were adopted.

572 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Okay.

573 **Board Member McCoy:** Alright? Thank you.

574 **Chairperson Botel:** Anyone else? [Pause]. I wanna thank you, Mr. Batista. Your passion
575 for your work is clear, and I trust that you're gonna get this done. And, along with
576 Commissioner Miller-Anderson, I, I wanna, you know, congratulate you for being very open
577 and honest and transparent about the issues that we have, and, your, your real eagerness
578 to solve them.

579 So, thank you so much.

580 I do have one quick question, and you might be covering this in, in an upcoming workshop,
581 but I have been asked by people on the Island, the intracoastal crossing that we're
582 planning, will that be buried? How will, you know, the one that's there now is above the
583 bottom of the water and is at risk if anybody comes along with some dragging anchor or
584 something.

585 How will we know that that's gonna be protected?

586 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** To my understanding, the new intracoastal
587 mains will be below the surface...

588 **Chairperson Botel:** Okay.

589 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** ...of the, the sand, you could say.

590 **Chairperson Botel:** Yeah. I, I said that to somebody but I just wanna check that I didn't say
591 [chuckle] anything untrue.

592 Thanks very much.

593 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Yeah.

594 **Chairperson Botel:** I feel safer already.

595 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Chuckle].

596 **Chairperson Botel:** Any other questions? Thank you again, Mr. Batista. We appreciate it.

597 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** No problem.

598 So, now we're just gonna go quickly into a grant presentation. And then, that'll e end of it.

599 [Discussion setting up presentation]

600 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** For this presentation, we have Andrea Holtz,
601 with Holtz Consulting to provide a brief overview of our grant program at Riviera Beach
602 Utility Special District.

603 **Ms. A. Holtz:** Good evening. Nice to see you all. I have not been here before so this is
604 a pleasure. Riviera Beach Special [stammer] Utility Special District grant programs activity.

605 I wanna just start with, you know, we..., I've been working with the Utility for the last couple

606 years and similar to what Mr. Batista said, we have started moving the District forward with
607 actually seeking and obtaining grants. And it's not something that happens overnight, and
608 it's, it's something that takes a little planning. It also takes a little bit of effort because some
609 of these programs are significant, in terms of the..., what you need to do ahead of time.

610 But, we have been successful. And, I wanna talk about two that we're working on right now.
611 The first one is a DEP Special Appropriation Grant. It's not actually a grant, but it's a special
612 appropriation that comes out of the legislative process as a grant from DEP. That's half a
613 million dollars. That's actually going on right now, and that's funding the water treatment
614 plant disinfection system improvements projects. One of the ones that Jonathan mentioned.

615 The second one, we just recently obtained, I believe, was brought to you guys..., or brought to
616 the City sometime..., just not too long ago. But this is a Florida Department of Econ'...,
617 Economic Opportunity Grant, CDBG funded. This money's coming through HUD. This is a

618 \$1.9 million grant. This will fund the replacement of the two wastewater force mains. The
619 one that..., the ones that Jonathan mentioned earlier, the M Canal and the C-17 crossing.
620 Fully funds it. This takes this project off your hands, in terms of funding it. Other programs
621 that you are currently pursuing, meaning you have submitted the applications and now
622 we're waiting to hear about whether you're gonna get the funding. That's FEMA, under the
623 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Again, another program..., a different program, another
624 funding source but still from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

625 And again, we are, on a regular basis, submitting for State of Florida appropriations for the
626 water plant, and, and other things.

627 FEMA's one of the projects, one of the grant programs rather, that is a little..., it's not simple.
628 First of all, the HMGP money is triggered with a hurricane. A hurricane anywhere in the
629 state, but frequently we have them here so, you know, we often have opportunities that
630 way. The projects can't be submitted unless they're on the Palm Beach County Local
631 Mitigation Strategy Priorities..., Prioritized Project List. It's a mouthful. Those..., that's a list
632 that's kept at the county for all municipalities, and it serves as the planning document at a
633 state level, that they submit to the feds, that basically says this is how these areas are
634 mitigating future damage to their cities. It can do a lot of different things, but from the Utility
635 side, we tend to fund continue'..., continuity of power, redundant systems,
636 hardening of facilities. Those types of projects are the kinds of things. But, when you look at
637 [inaudible] City, it can be a lot of different thi'..., a lot of different facilities, things that..., not
638 necessarily just Utilities.

639 We do update that list semi-annu'..., twice a year. The next com'..., the next one's coming up
640 in I believe April. Again, this was something that when I started working with the Utility
641 District, although the Uti'..., City was a member, they were not active and, if you're not active
642 and participating in those meetings that they hold regularly, you become ineligible to be on
643 their list, and you no longer can participate in FEMA grant funding. So, it seems trivial, but
644 it's actually critical important, and it's part of this whole funding process that you have to
645 start with, being on their list.

