

**MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
OF THE EMERALD COAST UTILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020, 2:45 P.M.  
ECUA BOARD ROOM  
9255 STURDEVANT STREET, ELLYSON INDUSTRIAL PARK  
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA**

Members present: Lois Benson, Chairman  
Kevin Stephens, Vice Chairman  
Vicki Campbell  
Dale Perkins  
Larry D. Williams, Sr.

Members absent:

Counsel present: Robert Beasley

Staff present: J. Bruce Woody, Executive Director

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Benson called the organizational meeting of the Emerald Coast Utilities Authority Board to order at approximately 2:45 p.m.

**ITEM 2 – INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Campbell provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 3 - ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Ms. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Perkins, to adopt the agenda as presented.

***Motion carried 5-0.***

**ITEM 4 - SWEARING IN OF BOARD MEMBERS**

(a) Larry D. Williams, Sr., District Three

ECUA Attorney, Mr. Beasley, administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Larry D. Williams, Sr., as the newly appointed Board Member for District Three.

(b) Kevin Stephens, District Five

ECUA Attorney, Mr. Beasley, administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Kevin Stephens, as the newly appointed Board Member for District Five.

## **ITEM 5 – Adoption of General Resolution No. GR20-68**

*Ms. Benson moved this Item to follow Item 7 - Organization of Board.*

**A GENERAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2021.**

### **Comments:**

The Board discussed changing the meeting times for the Citizens' Advisory Committee and Board meetings.

### **Motion and Vote:**

A motion was made by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Ms. Campbell, that the Board adopt General Resolution No. GR20-68 with the understanding that in March 2021, the Board will revisit the meeting times for the Citizens' Advisory Committee and the Board.

***Motion carried 5-0.***

## **ITEM 6 – PRESENTATIONS**

- (a) Special Recognition Award to Dr. Cedric Alexander, former ECUA Board member

Ms. Campbell presented a special recognition award of appreciation to Dr. Cedric Alexander for his service as an ECUA Board member.

- (b) Special Recognition Award to Dr. Larry Walker, former ECUA Board member

Dr. Walker was unable to attend the meeting; however, the staff will make arrangements with Dr. Walker to ensure he receives his award.

The Board honored Dr. Cedric Alexander and Dr. Larry Walker for their dedication to the ECUA Board.

## **ITEM 7 – ORGANIZATION OF BOARD**

Ms. Benson turned the gavel over to Mr. Bruce Woody, Executive Director.

- (a) Election of Board Chairman

Mr. Perkins nominated Ms. Benson for the position of Board Chairman.

Motion made by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Ms. Campbell, to close the nominations for Board Chairman, with Ms. Benson as the sole nominee.

Each Board member used a ballot to indicate their selection for Board Chairman. The tally was as follows:

Ms. Lois Benson:                      Five votes

Mr. Woody confirmed the election of Ms. Benson to the position of Board Chairman.

***Motion carried 5-0.***

(b) Election of Board Vice Chairman

Mr. Perkins suggested that one of our new Board members fill the position of Board Vice Chairman.

Comments:

Mr. Kevin Stephens and Mr. Larry Williams, Sr., both expressed interest in being considered for the Board Vice Chairman position.

Mr. Perkins nominated Mr. Kevin Stephens and Mr. Larry Williams, Sr., for the Board Vice Chairman position.

Each Board member used a ballot to indicate their selection for Board Vice Chairman. The tally was as follows:

Mr. Kevin Stephens:              Three votes  
Mr. Larry Williams, Sr.:        Two votes

Mr. Woody confirmed the election of Mr. Stephens to the position of Board Vice Chairman.

(c) Election of Committee Chairman

Mr. Perkins nominated Ms. Campbell for the position of Committee Chairman.

Each Board member used a ballot to indicate their selection for Committee Chairman. The tally was as follows:

Ms. Vicki Campbell:              Five votes

Mr. Woody confirmed the election of Ms. Campbell to the position of Committee Chairman.

(d) Election of Committee Vice Chairman

Mr. Perkins nominated Mr. Larry Williams, Sr., for the position of Committee Vice Chairman.

Each Board member used a ballot to indicate their selection for Committee Vice Chairman. The tally was as follows:

Mr. Larry Williams, Sr.: Five votes

Mr. Woody confirmed the election of Mr. Williams, Sr., to the position of Committee Vice Chairman.

(e) Appointment and Approval of Members to the Citizens' Advisory Committee

Each Board member nominated their appointments for their Districts:

District One: Ms. Vicki Campbell reappointed Mr. Chuck Kimball  
District Two: Ms. Lois Benson appointed Mr. Dean Kirschner  
District Three: Mr. Larry Williams, Sr., appointed Mr. Louis Brown, III  
District Four: Mr. Dale Perkins reappointed Ms. Louise Ritz  
District Five: Mr. Kevin Stephens appointed Mr. David Gaines

Motion made by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Ms. Campbell, to approve the Districts' appointees.

***Motion carried 5-0.***

Mr. Beasley confirmed that he has received applications and compliant resumes from all candidates.

Chairman Benson called for nominations for the at-large positions of the CAC.

Chairman Benson requested that each Board member use their ballots to choose two individuals to be at-large members. The tally was as follows:

Mr. Elliot Kirschner: One vote  
Ms. Ashley McDonald: Two votes  
Ms. Pueschel Schneier: Three votes  
Ms. Imelda Cromartie: Four votes

Mr. Bruce Woody confirmed the appointment of Ms. Schneier and Ms. Cromartie to the two at-large positions on the Citizens' Advisory Committee.

(f) Approval of Staff Advisor to the Citizens' Advisory Committee

Item (f) was addressed by the Board in the November 17, 2020, Regular Board meeting.

(g) Approval of Parliamentarian

Item (g) was addressed by the Board in the November 17, 2020, Regular Board meeting.

(h) 2021 Calendar - Board Meeting Dates (Proposed)

2021 Regular Board Meeting Dates (Proposed)

Item (h) was addressed by the Board in the November 17, 2020, Regular Board meeting.

**ITEM 8 – LIST OF CURRENT CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTEES**

*Information only; no action required.*

**ITEM 9 – OPEN FORUM**

There were no requests to address the Board.

**ITEM 10 – ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Benson adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Bruce Woody, P.E.  
Executive Director

APPROVED BY THE ECUA BOARD  
IN REGULAR SESSION ON \_\_\_\_\_

- ( ) Without corrections/amendments  
( ) With corrections/amendments being: