

RESOLUTION NO. 14-15 UD

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SENIOR UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO HELP RIVIERA BEACH LOW INCOME SENIOR CITIZENS WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN PAYING THEIR WATER BILL; TO APPROVE LOW INCOME DISABLED VETERANS AND LOW INCOME DISABLED RESIDENTS AS ADDITIONAL ELIGIBLE CATEGORIES; APPROVING THE PROGRAM NAME CHANGE TO THE RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM; AND AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT FINANCE DIRECTOR TO MAKE PAYMENTS FROM ACCOUNT NUMBER 411-1417-536-0-4801, NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in October 2009, the Utility District approved an increase in the water consumption rates for residents living within the corporate boundaries of the City of Riviera Beach. It was estimated that the increase would average approximately \$10.00 per household. Senior citizens incomes are mostly fixed and an increase adversely affects low income resident's ability to pay their water bill; and

WHEREAS, the primary purpose of the Senior Utility Assistance Program (SUAP) is to help low income senior citizens, with financial assistance in paying the increase in their water bill. The SUAP was designed to assist low income senior citizen residents who meet an established eligibility requirement to be able to cover the difference between their normal average water bill cost and the increased water rate amount; and

WHEREAS, the USD Board of Directors is expanding the Program allowing low income residents and veterans with disabilities to participate; and

WHEREAS, the Program will be renamed the Utility Assistance Program (UAP); and

WHEREAS, in order to receive assistance through this program the applicant must be a City of Riviera Beach resident, be at least sixty (60) years of age, a disabled veteran or a disabled resident and must meet the income eligibility requirements of low income limits as established annually by the Palm Beach County Department of Economic Sustainability, and be the water bill account holder and resident of same address; and

WHEREAS, approximately 95 seniors received a credit of \$10.00 per month in Fiscal Year 2013 and approximately 46 seniors received a credit of \$10.25 per month in Fiscal Year 2014 and approximately 44 seniors received a credit of \$11.00 per month in Fiscal Year 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Utility Assistance Program (UAP) will provide a credit equal to the readiness charge for water and sewer (base rate) for eligible low income seniors, low income disabled veterans and low income disabled residents on their water bill commencing October 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the financial assistance will increase automatically by any annual base rate adjustment; and

WHEREAS, Utility Assistance Program (UAP) applications must be renewed each year commencing October 1 to verify continued eligibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH UTILITY SPECIAL DISTRICT, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS

SECTION 1. That the District Board hereby approves the name change of the Riviera Beach Senior Utility Assistance Program (SUAP) to the Riviera Beach Utility Assistance Program (UAP).

SECTION 2. That the District Board approves the additional eligible categories, low income Disabled Residents and low income Disabled Veterans, that may participate in the Utility Assistance Program.

SECTION 3. That the District Board hereby approves the budget in the amount not to exceed \$50,000, for the Riviera Beach Utility Assistance Program (UAP) to provide a monthly credit to aid up to 250 Riviera Beach low income households in Fiscal Year 2016.

SECTION 4. That the District Board hereby approves an automatic annual adjustment increase of the base rate and shall adjust the budget amount accordingly each fiscal year to accommodate the UAP.

SECTION 5. This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval by the District Board.

PASSED and APPROVED this 19th day of October, 2015.

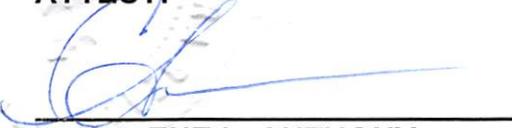
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APPROVED:



DAWN S. PARDO
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



CLAUDENE L. ANTHONY
CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CLERK
DISTRICT CLERK



TERENCE D. DAVIS
CHAIR PRO-TEM

ABSENT

BRUCE A. GUYTON
BOARD MEMBER



KaSHAMBA L. MILLER-ANDERSON
BOARD MEMBER



CEDRICK A. THOMAS
BOARD MEMBER

MOTIONED BY: C. THOMAS

SECONDED BY: T. DAVIS

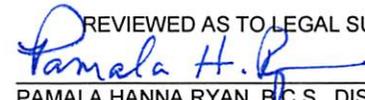
B. GUYTON ABSENT

K. MILLER-ANDERSON AYE

C. THOMAS AYE

D. PARDO AYE

T. DAVIS AYE

REVIEWED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

PAMALA HANNA RYAN, B.C.S., DISTRICT ATTORNEY

DATE: 10/15/15