646 There's other sources of funding, regular sources of funding that also FEMA has, but the

647 ones that we've targeted are the HMGP at this point in time. It's a three-tiered funding
648 system. Tier one is when it hits here, tier two is when it.., there's money left over after tier
649 one and it can go to your area. Tier three is what we applied for under the FEMA HMGP
650 funding program. We've submitted four standby generators for the emergency'.., for
651 emergency lift [stammer] lift station operations and for a larger lift station, Lift Station 47, the
652 emergency generator automatic transfer switch upgrade. Those, both together, are about a
653 half a million dollars and will fund those projects at seventy-five percent. FEMA money is
654 always a seventy-five/twenty-five, unless you can leverage it with additional funding from
655 other sources.

656 But, we did apply for this under Hurricane Michael. That's the good news. The bad news is
657 that, as of last September, they had only gotten through about ten percent of the
658 applications under Hurricane Michael. So, although we are in the pile, the pile is big. I
659 don't.., I think you will get funding out of this because not.., there weren't enough.., there
660 was a lot of money and not enough applications. But, it just takes a while to get through the
661 process.

662 Rebuild Florida. This is a huge initiative, just came out last year and we were ready for it.
663 We submitted under this program, to DEO, three grants.., three, three, three different
664 applications. The program itself is, is a huge source of funding. Just to give you an idea,
665 \$475 million is available on this program, for the State of Florida. And, in the State of
666 Florida, it's limited to those counties that are impact.., have been impacted by significant
667 storms in the past. And on top of that, it is further [stammer], it's mostly intended to serve
668 communities with high LMI. So, it is.., Riviera Beach is poised to get quite a bit of funding
669 under.., under this program and we went for it pretty hard, because we submitted for.., the
670 first one is the one I mentioned earlier, we had gone under a different program, under DEO
671 and were successful. That made us bold, and so the next time we went for the raw water,
672 water supply system improvement, we asked for \$5.9 million, you currently have \$2.26
673 million budgeted. The project's \$8.16. This really positions you because, even though it's a
674 hundred percent grant funding, if you can show a match, it makes you even higher. So this
675 is.., this.., I'm hopeful for this one.

676 Second one, a new water treatment plant. We submitted for \$53.4 million.

677 And the third one we submitted for, new transmission main improvements. Jonathan
678 talked'.., spoke about those. You build a new plant, you have to connect it to your existing

679 system. \$2.7 million. Those are a hundred percent funded. That means that includes the
680 cost of the plant, as well as the con'.., the cost of construction services and design services.
681 That's a.., this estimate, at \$53.4 and \$2.7 and \$8.16 though, are a high-level cost estimate.
682 That means that your numbers can err on thirty percent [inaudible], plus or minus. So, you
683 ha'.., you know, this.., these numbers may be the right numbers...

684 **Unk.:** Mhmm.

685 **Ms. A. Holtz:** ...but may not be.

686 **Unk.:** Yeah.

687 **Ms. A. Holtz:** But, we had to get something in to them, to actually start the process to..
688 even if you're not fund'.., even if they only fund the first one this year, there are two more
689 cycles of funding for DEO general infrastructure. One this year and one next year. Both of
690 those cycles.., one of them is greater than the one they just put out, at a hundred and
691 seventy-five, and the other one's at \$150 million.

692 So, there's pl'.., I, I can't express enough how much this is an important program for the
693 Utility, for the City. And, there are other things that we can do with it, but this I where the

694 Utility is right now and what they've done thus far.

695 Let's see, what else. [Pause]. The other thing that we work on, on an annual basis, is the
696 State of Florida appropriations. The one that we are working under now is the disinfection
697 improvements to the water treatment plant. That's active projects underway, and that's
698 \$500,000 in funding. And then, I believe, in 2019, it takes.., after, after you submit it, you
699 have to go through the budget cycle, but I believe the funding coming in.., out of the last
700 cycle that we did was for the stormwater.

701 What other grant programs are we looking at? We are looking at alternative water supply for
702 source water projects. That would be, in [stammer].., in particular, your new water plant,
703 your new water supply wells, your Floridan wells. That's a perfect water management
704 district project and we will hit them hard.

705 Water conservation funding for future irrigation improvements. That was.., that's not a big
706 dollar. But again, every little bit helps. That can be done, you know, for your plant site,
707 things like that.

708 We have to st'.., we have talked to SRF. DEP has a program, drinking water SRF, and
709 clean water SRF. Clean water is actually for the sanitary side and re'.., and reclaim.
710 [Stammer] drinking water is what we would be looking at for your water side. They are..
711 they have a low interest rate. They will give you some loan forgiveness. There are
712 additional costs associated with these program, but that definitely should not be off the table
713 for something to look at in the future.

