

**SELMA-KINGSBURG-FOWLER
COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT**

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF DIRECTORS

AUGUST 10, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board Meeting of the Selma-Kingsburg-Fowler County Sanitation District was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Chairman Mendes.

DIRECTORS

Nathan Magsig (P)
Juan Mejia (P) @4:15PM
Vince Palomar (P)
Scott Robertson, Vice Chair (P)
Buddy Mendes, Chairman (P)

STAFF AND CONSULTANTS

Veronica Cazares, General Manager/Secretary
Alicia Kirk, Executive Assistant to the G.M.
Tricia Miller, Administrative Services/HR Manager
Hilda Cantu Montoy, General Counsel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There being no comment from the public, a motion to approve the agenda of the Board meeting of August 10, 2023, was made by Director Palomar and seconded by Director Robertson and approved by a unanimous voice vote:

AYE: Director Magsig, Palomar, Vice Chair Robertson, Chairman Mendes

NO:

ABSENT: Director Mejia

ABSTAIN:

PUBLIC FORUM

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

Items placed on the consent calendar are routine in nature. They may be approved by one motion, second, and majority vote. Any Board member or member of the public may request removal of any item from the consent calendar for independent consideration.

There being no comment from the public, a motion to approve the consent calendar was made by Director Robertson and seconded by Director Palomar and approved by a unanimous voice vote:

AYE: Director Magsig, Palomar, Vice Chair Robertson, Chairman Mendes

NO:

ABSENT: Director Mejia
ABSTAIN:

NEW BUSINESS

A. Subject: Request For Proposal: Sewer Rate Study *(p.12)*

Recommendation: That the Board approve entering into an agreement with Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. in the amount of \$59,955.00 and contingencies in the amount of \$20,000 for a total amount of \$79,955.00 and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement.

A total of four Request for Proposals (RFP) were sent out, and two were received back to the District. One from SCI Consulting Group and one from Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. Unfortunately, SCI did not address all the needs of the District. Raftelis did meet the necessary qualifications and has worked with the District in the past. Director Magsig mentioned that rate studies are critical and important as well as a good investment. It has been five (5) years since the last rate study. The District had previously implemented a five-year rate increase approved by the Board back in 2019.

There being no comment from the public, a motion to approve entering into an agreement with Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement was made by Director Robertson and seconded by Director Palomar and approved by a unanimous voice vote:

AYE: Director Magsig, Palomar, Vice Chair Robertson, Chairman Mendes
NO:
ABSENT: Director Mejia
ABSTAIN:

B. Subject: Fifth Amendment to the Consulting Services Agreement with MKN and Associates Relating to Construction Support Services for FY 21 Sewer Rehab Project *(p.35)*

Recommendation: That the Board approve the Fifth Amendment to the Consulting Services Agreement with MKN and Associates to extend the Agreement to July 1, 2024, and to increase the contract amount by \$9,000 for a total cost of \$378,229.22 and authorize the General Manager to execute the Fifth Amendment to Agreement.

The Board of Directors approved a consulting service agreement for on call engineering services with MKN and Associates in March 2020. The proposed fifth amendment to the current on-call consulting services agreement with MKN and Associates is related to a proposed increase to construction support services for the FY21 Sewer Rehab Project that was awarded to Dawson

Mauldin, Inc. This will bring the total cost for the agreement including all amendments to \$378,229.22. It was asked if the District has been satisfied with the services provided by MKN and it was answered “yes.”

There being no comment from the public, a motion to approve the Fifth Amendment to the Consulting Services Agreement with MKN and Associates to extend the Agreement to July 1, 2024, and to increase the contract amount by \$9,000 for a total cost of \$378,229.22 and authorize the General Manager to execute the Fifth Amendment to Agreement was made by Director Robertson and seconded by Director Palomar and approved by a unanimous voice vote:

AYE: Director Magsig, Palomar, Vice Chair Robertson, Chairman Mendes

NO:

ABSENT: Director Mejia

ABSTAIN:

BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATION/AGENDA ITEMS

Director Robertson thanked General Manager Cazares and Admin/HR Manager Miller for attending the meeting in Selma where the upgrade to the Clarkson Lift Station Project was an issue. Director Robertson mentioned that there have been frequent amounts of “back and forth” with the project plans causing concerns from the Selma City Manager, and this meeting attended by SKF staff was based on those concerns. Director Robertson thanked General Manager Cazares and Admin/HR Manager Miller for approaching the situation with diplomacy and explaining the issues that were accounting for the “back and forth.” Director Robertson is hopeful that uncertainties were settled and that the project can move forward.

At this time Director Robertson, addressed his fellow Board members with a situation that may be coming to a future City Council Meeting. There is a Selma City Council Member that would like to put an item on a future agenda. That item being that they would like to discuss the entire City of Selma withdrawing from their connection to SKF. Director Magsig commented that if the City of Selma were to withdraw and develop their own system, they (Selma) would still be financially responsible for the infrastructure that was put into place for them by SKF. Director Magsig encouraged GM Cazares to help engage in any future discussions as many expenditures that are in place and any bonds previously issued to support Selma’s infrastructure will still be the City’s (Selma) financial responsibility. Director Magsig also stated that a new Plant was built in Clovis in 2008 that served new construction at a cost of 80 million dollars. GM Cazares added that Selma pulling away also affects planning for District pump stations and interceptors, as well as rates and billing for the other Cities SKF serves. Currently, Selma does not have their own Sewage Treatment Plant to service their city residents. Director Magsig commented that building your own sewer facilities, including building infrastructure, procuring land, or buying existing infrastructure would be extremely costly to rate payers, as rates would increase ten-fold of what they are now. Director Robertson will be bringing this back to Selma Council for a robust discussion.

Director Palomar mentioned that Kingsburg is currently holding Strategic Planning sessions for the City of Kingsburg, and the Public is encouraged to attend.

Director Magsig is looking forward to the Annual Solar Update in October or November.

Director Mejia arrived at 4:15 p.m.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

General Counsel Montoy gave the Board an update on the National Raisin settlement agreement, and that extracting the monies owed has been challenging. She did prepare a Notice to Cure in the event it is needed. At this time, they are current. National Raisin has restructured their company and the CEO has been replaced.

CLOSED SESSION

- A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
Title: General Manager

General Counsel Montoy read the code section aloud.

Closed Session began at 4:17 pm

RECONVIENNE OPEN SESSION

Open session began at 4:36 pm. There was nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Mendes declared the meeting adjourned on a motion made by Director Robertson, and seconded by Director Palomar, and approved by a unanimous voice vote at 4:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Veronica Cazares, General Manager

Approved,



Scott Robertson, Vice- Chairman
of the Board