COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Water System	Presenter(s):	Tony Parrott
Meeting Date:	Thursday, September 13, 2012	Type of Request:	Consent

Wording for the Agenda:

Approval of the Water Committee's recommendation to authorize the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) to insert a flyer into customers' water bills during the months of October 2012 and March 2013.

Background/History/Details:

Mr. Stephen Hogan of the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority has requested that inserts be placed in customers' water bills in both October 2012 and March 2013.

The inserts will provide information to Peachtree City Sewer customers about the sewer system. The inserts are informational only. An example of the insert is attached for review.

The cost for postage to mail the inserts will not change, and the inserts will be provided by the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Approval of the Water Committee's recommendation to authorize the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) to insert a flyer into customers' water bills during the months of October 2012 and March 2013.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable. The inserts will be provided by the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority.

Has this request been considered within the past two years?	Yes	If so, when?	August 2011
Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?*	No	Backup Provided with Request?	Yes

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

Approved by Finance	Not Applicable	Reviewed by Legal	
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	County Clerk's Approval	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

The Pipeline Vol 2 Iss 2 Fall 2012_Layout 1 8/21/12 11:44 AM Page 1

PEACHTREE CITY
Water and Sewerage Authority

News and Public Information for Customers of the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority

The Pipeline

Volume 2, Issue 2
Fall of 2012

PCWASA receives clean opinion from Independent Auditor's Report

Auditors note the Authority's sound financial decisions and management practices

While operating through some of the toughest economic times in history, the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (PCWASA) has received evidence that its fiscally conservative policies and sound management practices have resulted in a solid financial position for the sewer utility this year.

That evidence comes in the form of a clean audit opinion from Mauldin & Jenkins Certified Public Accountants, following the firm's annual Independent Auditor's Report. The report revealed that the financial statements of PCWASA from this past fiscal year (FY 2011) present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the utility, as a component unit of the city of Peachtree City. The financial statements of the Authority for the year ending Sept. 30, 2011, including the changes in financial position and cash flows, were in compliance with generally accepted U.S. accounting principles.

Miller Edwards and David Irwin, Certified Public Accountants with Mauldin & Jenkins, presented the FY 2011 Financial Audit results to the PCWASA Board of Directors and Management, noting several indicators of sound financial practices at the Authority.

First, the obvious clean audit opinion, said Edwards. But the auditors also noted the section in the report titled "Management's Discussion & Analysis" (MD&A), which is not a requirement of the auditing process. It is an attempt to provide the public with a narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities and highlights of the Authority during this past fiscal year.

"That (MD&A) is not required; but, since the Authority has provided it, hats off to you," said Edwards, during his presentation of the Auditor's Report. "It was a banner year for operations."

Edwards cited the "banner year" was due to the Authority's current ratio of unrestricted assets to current liabilities, which is 4:1, another indicator of sound financial positioning. He went on to note that PCWASA had $11.6 million dollars in net assets, which reflects a significant, necessary investment in the maintenance and operations of the system.

The independent auditors also noted that the difficult decision to raise rates at the end of 2010 was the right one.

"It was a healthy decision to have the rate increase," noted Edwards, when reporting to the PCWASA Board. "It allows you to do what you need to do to maintain the system."

Miller Edwards, Certified Public Accountant with Mauldin & Jenkins, presents the clean opinion results of the FY 2011 Annual Audit to the PCWASA Board of Directors during a board meeting earlier this year.

Edwards also referred to the Authority's "healthy looking cash flow statement," which is the cash flow generated from operations. There are two questions related to cash flow that every utility must consider, he noted. One, did operations generate a positive cash flow? And two, did operations generate sufficient cash flow? PCWASA achieved both of these objectives during FY 2011, he concluded.

FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease) can Clog your pipes and ours!

The Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (PCWASA) continues to plead with customers to help prevent FOG (fats, oils, and grease) from threatening to clog the sewer lines of the Authority and the plumbing of homes and businesses.

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) are the byproducts of food preparation at restaurants, cafeterias, and residential homes. After food is prepared and eaten, FOG can remain on cookware and dishware, and these potentially harmful materials can enter into the sewer system from a kitchen drain.

As a result, when sewer lines are clogged with FOG, the PCWASA has to address the additional problems that subsequent sewer system backups and overflows can cause – damaged property, increased cleanup costs, and potential penalties from regulatory agencies for permit violations and/or noncompliance of environmental protection.

A few consumer tips can help PCWASA customers prevent the negative impact of FOG on their own plumbing, the Authority's wastewater collection system, and the environment:

- Put used cooking fats, oils, and grease in tight-sealed containers, which can then be thrown away in the trash.
- Put food scraps from cookware and dishes in the trash as well, rather than down the kitchen drain.
- Wipe pots and pans with a dry paper towel prior to washing.