714 If you could, you could maybe leverage a combination of SRF, DEO, HMGP, AWS, and
715 SFWMB water conservation. And this would.., it would give you significant funding towards
716 what you look'.., what you heard from Mr. Batista, some of those future costs.

717 And the last, but not least, there hasn't.., I mean, they're starting to talk about some of the
718 information, and I'm extremely excited to hear about where you are on some of these
719 design projects, because I believe this stimulus program funding that's gonna come out of
720 the COVID relief, is going to be for design shovel-ready projects. You have those. You have
721 got projects that are ready to go, you're working towards. This.., these.., some of these
722 might very well.., a lot of times, the county tends to push the road projects, but often, the
723 road projects involve Utilities too. So, you know, either way, I think this is something that's
724 coming down. We're watching for it. Just haven't heard about it just yet.

725 And that's it. If there's any questions, I'll be happy to answer them.

726 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you so much. Do we have any questions? I do. To the best of
727 your knowledge, and it seems to be quite broad and deep, have we missed out on any
728 grant opportunities for the District, that we could've obtained?

729 **Ms. A. Holtz:** No. Not, not..., not since I got here.. [Chuckles]

730 **Chairperson Botel:** So, it would be false and misleading to claim that we are not getting
731 the grants that we're entitled to?

732 **Ms. A. Holtz:** No. Absolutely not. I mean..

733 **Chairperson Botel:** Okay.

734 **Ms. A. Holtz:** ...I, I don't know, but the \$1.9 million that you received for the aerial
735 crossings, there was only a few offered throughout the state. You did extremely well. It's a
736 [stammer]..., it's unusual to get a grant that will pay a hundred percent of a cost project.

737 **Chairperson Botel:** Great.

738 **Ms. A. Holtz:** As a matter of fact, it's just not done. The feds are the best at seventy-
739 five/twenty-five. That you got a hundred percent funding project, for fund, all your
740 construction costs on that, is huge. And you are in a small, small group for the whole entire
741 state.

742 On top of that, it gave me the incentive to go even further. So, when we submitted the next
743 round of DEO grants, we included the design. You had already paid for the design on the,
744 on the two force main replacement projects, and so that money I cannot, unfortunately, get
745 back for, for you from a grant, but I can on future ones. And they will pay for it. So, when we
746 put together the package for the next ones, and any future ones we do, we will include
747 those design dollars. That, to me, would be probably my final grant. Because I would have
748 achieved all that I've ever wanted to achieve, which would be a, a zero cost to you project.
749 Not only from the planning part, but all the way through to the, the construction. And it's
750 doable.

751 If there is something that is not doable, I'm gonna tell you. There are certain grant programs
752 I do not recommend because the testing, and the..., some of the., storm'..., on the
753 stormwater side, some of those are just too difficult. You uncover..., you open pandora's box
754 with them, and don't recommend them. Some of the coastal grants are that way, I don't
755 always recommend those. But, when it comes to these Utilities, especially the DEO funding,
756 it's a great group up there, and I think you guys, in particular, are poised to do really well.

757 I, I've been successful with that program. They had a critical facility portion of it, and we
758 were successful at West Palm Beach in getting \$5 million to fund rehabbing their exis'...,
759 three of their existing fire stations. There's no reason why you guys can't do the same thing
760 in Utilities, and possibly your City as well. It's there. Finally. It hasn't been, but it is there
761 now.

762 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Well, it seems to me we owe you a great [stammer]..., great
763 deal of gratitude for the work that you've done on our behalf. So, thank you very much. I'm

764 sure I speak...

765 **Ms. A. Holtz:** It's been all my pleasure.

766 **Chairperson Botel:** ...[Inaudible].

767 **Ms. A. Holtz:** Truly my pleasure. You've got a great group here.

768 **Chairperson Botel:** Any other comments? [Pause]. Thank you very much.

769 **Ms. A. Holtz:** Okay. Thank you.

770 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – 6:15 P.M. – NON-AGENDA ITEM SPEAKERS (Three**
771 **Minute Limitation)**

772 **District Clerk Anthony:** Resolution number... Madam Chair, the time is 6:35, and
773 public comments are to begin at 6:15. And we do have a public comment card.

774 **Chairperson Botel:** Let's hear public comments then. Thank you.

775 **District Clerk Anthony:** Madam Chair, will you read the statement into the record,
776 please?

777 **Chairperson Botel:** I'm searching...

778 **Board Member miller-Anderson:** [Inaudible].

779 **Chairperson Botel:** ...for it.

780 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Madam Chair, is this, is this something new?

781 **District Clerk Anthony:** It's in the.., on the Agenda that public comments start 6:15.

782 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** We just added that? I don't ever recall having a
783 time, but that's fine.

