



November 19, 2024

Public Acts of 1983 Chapter 222

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Public Acts of 1983 Chapter 222

COMPILER'S NOTE: The following act is a public act of special application and is not codified in Tennessee Code Annotated.

SECTION 1. Creation -- Purpose. -- (a) There is hereby created the Reelfoot Lake Regional Utility and Planning District in the counties of Lake and Obion.

(b) This District is intended to secure economic benefits to the above counties and to the cities of Tiptonville and Samburg by providing for sewer and other utilities in the District and by providing for a District with powers for planning and other related activities to preserve Reelfoot Lake.

(c) The boundaries of the District are as follows:

An area comprising the central portion of Lake County and the west central portion of Obion County including the municipalities of Tiptonville and Samburg. The area being more specifically as shown on the illustration below and approximately described as follows: Beginning at point "A" (36 degrees 23' 28" Lat., 89 degrees 31' 07" Long.) on the east levee of the Mississippi River; thence in a southern direction along the river levee to point "B" (36 degrees 21' 24" Lat., 89 degrees 31' 21" Long.); thence easterly to point "C" (36 degrees 21' 15" Lat., 89 degrees 22' 16" Long.); thence northeasterly to point "D" (36 degrees 23' 53" Lat., 89 degrees 18' 50" Long.); thence northwesterly to an east bank of Reelfoot Lake at point "E" (36 degrees 24' 33" Lat., 89 degrees 20' 03" Long.); thence in a southwest direction following the southern shore of Reelfoot Lake to point "F" (36 degrees 24' 40" Lat., 89 degrees 26' 36" Long.) thence to the point of beginning.

SECTION 2. Effective date -- This Act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.

SECTION 3. General Implementing Powers. -- The District created pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be vested with all the powers necessary and requisite for the accomplishment of the purpose for which such District is created, capable of being delegated by the legislature. No enumeration of particular powers herein created shall be construed to impair or limit any general grant or power herein contained. This district is empowered to do all acts necessary, proper or convenient in the exercise of the powers granted herein.

SECTION 4. Exemption From State Regulation -- Neither the public service commission nor any other board of commission of like character hereafter created shall have jurisdiction over the District in the management and control of any system, including the regulation of its rates, fees, tolls or charges.

SECTION 5. Powers in Carrying Out Purposes -- Services By Cities Or Towns. -- (a) The District created pursuant to this chapter shall have the power

- (1) To sue and be sued;
- (2) To have a seal;
- (3) To acquire by purchase, gift, devise, lease or exercise of the power of eminent domain or other mode of acquisition, hold and dispose of real and personal property of every kind within or without the District, whether or not subject to mortgage or any other liens;
- (4) To make and enter into contracts, conveyances, mortgages, deeds of trust, bonds or leases;
- (5) To incur debts, to borrow money, to issue negotiable bonds and to provide for the rights of holders thereof;
- (6) To fix, maintain, collect and revise rates and charges for any service; (7) To pledge all or any part of its revenues;
- (8) To make such covenants in connection with the issuance of bonds, or to secure the payment of bonds, that a private business corporation can make under the general laws of the state, notwithstanding that such covenants may operate as limitations on the exercise of any power granted by this chapter;
- (9) To use any right-of-way, easement or other similar property right necessary or convenient in connection with the acquisition, improvement, operation or maintenance of a utility, held by the state or any political subdivision thereof, provided that the governing body of such political subdivision shall consent to such use;
- (10) To apply for or accept grants, loans or other financial assistance from any federal, state, county or municipal agency in aid of the acquisition, planning, development, management or operation of the lands, improvement to lands, or facilities provided for herein;
- (11) To enter upon any lands and premises for the purpose of making surveys, soundings, and

examination in connection with the acquisition, improvement, operation, or maintenance of any of the facilities of the District; provided, however, the District shall be liable for any damages caused thereby.

(b) The powers of the District shall be vested in and exercised by a majority of the members of the board of directors of the District.