By properly disposing of fats, oils, and grease, PCWASA customers can help reduce the number of sewer system clogs, spills, and overflows, not to mention decrease the Authority's costs for maintenance and system repairs, notes Stephen Hogan, PCWASA General Manager.

By preventing fats, oils, and grease (FOG) from entering the PCWASA sewer system, customers can help the Authority save money on costly maintenance and repairs of sewer spills and overflows caused by these substances clogging sewer lines.

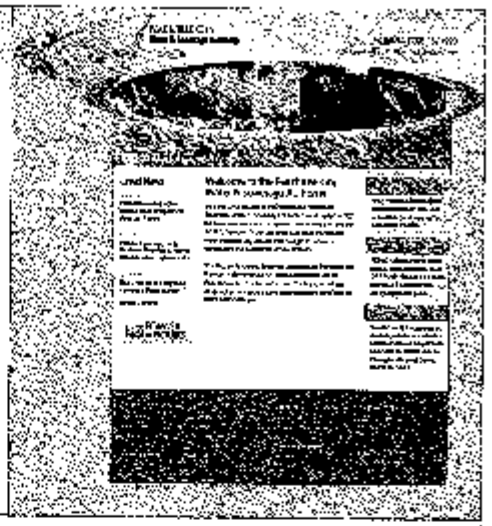
PCWASA launches Web site

A lot has happened during the short 25-year history of the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (PCWASA), and that history of the Authority and overview of the system is included in the content of the utility's newly launched Web site at www.pcwasa.org.

The construction and design of the site was provided by Plexus Web Creations, who also constructed the Web site for the Fayette County Development Authority. The site includes an overview of the Authority's facilities and system, including its three major divisions, profiles on board members and staff, assistance in customer service, including links to the Fayette Water System for billing information and easy payment options, as well as public information and educational insights that accompany local and industry links.

News and announcements will help keep PCWASA customers current with policies and projects that may impact them, and there is a link for customers to provide direct feedback to the Authority.

So check us out at www.pcwasa.org today!



PCWASA RedZone project catches the eye of other utilities

Authority hosts guests from three jurisdictions to review robotics

If imitation is the best form of flattery, then the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (PCWASA) should be flattered from the inquiry it has received from fellow utilities and municipal public works professionals about its RedZone project. This successful initiative to investigate the condition of the PCWASA sewer system, and collect valuable data for prioritizing rehabilitation and capital projects, has the Authority looking like an innovator that others aim to emulate.

Gardner City, Georgia officials Ron Feldner, P.E., Deft. Assistant City Manager, and Charles Draeger (center), Director of Water Operations, chat with RedZone crew leader Dean Young (right) about the use of RedZone robots to inspect and gather data on the conditions of the Peachtree Water and Sewerage Authority's sewer system.

This summer, PCWASA officials have welcomed visitors from the governments of Garden City, Georgia, as well as the City of Columbus and Augusta Utilities. They all have come to ask questions about the use of RedZone's robotics technology, while observing the efficiency and accuracy of RedZone robots in the field. At present, these technological innovations are busy rolling through the PCWASA sewer lines and collection mains to inspect the structural integrity of the Authority's infrastructure that serves approximately 11,000 customers.

During the PCWASA August Board Meeting, Keisha Lisbon Thorpe, the Authority's Division Manager of Technical Services, reported that the RedZone project was well ahead of schedule and over halfway done, as work has been "progressing along nicely and without incident."

The RedZone robots have been averaging data collection on approximately 5,700 linear feet per day, a pace even more efficient than originally anticipated. To date, the robotics technology has inspected approximately 470,000 linear feet of sewer lines; as a result, RedZone has completed 68 percent of the project, several months in advance of where the work was expected to be at this point.

The Authority joined forces earlier this year with RedZone Robotics, a contractor located in Pittsburgh, PA, which is a hotbed of robotics research and development. Their work featuring the RedZone Solo Unmanned Inspection Robots, which are lightweight systems with onboard intelligence and full coverage tracking, began in mid-April. The robots are able to collect data at such a rate that their efficiency and accuracy is unmatched in the industry, say Authority officials. What will take the robots to collect and inspect in a year, would take more than a decade to accomplish via other conventional data collection and inspection methods.

For the complete feature and update on the PCWASA RedZone project, log onto our Web Site at www.pcwasa.org.

RedZone's Tony Frank lowers a Solo Unmanned Inspection Robot into a manhole to begin inspection and data collection of the condition of PCWASA sewer lines.

PEACHTREE CITY
Water and Sewerage Authority

1127 Highway 74 South • Peachtree City, GA 30269
Phone: 770-487-7993 • Fax: 770-631-5380

BOARD MEMBERS – LEADERSHIP

Chairman
Mike Harman

Vice Chairman
Tim Meredith

Treasurer
Vanessa Birrell

Member
Phil Mohler

Member
Luis Valencia

General Manager
Stephen Hogan