784 **Chairperson Botel:** PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT RULES OF DECORUM DURING
785 OFFICIAL MEETINGS HAS BEEN ADOPTED AND POSTED AT THE ENTRANCE. IN AN
786 EFFORT TO PRESERVE ORDER, IF ANY OF THE RULES ARE NOT ADHERED TO,
787 THE DISTRICT CHAIR MAY HAVE ANY DISRUPTIVE SPEAKER OR ATTENDEE
788 REMOVED FROM THE PODIUM, FROM THE MEETING AND/OR THE BUILDING, IF
789 NECESSARY. PLEASE GOVERN YOURSELVES ACCORDINGLY.

790 **PUBLIC COMMENT SHALL BEGIN AT 6:15, UNLESS THERE IS NO FURTHER**
791 **BUSINESS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WHICH, IN THAT EVENT, IT SHALL**
792 **BEGIN SOONER. IN ADDITION, IF AN ITEM IS BEING CONSIDERED AT 6:15 P.M.,**
793 **THEN COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC SHALL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE**
794 **ITEM HAS BEEN CONCLUDED.**

795 **ANY PERSON WHO WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK DURING PUBLIC COMMENTS, PLEASE**

796 **FILL OUT A PUBLIC COMMENT CARD LOCATED AT THE FRONT DESK AND GIVE IT**
797 **TO STAFF BEFORE THE PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION IS ANNOUNCED.**

798 **Chairperson Botel:** Madam Clerk.

799 **District Clerk Anthony:** Madam Chair, Members of the Board, the acceptance of
800 public comment cards at this time is now closed. Glen Spiritis.

801 **Mr. G. Spiritis:** Members of the Board, good evening. Glen Spiritis, Riviera Beach.
802 5540 North Ocean Drive. City Manager, City Staff as well, good evening to you as well.

803 Mr... Are you Interim Director or Director now?

804 **Chairperson Botel:** Please confine yourself...

805 **Mr. G. Spiritis:** Mr. Batista?

806 **Chairperson Botel:** ...to your remarks.

807 **Mr. G. Spiritis:** I'm, I'm just not sure. I wanna respond..., I wanna mention his name,
808 but I'm not sure what his title is.

809 **Chairperson Botel:** Mr. Batista.

810 **Mr. G. Spiritis:** If you could tell me what his title is.

811 **Chairperson Botel:** He's the Interim Director.

812 **Mr. G. Spiritis:** Interim Director. Mr. Interim Director, I want you to know that I have
813 tremendous respect for the entire Staff, for you, your entire Staff...

814 [Inaudible dais comment]

815 **Mr. G. Spiritis:** ...and under the difficult conditions they've been working under, for
816 numerous years. It is remarkable they've been able to get any water out of those pipes.

817 Councilwoman Anderson spoke about 2016. We know we spent over a million dollars on
818 professional engineers to study the water plant, and our system at that time. And without
819 going into great detail, the last sentence in their report, the City's report, said that our water
820 system and transmission system is in cardiac arrest and need to be replaced. We've known
821 this since 2016. This didn't happen overnight, as everyone said. This has happened for
822 quite a while.

823 I think our grants person is doing a great job, except that, as we all know, grants are maybe
824 you'll get approved, maybe you won't get approved. You can't budget and bank upon
825 grants. I've done this for many, many years and I, I don't think that we could put our water
826 system up for 'maybe we'll get the grant, maybe we won't.' We should apply for it,
827 obviously.

828 I spoke with DEP, Shannon Speas-Frost, who's in charge of the drinking water revolving
829 loan program. I spoke to her staff. They've received no applications from us. They refer to
830 the \$500,000 legislative grant we received when Mr. Horton was the, the administrator at
831 the time, the Director, the Acting Director., or, Director, whatever he was at that time. That
832 was the only thing that they had received and approved through their office, through DEP.

833 They said they're willing and able to work with us through the revolving loan program.

834 The money is at a half a percent interest right now. They would fund the entire plant. The
835 design, everything, at a half a percent interest, twenty-year loan, and twenty percent of that
836 would be turned into a grant because of the median income of our City.

837 I suggest that we get moving on, on planning and design. The funds are available, and we
838 can get these funds right away. So, we should get into that process. We could've used this
839 for the \$10 million that we're just spending right now. We did not. We could've used it for
840 the acquisition of the land. We did not. Clearly, unfortunately, it's not retroactive, so they will
841 not fund anything that we've already done.

842 But I, I do request that you contact these people, and we start moving forward. And I wish
843 us a lotta luck...

844 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

845 **Mr. G. Spiritis:** ...in the grants.

846 **Chairperson Botel:** Your time is expired.

847 **Mr. G. Spiritis:** Thank you. Thank you all tonight.

848 **District Clerk Anthony:** Madam Chair, Members of the Board, that completes public
849 comment.

850 **Chairperson Botel:** Mr. Evans, do you have anything to say with regard to something that
851 we might've missed out on?

852 **City Manager Evans:** Madam Cahir, when we bring back the presentation with
853 regards to the facilities, we'll bring all those particular mechanisms and funding
854 opportunities to the Board as part of the discussion.

855 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you very much.

856 **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

857 **REGULAR AGENDA**

858 **Chairperson Botel:** Madam Clerk.

859 **4. District Clerk Anthony: RESOLUTION NUMBER 5-21UD A RESOLUTION OF**
860 **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY**

861 SPECIAL DISTRICT, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN
862 AGREEMENT WITH UNDERWATER SOLUTIONS INC., MATTAPOISETT,
863 MASSACHUSETTS; COOPERATIVE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP18 4601
864 OQ, ORLANDO UTILITIES COMMISSION FOR INSPECTIONS AND INTERIOR
865 CLEANINGS (SEDIMENT REMOVAL) OF STORAGE TANKS IN THE AMOUNT
866 OF \$39,220.00; AUTHORIZING THE UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT BOARD
867 CHAIRPERSON AND DISTRICT CLERK TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT;
868 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDERS UP TO
869 TEN PERCENT (10%);AND AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR
870 TO MAKE PAYMENT FROM PROJECT NUMBER 21016 AFTER WORK
871 AUTHORIZATIONS HAVE BEEN ISSUED; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
872 DATE.

873 **JONATHAN BATISTA, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 561-8445-4185**

874 **District Clerk Anthony:** Madam Chair, Members of the Board, we do not have any
875 public comment cards on this Item. The acceptance of public comment cards on this Item is
876 now closed.

877 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Would someone care to make a motion to approve
878 Resolution 5-21UD?

879 **Board Member McCoy:** Motion to approve.

880 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Second.

881 **Chairperson Botel:** It is moved and seconded to approve Resolution 5-21UD. Madam
882 Clerk. We have any discussion? Sorry Before we vote. Any discussion, or is there a
883 presentation?

884 **City Manager Evans:** Madam Chair, if I can have Interim Director Jonathan Batista
885 make the presentation.

886 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

887 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** For, for this..., for this Item, this deals with the whole
888 comprehensive program that's underway to clean out the water mains and the ground
889 storage tanks. When it comes to this particular entity, we, we had this entity clean out the
890 tanks in 2016 and it came to my knowledge recently that there's a regulatory requirement to
891 have the tanks cleaned out every five years. And so, that deadline is March 14th of this
892 year, therefore, normally, I, I would prefer to go a competitive solicitation route if there are
893 local entities that would wish to participate, but because we only have a few weeks to have
894 this Item completed, I recommend to the Board to approve this cooperative agreement so
895 that we can meet the regulat'..., regulatory requirement.

896 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Any comments?

897 **Board Member McCoy:** Yes.

898 **Chairperson Botel:** Questions? You're recognized...

899 **Board Member McCoy:** Mr. Batista... **Chairperson Botel:** ...Mr. McCoy.

900 **Board Member McCoy:** ...so, this deadline and this requirement of doing it every five
901 years, is that now gonna be a function of the compliance person that you spoke of, that's in
902 the budget?

903 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Yes. The compliance person would track that.

904 **Board Member McCoy:** Okay. Alright. Thank you.

905 **Chairperson Botel:** Any other questions or comments? Madam Clerk.

906 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member Lanier?

907 **Board Member Lanier:** Yes.

908 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member McCoy?

909 **Board Member McCoy:** Yes.

910 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member Miller-Anderson?

911 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Yes.

912 **District Clerk Anthony:** Pro Tem Lawson?

913 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Yes.

914 **District Clerk Anthony:** Chair Botel?

915 **Chairperson Botel:** Yes. That's...

916 **District Clerk Anthony:** Unanimous vote.

917 **Chairperson Botel:** ...approved by a vote of 5-0. Thank you. [Chuckles]

918 **5. District Clerk Anthony: RESOLUTION NUMBER 6-21UD A RESOLUTION OF**
919 **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY**
920 **SPECIAL DISTRICT, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE**
921 **EMERGENCY REPAIRS BY GLOBALTECH, INC. PREVIOUSLY APPROVED FOR**
922 **DESIGN BUILD SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE**
923 **CHANGE ORDERS UP TO TEN PERCENT (10%); AND AUTHORIZING THE**
924 **UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT'S FINANCE DIRECTOR TO MAKE PAYMENT**
925 **FROM PROJECT #18154 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$222,028.69; AND**
926 **PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

927 **District Clerk Anthony:** Madam Chair, Members of the Board, there are no public
928 comment cards on this Item. The acceptance of public comment cards on this Item is now

929 closed.

930 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Would someone care to make a motion to approve the
931 emergency repairs by GlobalTech?