(c) The District is empowered to conduct, operate and maintain a system, or systems, for the furnishing of water, sewer, sewage disposal, natural gas, natural gas storage and related activities, liquefied natural gas storage and related activities, liquid propane gas storage and related activities and other gaseous storage and related facilities, artificial gas, garbage collection and garbage disposal, street lighting, parks and recreational facilities.

(d) Incorporated cities and towns within the District or within five miles of the District boundary shall lose their right to provide the utilities under the following conditions:

(1) Where an agreement cannot be reached, the Utility District, by a resolution setting out the area to be served and the type of utility, shall notify the city or town of its intention to serve the area;

(2) After receipt of such notice, the city or town shall have sixty (60) days in which to adopt an appropriate ordinance or resolution determining to serve the area within a specified time; the Utility District may within ten (10) days appeal to the county executive of the county in which the major part of the land area is located if it considers the time so determined is too long, whereupon the county executive after hearing both parties shall determine a reasonable time for the city or town to provide the services, and further appeal may be taken by either party to the Chancery Court of the county affected.

(3) Upon failure of the city or town to provide the services within the time so determined, or to adopt an ordinance or resolution within the 60-day period, the Utility District shall be authorized to serve any part of the area not already served by the city or town.

(e) The District shall have powers for zoning and planning, land use control, situation and drainage control and lake management control within the District but subject to the provisions of paragraph (f).

(f) Where the powers expressed in paragraph (e) have been delegated to another governmental entity, the District shall exercise these powers only with the consent of such governmental entity. The District, by resolution setting out the powers to be exercised under paragraph (e), shall notify the appropriate governmental entity of its intention to exercise such power, and after receipt of such notice, such governmental entity shall consent or object to the exercise of same by the District, and if no action is taken within one hundred twenty (120) days from the receipt of such notice, there shall be a conclusive presumption that such governmental entity consented to the exercise of such power by the District.

SECTION 6. Contracts. -- All contracts of the District shall be entered into and executed in such manner as may be prescribed by statutes, regulations and procedures governing contracting by county governments; but no contract or acquisition by purchase of equipment, apparatus, materials or supplies involving more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or for construction, installation, repair or improvement of the property or facilities involving more than five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be made except after such contract has been advertised for bids, provided that advertisement shall not be required when an emergency arises and requires immediate delivery of the supplies or performance of the service.

SECTION 7. Eminent Domain. -- The District is hereby authorized and empowered to condemn, in the name of the District, any land, easements, or rights-of-way in the boundaries of the District that, in the opinion of the board of directors, are necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this Act provided that the condemnation of such property shall first be approved by the legislative body of the county wherein such property is located. Title to property so condemned shall be taken by and in the name of the District, and the property shall thereafter be entrusted to the District for the purposes of this part. Such condemnation proceedings shall be in accordance with Chapters 16 and 17 of title 29 of the Public Acts of Tennessee. Provided, however, that where title to any property sought to be condemned is defective, it shall be passed by the judgment or decree of the court. Provided, further, that where condemnation proceedings become necessary, the court in which any such proceedings are filed shall, upon application by the District, and upon posting of a bond with the clerk of the court in such amount as the court may deem commensurate with the value of the property, order that a writ of possession shall issue immediately, or as soon and upon such terms as the court, in its discretion, may deem proper and just.

