

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, January 29, 2007

Laurel, Maryland

Chairman Prem Agarwal called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room at the James Senate Office Building, 11 Bladen, Annapolis, MD 21401, with due notice having been given to all members of the Commission and the public.

Vice Chair Botts, Commissioners Marc P. Lieber, Sandra Allen and Juanita Miller were present. Also, present were Senator Nathaniel Exum, Delegate Michael Vaughn, Delegate Craig Rice, General Manager Andy Brunhart, and Corporate Secretary Charlett Bundy.

Agenda Approval

Vice Chair Botts moved to approve the agenda as proposed with the exception of deleting the item to elect a corporate secretary pro tem and to change the numbering of bill MCPG 114-07 to MCPG 118-07. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried with five affirmative votes (Commissioner Starks was absent).

Intergovernmental Relations Office

Senator Exum first requested that the Commissioners obtain a clearer understanding of how the WSSC staff handles the introduction of bills. He then led the discussion on the differences between the WSSC bill and Delegate Vaughn's bill to re-enact the MBE Program. Senator Exum stated he would check with his counsel on the addition of the words "if any" to determine the necessity of including those words in MC/PG 104-07.

As to the information in paragraphs G and H in MC/PG 118-07 (describing the WSSC computerized tracking system for contract payments), Delegate Vaughn stated he viewed such information as constituting a "friendly amendment." Senator Exum stated he would check with his counsel to see if that information could be included in Delegate Vaughn's bill.

Delegate Vaughn's bill requires employers who receive WSSC contracts to certify that at least 30% of the employees are domiciled in the bi-county area, i.e., either Prince George's County or Montgomery County. Senator Exum agreed to oversee the research on how other jurisdictions track employee residency and report his findings to the Commissioners. Commissioners expressed concern over legal issues related to any privacy entitlement employees may have about their home addresses being placed in public documents as well as to the cost to the agency for tracking such information. Everyone agreed that no decision would be made until Senator Exum provided the results of his research on this topic.

On the issue of keeping or removing the SLBE program from the MBE Program in MC/PG 104-07, Senator Exum was asked if he agreed to bifurcate SLBE from the MBE Program in MC/PG 104-07. He stated, "Let's do this, I think that's the best approach."

Lastly, it was agreed that identifying Delegate Vaughn's bill as an emergency bill was not a disputed point.

Commissioner Miller moved that the agenda be changed to show withdrawal of MC/PG 118-07 as a voting item and moved that WSSC withdraw MC/PG 118-07. There was no second so the motion failed.

With no further business on the agenda, Vice Chair Botts then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

//signed//
Charlett Bundy
Corporate Secretary