932 **Board Member Lanier:** So moved.

933 **Chairperson Botel:** It has been moved and seconded that we approve the emergency
934 repairs by Globaltech. Do we have a presentation?

935 **City Manager Evans:** Madam Chair, if I can Interim Executive Director Jonathan Batista
936 make this presentation.

937 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

938 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** For this Item is briefly covered in the
939 presentation. To go into a little more detail, the water treatment plant has seven high
940 service pumps, five of which are inoperable. The two high service pumps that are currently
941 functional are pumps that have variable frequency drives so we can control the flow for
942 each pump. However, if one of those pumps were to go down, at this point we have no
943 redundancy so, therefore, we would lose pressure throughout the system unless we open
944 inter'.., interconnects with our neighbors to essentially deliver the flow that's required for our
945 customers. If both pumps were to go down, that would mean you would have no high
946 service pumps and we would not be able to deliver water to anyone. And based on my
947 current understanding of our interconnects, I don't believe we have enough capacity to
948 meet demand, if we had no high service pumps.

949 Therefore, an evaluation was requested as, as soon as the situation was understood to find
950 which pumps could be [stammer] brought back.., back into service as quickly as possible,
951 due to the, the emergency nature of this. So, with that information, we discovered there
952 were two pumps, high service pumps, two and five, that could be brought back rather
953 quickly, within a four-week timeframe. So, we requested a proposal and that is what I'm
954 bringing before the Board.

955 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Any questions or comments? [Pause]. Seeing none,
956 Madam Clerk. It has been moved and seconded that we approve the emergency repairs to
957 GlobalTech. If you're in agreement, vote yes. If not, vote no. Madam Clerk.

958 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member McCoy?

959 **Board Member McCoy:** Yes.

960 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board Member Miller-Anderson?

961 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Yes.

962 **District Clerk Anthony:** Board member Lanier?

963 **Board Member Lanier:** Yes.

964 **District Clerk Anthony:** Pro Tem Lawson?

965 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Yes.

966 **District Clerk Anthony:** Chair Botel?

967 **Chairperson Botel:** Yes. That motion is approved by unanimous vote.

968 **END OF REGULAR AGENDA**

969 **DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION**

970 **District Clerk Anthony:** Madam Chair, the Agenda., we're down to discussion and
971 deliberation.

972 **Chairperson Botel:** Right. Discussion and deliberation.

973 **DISCUSSION BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT**
974 **OR CITY MANAGER**

975 **Chairperson Botel:** Discussion by the Executive Director of the Utility Special District.
976 Sorry, my [inaudible].

977 **Board Member McCoy:** [Inaudible].

978 **Chairperson Botel:** [Inaudible]. Mr. Evans?

979 **City Manager Evans:**No comments, Madam Chair.

980 **Chairperson Botel:** [Inaudible]. Thank you.

981 **DISCUSSION BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

982 **Chairperson Botel:** Discussion by District Attorney.

983 **Unk:** [Inaudible].

984 **District Attorney Wynn:** Yes, Madam Chair.

985 **Unk.:** [Inaudible].

986 **Chairperson Botel:** I'm sorry. Thank you. Go ahead. Go ahead.

987 **District Clerk Wynn:** Thank you. I have an announcement of a closed executive
988 session. Pursuant to Florida Statute 286.0118(d), public meetings and records, and in a
989 desire to obtain advice concerning litigation, I am requesting a time that the City Council is
990 available for a closed executive session in the matter of Tradrick McCoy v. City of Riviera
991 Beach Utility District, Case No. 50-2020-CA-011228-XXXX-MB. There are two City Council
992 meetings scheduled for March 3rd and March 17, 2021. I would like to ask the Council if
993 you're available on either of those dates. What is your pleasure, either Wednesday March

994 3, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. or Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.?

995 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Either one is fine with me.

996 **Chairperson Botel:** I'm sorry. What's the first one?

997 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** The 3rd.

998 **Board Member McCoy:** Madam Chair?

999 **Chairperson Botel:** Yes. You're recognized.

1000 **Board Member McCoy:** So I'll be actually in Tallahassee with our lobbyist on the 3rd,
1001 so I wouldn't make that first meeting. But, it appears that Board Member Lanier has some
1002 objections to me attending anyway. So.

1003 **Chairperson Botel:** Oh.

1004 **District Clerk Wynn:** So, is March 17th your pleasure?

1005 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** Yes.

1006 **Chairperson Botel:** I, I think if...

1007 **District Clerk Wynn:** Okay. Therefore, our closed executive session will be held on the
1008 17th...

1009 **Board Member McCoy:** [Stammer] Madam...

1010 **Chairperson Botel:** Wait, wait, wait.

1011 **Board Member McCoy:** ...Madam Attorney. One question. So, is there an urgency to
1012 do it on the 3rd?