SECTION 8. Funds and Funding. -- (a) Except as herein otherwise expressly provided, all bonds issued by the District shall be payable solely out of the revenues and receipts derived from the District's projects or of any thereof as may be designated in the proceedings of the board of directors under which the bonds shall be authorized to be issued, including debt obligations of the lessee or contracting party obtained

from or in connection with the financing of a project; provided, that notes issued in anticipation of the issuance of bonds may be retired out of the proceeds of such bonds. Such bonds may be executed and delivered by the District at any time and from time to time may be in such form and denominations and of such terms and maturities, may be in registered form or in bearer form subject to registration as to principal or interest or both, may be payable in such installments and at such time or times not exceeding forty (40) years from the date thereof, may be payable at such place or places whether within or without the state of Tennessee, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable at such time or times and at such place or places and evidenced in such manner, may be executed by such officers of the District and may contain such provisions not inconsistent herewith, all as shall be provided in the proceedings of the board of directors whereunder the bonds shall be authorized to be issued. If deemed advisable by the board of directors, there may be retained in the proceedings under which any bonds of the District are authorized to be issued an option to redeem all or any part thereof as may be specified in such proceedings, at such price or prices and after such notice or notices and on such terms and conditions as may be set forth in such proceedings and as may be briefly recited in the face of the bonds, but nothing herein contained shall be construed to confer on the District any right or option to redeem any bonds except as may be provided in the proceedings under which they shall be issued. Any bonds of the District may be sold at public or private sale in such manner, at such price and from time to time as may be determined by the board of directors of the District to be most advantageous, and the District may pay all expenses, premiums and commissions which its board of directors may deem necessary or advantageous in connection with the issuance thereof. Issuance by the District of one or more series of bonds for one or more purposes shall not preclude it from issuing other bonds in connection with the same project or any other project, but the proceedings whereunder any subsequent bonds may be issued shall recognize and protect any prior pledge or mortgage made for any prior issue of bonds. Proceeds of bonds issued by the District may be used for the purpose of constructing, acquiring, reconstructing, improving, equipping, furnishing, bettering, or extending any project or projects, including the payment of interest on the bonds during construction of any such project and for two (2) years after the estimated date of completion, and payment of engineering, fiscal, architectural and legal expenses incurred in connection with such project and the issuance of the bonds, and the establishment of a reasonable reserve fund for the payment of principal of and interest on such bonds in the event of a deficiency in the revenues and receipts available for such payment.

(b) Any bonds or notes of the District at any time outstanding may at any time and from time to time be refunded by the District by the issuance of its refunding bonds in such amount at the board of directors may deem necessary, but not exceeding the sum of the following:

- (1) The principal amount of the obligations being refinanced;
- (2) Applicable redemption premiums thereon;
- (3) Unpaid interest on such obligations to the date of delivery or exchange of the refunding bonds;
- (4) In the event the proceeds from the sale of the refunding bonds are to be deposited in trust as hereinafter provided, interest to accrue on such obligations from the date of delivery to the first or any subsequent available redemption date or dates selected, in its discretion, by the board of directors, or to the date or dates of maturity, whichever shall be determined by the board of directors to be most advantageous or necessary to the District;
- (5) A reasonable reserve for the payment of principal of and interest on such bonds and/or a renewal and replacement reserve;
- (6) If the project to be constructed from the proceeds of the obligations being refinanced has not been completed, an amount sufficient to meet the interest charges on the refunding bonds during the construction of such project and for two (2) years after the estimated date of completion (but only to the extent that interest charges have not been capitalized from the proceeds of the obligations being refinanced); and
- (7) Expenses, premiums and commissions of the District, including bonds discount, deemed by the board of directors to be necessary for the issuance of the refunding bonds. A determination by the board of directors that any refinancing is advantageous or necessary to the District, or that any of the amounts provided in the preceding sentence should be included in such refinancing, or that any of the obligations to be refinanced should be called for redemption on the first or any subsequent available redemption date permitted to remain outstanding until their respective dates of maturity, shall be conclusive.

(c) Any such refunding may be effected whether the obligations to be refunded shall have then matured or shall thereafter mature, either by the exchange of the refunding bonds for the obligations to be refunded thereby with the consent of the holders of the obligations so to be refunded, or by sale of the refunding

bonds and the application of the proceeds thereof to the payment of the obligations to be refunded thereby, and regardless of whether or not the obligations proposed to be refunded shall be payable on the same date or different dates or shall be due serially or otherwise.

(d) Prior to the issuance of the refunding bonds, the board of directors shall cause notice of its intention to issue the refunding bonds, identifying the obligations proposed to be refunded and setting forth the estimated date of delivery of the refunding bonds, to be given to the holders of the outstanding obligations by publication of an appropriate notice one (1) time each in a newspaper having general circulation in the area and in a financial newspaper published in New York, New York, and having national circulation. As soon as practicable after the delivery of the refunding bonds, and whether or not any of the obligations to be refunded are to be called for redemption, the board of directors shall cause notice of the issuance of the refunding bonds to be given in the manner provided in the preceding sentence.

(e) If any of the obligations to be refunded are to be called for redemption the board of directors shall cause notice of redemption to be given in the manner required by the proceedings authorizing such outstanding obligations.

(f) The principal proceeds from the sale of any refunding bonds shall be applied only as follows: either,

(1) To the immediate payment and retirement of the obligations being refunded;

or

(2) To the extent not required for the immediate payment of the obligations being refunded then such proceeds shall be deposited in trust to provide for the payment and retirement of the obligations being refunded, and to pay any expenses incurred in connection with such refunding, but provision may be made for the pledging and disposition of any surplus, including without limitation, provision for the pledging of any such surplus to the payment of the principal of and interest on any issue or series of refunding bonds. Money in any such trust fund may be invested in direct obligations of, or obligations the principal of and interest on which are guaranteed by the United States government, or obligations of any District or instrumentality of the United States government, or in certificates of deposit issued by a bank or trust company located in the state of Tennessee if such certificates shall be secured by a pledge of any of said obligations having any aggregate market value, exclusive of accrued interest, equal at least to the principal amount of the certificates so secured. Nothing herein shall be construed as a limitation on the duration of any deposit in trust for the retirement of obligations being refunded but which shall not have matured and which shall not be presently redeemable or, if presently redeemable, shall not have been called for redemption.

(g) All such bonds, refunding bonds and the interest coupons, if any, applicable thereto are hereby made and shall be construed to be negotiable instruments.

(h) The principal of and interest on any bonds issued by the District shall be secured by a pledge of the revenues and receipts out of which the same shall be made payable, and may be secured by a mortgage or deed of trust covering all or any part of the projects from which the revenues or receipts so pledged may be derived, including any enlargements of and additions to any such projects thereafter made, and/or by an assignment and pledge of all or any part of the District's interest in and rights under the leases, sale contracts or loan agreements relating to such projects, or any thereof. The resolution under which the bonds are authorized to be issued and any such mortgage or deed of trust may contain any agreements and provisions respecting the maintenance of the projects covered thereby, the fixing and collection of rents or payments with respect to any projects or portions thereof covered by such resolution, mortgage or deed of trust, the creation and maintenance of special funds from such revenues and from the proceeds of such bonds, and the rights and remedies available in the event of default, all as the board of directors shall deem advisable not in conflict with the provisions hereof. Each pledge, agreement, mortgage and deed of trust made for the benefit or security of any of the bonds of the District shall continue effective until the principal of and interest on the bonds for the benefit of which the same were made shall have been fully paid. In the event of default in such payment or in any agreements of the District made as a part of the contract under which the bonds were issued, whether contained in the proceedings authorizing the bonds or in any mortgage and deed of trust executed as security therefor, such payment or agreement may be enforced by suit, mandamus, the appointment of a receiver in equity, or by foreclosure of any such mortgage and deed of trust, or any one or more of said remedies.

(i) No bond authorized herein may be issued until the financial information provided for in T.C.A. 7-82-501(b) is submitted to the State Director of Local Finance and the provisions of said paragraph are complied with.

SECTION 9. Rates Sufficient To Pay Costs And Retire Bonds. -- The board of directors shall prescribe and collect reasonable rates, fees, tolls, or charges for the services, facilities and commodities of its system or

systems, shall prescribe penalties for the nonpayment thereof, and shall revise such rates, fees, tolls or charges from time to time whenever necessary to insure that such system or systems shall be and always remain self-supporting. The rates, fees, tolls or charges prescribed shall be such as will always produce revenue at least sufficient:

- (1) To provide for all expenses of operation and maintenance of the system or systems, including reserves therefor; and
- (2) To pay when due all bonds and interest thereon for the payment of which such revenues are or shall have been pledged, charged or otherwise encumbered, including reserves therefor.

SECTION 10. Annual Audit -- Publication of Water And Sewer Rates And Annual Financial Statement. --

(a) The directors of the Utility District shall cause an annual audit to be made of the books and records of their District. The comptroller of the treasury, through the department of audit, shall be responsible for determining that such audits are prepared in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing standards and that such audits meet the minimum standards prescribed by the comptroller. The comptroller shall promulgate such rules and regulations as are required to assure that the books and records are kept in accordance with generally accepted accounting procedures and that audit standards prescribed by the comptroller are met.

(b) Said audits shall be prepared by certified public accountants, public accountants or by the department of audit. In the event the board of directors of the District shall fail or refuse to have said audit prepared, then the comptroller may appoint a certified public accountant, or public accountant or direct the department of audit to prepare said audit, the cost of such audit to be paid by the Utility District.

(c) Within ninety (90) days after the close of the fiscal year of the District, the directors of the District shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation, published in the counties in which the District is situated, a statement showing:

- (1) The financial condition of the District at the end of the fiscal year;
- (2) The earnings of the District during that fiscal year just ended;
- (3) A statement of the rates then being charged by the District, and a brief statement of the method used in arriving at such rates.

(d) A copy of such annual statement and audit shall be filed with the county executives of Lake and Obion Counties, and a copy forwarded to the office of the comptroller of the treasury of the state of Tennessee. The failure to file such copies shall be a misdemeanor.

SECTION 11. Protest Of Rates -- Adjustment Of Complaints. -- (a) Within thirty (30) days of the date on which this statement is published, any water or sewer user of the District may file with the directors of the District a protest, giving reasons why, in the opinion of the water or sewer user, the rates so published are too high or too low. Within a period of fifteen (15) days after the end of this thirty (30) day period during which such protest may be filed, the directors shall notify each protestant of a hearing to be held by the directors on such protests as may have been filed within the thirty (30) day period prescribed. Upon the hearing date so fixed, which shall be some date within a period of sixty (60) days after giving such notices to the protestants, all such protests shall be heard together by the directors. After hearing and examining statements, exhibits and arguments of the protestants or their counsel the directors shall make and spread upon the minutes of the board their finding as to the reasonableness or unreasonableness of the published rates, and at the same time the board may increase or decrease such rates upon a finding that they are too low or too high, as the case may be.

The directors shall not be required to receive, consider or act upon any protest filed at any time other than within the thirty (30) day period provided in this section.

Any protestant feeling himself aggrieved by the final action of the directors under this section may obtain a review of the directors' action in the Chancery Court of Lake or Obion County through the common law writ of certiorari.

(b) It shall be the duty of the board of directors of the District to have and maintain a set of rules and regulations regarding the adjustment of all complaints which may be made to the District concerning the availability of utility services to persons in need thereof, the quality of service performed, the adjustment of bills, and all other complaints of any nature, with provision as to the manner of resolution of individual complaints, provision as to the types of complaints which may be resolved by salaried employees of the District, and those which may be resolved only by the board of directors. Such rules shall be posted or otherwise available for convenient inspection by customers and members of the public in the offices of the District, they shall provide for the office employees or other employees of the District to schedule for consideration by the board of directors any complaint of such nature as may be decided by the board under its rules and regulations, and also to schedule for consideration by the board of directors, the

review of any complaint which shall not have been settled to the satisfaction of the customer or citizen by a salaried employee to whom the settlement of such complaint shall have been delegated.