1013 **District Attorney Wynn:** No, there isn't.

1014 **Board Member McCoy:** Okay.

1015 **Chairperson Botel:** Okay. So, the 17th and...

1016 **District Clerk Wynn:** Yeah.

1017 **Chairperson Botel:** ...did you say a time?

1018 **District Clerk Wynn:** 5:30 p.m. I'm going., I need to finish the statement, please.

1019 **Chairperson Botel:** Oh sorry. [Chuckle]. Go ahead.

1020 **District Clerk Wynn:** That's okay. Therefore, a closed executive session will be held on the
1021 17th day of March 2021 at 5:30 p.m., at City of Riviera Beach Marina Event Center, 190

1022 East 13th Street, Riviera Beach, Florida 33404 in the case of Tradrick McCoy v. City of
1023 Riviera Beach Utility District, again, Case No. 50-2020-CA-011228-XXXX-MB. Those
1024 person in attendance will be USD Attorney Dawn Wynn, USD Assistant City Attorney Lina
1025 Busby, outside counsel, Gwendolyn Key Tuggle, Mayor Felder, Members of the USD
1026 Board, and USD Interim Director Jonathan Batista. The subject matter of the closed
1027 executive session will be..., shall be restricted to settlement negotiations and/or strategy
1028 sessions related to litigation expenditures.

1029 Thank you.

1030 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

1031 **Board Member McCoy:** Question.

1032 **Chairperson Botel:** You're recognized.

1033 **Board Member McCoy:** So, I read the Charter. I didn't know it called for an Assistant
1034 Utility District Director. Can you explain that?

1035 **District Clerk Wynn:** It calls for the ex'..., Executive Director.

1036 **Board Member McCoy:** I mean, I'm sorry, Attorney. You said Ms. Busby. That's not
1037 listed in the Charter as a...

1038 **District Clerk Wynn:** It's the...

1039 **Board Member McCoy:** ...[inaudible].

1040 **District Clerk Wynn:** ...Attorney for..., it's the Attorney for the office. And just in case I'm
1041 not available, she will be.

1042 **Board Member McCoy:** Okay.

1043 **District Clerk Wynn:** It's allowed. Thank you.

1044 **Board Member McCoy:** Okay. I just wanted to make sure, 'cause I didn't see that in
1045 the Charter.

1046 **District Clerk Wynn:** Mhmm.

1047 **Board Member McCoy:** Okay.

1048 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you.

1049 **STATEMENTS BY DISTRICT BOARD**

1050 **Chairperson Botel:** Comments by District Board, starting with Mr. Lawson.

1051 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Thank you, Madam Chair.

1052 Mr. Evans, are you.., one of the speakers spoke about, one of our residents, about the
1053 drinking water alone fund that the DEP has. Are we familiar with that, or have we ever
1054 applied for that?

1055 **City Manager Evans:** I believe that loan may be the WIFIA loan program. We're aware of
1056 it. We had discussions with representatives in Washington, D.C. about it, and have had
1057 conversations with our lobbyist about it.

1058 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Okay. And is that something that we're able to bring all the
1059 details and information to the next meeting for?

1060 **City Manager Evans:**That is something that we can certainly make sure is part of the
1061 discussion. Yes, sir.

1062 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Thank you. Thank you, Madam Cahir.

1063 **Chairperson Botel:** Mr. McCoy.

1064 **Board Member McCoy:** Yes. Mr. Batista, so, the point about the ability to pump, I
1065 know maybe a couple months back, we had a issue out in Arbor Park. Well, on the way to
1066 the meeting, I got a call from a resident about low water pressure out in that community,
1067 and he's in, not in the previous Mediterranean, but in the new division that's being
1068 constructed. I believe, whatever the developer is. But, is that something that we can look
1069 into? Because I know that there was a question about there was valves closed. And I know
1070 we've seen this maybe late last year, maybe October or so. Or November.

1071 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Yeah. Within the, the last two weeks there was
1072 numerous calls that came in, people were saying that they lost their water and we found out
1073 that a contractor had closed a valve to do work on the curb stop. So, that was a minor
1074 issue. When it comes to the lower pressures in Arbor Park and throughout the distribution
1075 system, improvements to the high service pumps, as well as the other improvements
1076 throughout the treatment plant should help with the pressure overall.

1077 **Board Member McCoy:** Okay. So, has the valve closure been addressed with the
1078 contractor and the development team?

1079 **Interim Executive Director Batista:** Yes.

1080 **Board Member McCoy:** Okay. Alright. Thank you.

1081 **Chairperson Botel:** Is that it? Board Member Lanier.

1082 **Board Member Lanier:** Yes. I'd just like to thank the Utilities Department. I often say
1083 how hard they work, how much effort they put into making sure that the water quality in the
1084 City is standard. And also, going above and beyond to make sure that we can get to the
1085 point where.., I remember back in the late 90's, '94, '95, '96, that Riviera Beach had some
1086 of the best water in the county. So, I'm hoping that we get back to those days where people
1087 would want our water, and you could actually bottle our water.

1088 So, and.., also piggybacking off of Commissioner Miller-Anderson's point, this did not get
1089 this way overnight. The water plant, which was building in 1958 has been consistently
1090 neglected here in the City. So, if we want to make sure that we have quality water, then we
1091 have to make sure that put the money, the time and the effort to bring our water plant up to
1092 par, and also to have it so that we can enjoy our drinking water here. So, kudos and hats off
1093 to the Utility Department, the Staff, the people who work there, who work hard to keep
1094 things going. We really appreciate your efforts, and we're looking forward to a new water
1095 plant and to also, along the way, improve the water that we currently have.

1096 Thank you.

1097 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you. Board Member Miller-Anderson.

1098 **Board Member Miller-Anderson:** I just wanted to just reiterate the comment that I did
1099 make about this not happening overnight. And, and what I mean by that as well, is that we
1100 had a number of City Managers, we had several City Managers and.., during that time and
1101 now, we've had a number of Utility [stammer]... And I think Mr. Batista pointed all of that
1102 out, and that does factor into that. We received the report and, when we got that report, that
1103 report told us of all the things that have been going on, prior to that report coming out.

1104 And, as he pointed out, what was done for the few years after that, was almost kinda
1105 nonexistent. There was a lot going on, and I'm sure the community is very well aware of all
1106 of the things that were going on at that time, which hinder progress. And, as you can see,
1107 that is what has happened. But I do think that we have a plan, and our plan is pretty much
1108 laid out as to how this can done. I'm, I'm pretty confident it'll get done. But, I couldn't say
1109 that a couple years back.

1110 So, from where we were then and where we are now is totally different. And I look forward
1111 to being able to make sure that our residents have the quality of water that they have so
1112 desired, and need. And, you know, [stammer] it just needs to really stop with the
1113 foolishness. Put out the true facts of what is going on, and if people don't know the
1114 answers, please ask. And I will ask that those of you who are here or watching, please
1115 communicate with everyone what has been presented. If you still have questions, please
1116 contact Staff, contact the Councilpeople, the Mayor and ask us what is going on.

1117 But, you know, these scare tactics that are being put out there, about the water, needs to
1118 stop. And, and the reason I say it really needs to stop, is because it doesn't make sense to
1119 scares people up, unnecessarily. And believe me, I led the charge back in 2016 on making
1120 sure that every one were held accountable, and that is why most of those people who were
1121 here then, and I'm not talking about Council, I'm talking of Staff, were.., are not here.
1122 They're.., they've been gone for a while. So, please allow us.., and, and see the progress
1123 that we are trying to make.

1124 We're trying to put forth the money to get the stuff done. That was not always done. And
1125 that is the fault of a number of people. I'm not gonna blame one group of people. It goes
1126 over decades.

1127 So, I just ask that everyone try to, you know, really get the facts on what's going on. And if

1128 you don't have the facts, please ask.

1129 Thank you.

1130 **Chairperson Botel:** Thank you so much. I also wanna thank you again, Mr. Batista, and
1131 just to say that I'm proud to be part of the team that's gonna ensure that we have clean
1132 water in Riviera Beach.

1133 Any other comments?

1134 **ADJOURNMENT**

1135 **Chairperson Botel:** This meeting is adjourned. [Gavel]

1136 **Chairperson Botel:** Let's start in ten minutes. Is that good? Ten minutes good?

1137 **Board Member McCoy:** [Inaudible].

1138 **Chair Pro Tem Lawson:** Sure. [End of video/audio]

1139 **City Employees, Public Speakers and Others**

1140		
1141	Glen Spiritis	Mr. G. Spiritis
1142	Holtz Constants Andrea Holtz.....	Ms. A. Holtz

1143
1144

1145 **APPROVED:**

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1149

SHIRLEY D. LANIER
CHAIRPERSON

1150 **ATTEST:**

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1154

CLAUDENE L. ANTHONY
CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CLERK
CITY CLERK

KASHAMBA MILLER-ANDERSON
CHAIR PRO TEM

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TRADRICK MCCOY
BOARDMEMBER

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JULIA BOTEL, Ed.D
BOARDMEMBER

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DOUGLAS LAWSON
BOARDMEMBER

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1175 **MOTIONED BY:** _____

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1177 **SECONDED BY:** _____

1178
1179 **T. MCCOY** _____

1180 **K. MILLER-ANDERSON** _____

1181 **S. LANIER** _____

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1183 **J. BOTEL** _____

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1185 **D. LAWSON** _____

1186

1187 **DATE APPROVED:** **APRIL 21, 2021**