SECTION 12. Planning Development. -- (a) The District shall develop a comprehensive development plan for the economic growth and residential, recreational, commercial and industrial development of Reel- foot Lake.

(b) In making such investigations necessary to the development of the comprehensive development plan and in formulating the comprehensive development plan, the District shall seek the assistance of federal, state and local agencies, and of private citizens and citizen organizations interested in the conservation and development of the resources of the area.

(c) The District may enter into contracts with municipalities, other public agencies or political subdivisions of any kind, corporations, public or private, or with others, for the construction of facilities, utilities, or for the provision of services within or in conjunction with development within the development lands, that the District determines are required for the development of the development lands or for the operation or management of such facilities.

(d) The District may develop, or provide for the development of, the development lands for recreational, residential, commercial and industrial purposes or for any other purpose consistent with this Act, and may provide for the development, management or operation of the development lands or facilities within such lands for these purposes, directly or by contractors, licensees, concessionaires, lessees or vendees.

(e) The District may sell or lease any development lands, or interests therein, for uses consistent with the District's development plan, for such consideration and on such terms as the District deems appropriate and necessary to effectuate the comprehensive development plan, and subject to such restrictions as the District deems necessary for the protection of the economic and environmental values within the area, including requirements related to: (1) the character or design of improvements and activities which may be undertaken on the development lands; (2) the time within which such improvements or activities shall be undertaken; and (3) the areas or places within such lands where such activities shall be undertaken.

(f) The District may acquire, construct or operate such facilities or other works of improvement, or may undertake such site development activities, as are necessary or convenient to effectuate its plans for the comprehensive development of the area.

(g) The District may enter into contracts with any city, county, municipal or other supplier of utilities, for the abandonment, relocation, reconstruction, maintenance or other adjustment of roads, highways, bridges, utility lines or other facilities in, on, over or across the development lands or such areas adjacent thereto as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(h) The District may acquire, construct, operate and maintain such public roads in, on, over or across the development lands or such areas adjacent thereto as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 13. Contributions By Counties. -- The counties represented on the board of directors are hereby authorized and empowered:

(1) To contribute to the public works of the District any amount or amounts of money that their respective governing bodies, acting in their sole discretion, shall approve to be paid from the general fund of the respective county. The county legislative bodies shall be empowered to levy and collect ad valorem taxes for such purposes, which are hereby declared to be for county public purposes.

(2) To issue their bonds as provided in Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 5-11-101 through 5-11-125, to obtain funds for the financing of public works by the District, or to secure advances made to the District for the construction of public works pursuant to cooperative agreements with the District.

SECTION 14. Exemption From Taxation. -- So long as the District shall own any system, the property and revenue of such system shall be exempt from all state, county and municipal taxation. Bonds issued pursuant to this chapter and the income therefrom shall be exempt from all state, county and municipal taxation, except inheritance, transfer and estate taxes, and it shall be so stated on the face of said bonds.

SECTION 15. Board of Directors -- Appointment -- Vacancies -- Eligibility. -- (a) Membership of the board of directors shall consist of one member each appointed by the governing bodies of Lake and Obion Counties and of the cities of Tiptonville and Samburg and a fifth director to be appointed by them their directors. The fifth director may not hold office for more than one term unless he receives at least three votes from the other directors. In addition, the county executives of Lake and Obion Counties shall serve as ex officio members of the board. (b) The terms of office for the board of directors shall be for four years for each director except for the initial term of office which shall be as follows:

- (1) The director appointed by the town of Tiptonville, and the director appointed by the other members of the board of directors, shall serve an initial term of one year;
- (2) The director appointed by the town of Samburg shall serve an initial term of two years;
- (3) The director appointed by the county of Obion shall serve an initial term of three years; and
- (4) The director appointed by the county of Lake shall serve an initial term of four years.

(c) In the event of failure to elect a successor to any member of the board, the member whose term has expired shall continue to serve until his successor has been duly elected as herein provided.

In the event of the death or resignation of a member of the board, or his inability to serve prior to the expiration of his term, his successor shall be appointed for the unexpired term by the body who appointed him.

(d) Any person at least twenty-five (25) years of age who has resided in Lake or Obion County for a period of at least one year immediately preceding his election, shall be eligible to serve as a member of the board of directors of the District. Any director who ceases to regularly reside within Lake or Obion County shall automatically become ineligible to serve in said office.

SECTION 16. Compensation of Directors -- Delegation Of Powers -- Officers -- Records. -- (a) The members of the board, except as provided in subsection (b), shall serve without compensation for their services, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for all expenses incurred in connection with the performance of their duties. The board may delegate to one or more of its members or to its agents and employees such powers and duties as it may deem proper, but at its first meeting and at the first meeting of each calendar year thereafter it shall elect one (1) of its members to serve as chairman, and another of its members as secretary of the board. The secretary shall keep a record of all proceedings of the board which shall be available for inspection as other public records, and shall be custodian of all official records of the District.

(b) The members of the board of directors shall be entitled to receive compensation for their services for each days' attendance of the meetings of said board and the performance of their official duties in an amount not to exceed the compensation paid to members of the Legislative Body of Lake County, Tennessee, for attending meetings of the County Legislative Body. The amount of compensation shall be fixed by the board of directors, but the same shall not exceed the amount provided for above, nor shall the amount of compensation paid to each of the directors exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per annum.

SECTION 17. Powers of Directors. -- (a) The board of directors of the District shall have power and authority:

- (1) To exercise by vote, ordinance or resolution all of the general and specific powers of the District;
- (2) To make all needful rules, regulations and by-laws for the management and the conduct of the affairs of the District and of the board;
- (3) To adopt a seal for the District, prescribe the style thereof, and alter the same at pleasure;
- (4) To lease, purchase, sell, convey and mortgage the property of the District and to execute all instruments, contracts, mortgages, deeds or bonds on behalf of the District in such manner as the board shall direct.
- (5) To inquire into any matter relating to the affairs of the District, to compel by subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of books and papers material to any such inquiry, to administer oaths to witnesses and to examine such witnesses;
- (6) To appoint and fix the salaries and duties of such officers, experts, agents and employees as it deems necessary, to hold office during the pleasure of the board and upon such terms and conditions as the board may require;
- (7) To accept donations to the District of cash, lands or other property to be used in the furtherance of the purpose of this part;
- (8) To accept grants, loans, or other financial assistance from any federal, state, county or municipal agency, or other aid for the acquisition or improvement of any of the facilities of the District;
- (9) To establish schedules of tolls, fees, rates, charges, and rentals for the use of the properties and facilities under its jurisdiction, and for services which it may render;
- (10) To do all things necessary or convenient to carry out its function.

(b) Except as otherwise expressly provided in this part, the directors shall have full and exclusive control of and responsibility for the administration of properties and facilities constructed or acquired pursuant to this part; provided, however, that the District may lease or license lands or facilities under its jurisdiction for operation by private persons or corporations; provided further, however, that this subsection shall not be construed or authorize the directors to exercise such authority in a manner inconsistent with the statutes, regulations and procedures governing such manners in county government.

SECTION 18. Prohibition Of Disposal Of Waste By Certain Means -- Penalty. -- At such time as a sewer system is constructed by the District, it shall thereafter be unlawful for any person or corporation to use any method of disposing of human waste other than by the sewer system provided that the property of such person or corporation abuts on any street, alley, or right-of-way in which there is located a sewer line. Any person or corporation who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than two dollars (\$2.00) nor more than fifty dollars (\$50.00). Each day that the provisions of this section are violated shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 19. Severability. -- That if any part, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Act shall be held or declared to be unconstitutional or void, it shall not affect the remaining part or parts of this Act; it being hereby declared to be the legislative intent to have passed the remainder of the Act, now withstanding any part held to be invalid.

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