

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
**JANUARY 24, 2001**  
**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dr. George Patton  
Tony Parrott  
Chris Cofty  
Chris Venice

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**

Bill McNally  
Jim Mallett

**ABSENT:**

Chuck Watkins, Vice Chairman  
Glen Gosa (speaker phone)

**STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT:**

Russell Ray  
Larry Turner, PTC WASA  
Dave Hamrick, The Citizen

In the absence of a Chairman and Vice Chairman the meeting was called to order by Water System Director Tony Parrott at 8:15 A.M.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON JANUARY 10, 2001.**

Chris Venice made the motion and Dr. George Patton seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on January 10, 2001. There was no opposition.

**II. JEFF EVANS TO DISCUSS TOWER SITE.**

Mr. Parrott reported that he, Mr. Mallett and Mr. Evans met at the water plant site last Thursday. There is only one place on the site that they can put a 100' by 100' location for the tower. They were not enthused with it. They left there going to look at another site that the County owns in the area. They have not called back. They want to put a boom truck down there to check to see how the coverage is. Mr. Parrott stated he told them this would not be a problem for them to come in with the truck to check on it. However, they have not called back.

**III. DISCUSSION OF BIDDING METER AND LINE INSTALLATIONS.**

Mr. Parrott explained that he has not been able to gather all the information, yet. There are many variables involved in fitting a water line. Whether you bore the road or open cut the road, pavement repair, etc.

#### **IV. WATER BAN AND DROUGHT DISCUSSION.**

Mr. Parrott stated that he is pleased to report that Lake Horton is within three feet of being full. Lake Kedron is within two feet. Unless something unusual happens, it looks like both lakes will be full by the first part of Spring. We should start the year full. If we start full we will be alright. Dr. Patton commented that we are still in a drought. We are one and half to two inches down this month already. The long range forecast does not look good. Mr. Parrott replied that the State is issuing a press release either yesterday or today about the Flint River drought program that was adopted by the legislature last year. It is about whether to make farmers in South Georgia not pull out of the Flint River this coming year.

Mr. Parrott went on to report that the Water Plant is still on schedule. We don't have any surprises looming. Windows are in, and they are hanging doors. Mr. Mallett commented the official date is May 26, 2001. The committee express interest in going to the site to see it.

#### **V. DISCUSSION OF WELLS USED FOR DRINKING WATER.**

Mr. McNally reported that we are proceeding to study the situation that has arisen with the corrosion of metals in the plumbing system at the Peachtree City City Hall and the Library. We do not have any conclusions at this point. He stated as soon as we have information that we will be able to report back, then we will do so. Preliminary indications seem to indicate there are some problems within the building, but not in the water. We have shut the well off that was servicing City Hall because of the complaint, until we finished investigating. The City apparently did some studies on this in the past. It is a situation where you are informed of an ongoing situation and of course we have to react to it. We took the action we felt necessary to do everything we could to be sure the problem that was complained about did not continue until we could investigate thoroughly.

Mr. McNally went on to say that Mr. Mallett was authorized to go forward with studies of this problem. We have contacted the firm, Global Environmental Solutions, Inc. to do this in conjunction with Mr. Mallett and his work for the Water System.

Mr. Gosa commented that he understands Mr. McNally is investigating a complaint about something very specific. Also, with regard to the safety of drinking water, that has never been called into question. Our supply of drinking water is absolutely safe for consumption. Mr. McNally replied that is true. There were a couple of references in both consultants reports in Peachtree City, that out of certain taps there was an elevated level of metals. This can be affected by several local procedures; that would be things that would take place within the building itself. All of our samples were drawn in the prescribed manner.

**In the past, all of the testing that we do on an ongoing basis indicate that we have no problem and basically, that is what their consultants report indicated as well.**

**Dr. Patton asked how old the pipes were in the building? Mr. McNally replied that his understanding is that the Library was built in 1987. Mr. Parrott commented City Hall was completed in 1991. Mr. Gosa clarified that even the contaminants in question, there is no evidence that we delivered those to their meter. Mr. McNally responded no, in fact we have not done formal consultant type studies. It has been the Water System itself reacting to calls and so forth, over the time period we have not found that to be a problem situation.**

**Mr. Parrott commented that the test that City of Peachtree City's consultant made at the well itself showed there was no lead coming from the well. That it was below their detection limits at that location. The other consultants test at the meter showed that there was no lead within their testing limits at the meter itself.**

#### **VI. REQUEST FOR FIRE HYDRANTS FOR CEDAR TRAIL.**

**Mr. Parrott explained that several years ago the Water System connected the Cedar Tree Well System to the water line at Simpson Road. This subdivision has about 28 lots in it. We got the well and put them in water meters. At the time the question came up about fire hydrants. The water line in this subdivision is Class 160 pipe. It is thin walled, PVC pipe. In the discussion of connecting it to the system, it was explained at the time with that grade pipe, we could not put in hydrants without it having the potential of damaging the water line. It has to do with the water hammer when turning the hydrant off and on. The pressure in the subdivision is about 110 psi. Typically, when you get a water hammer, you get 1 ½ times that which could easily put you above the 160. We had some 160 pipe in one of the other older subdivisions years ago. Because of the problem with it, we wound up changing the pipe out. Unless we are going to change out the pipe in the entire subdivision to put hydrants in, he would not recommend putting hydrants on this line.**

**Mrs. Venice clarified that they were a community well system originally. Mr. Parrott replied they were having trouble keeping their testing current with the State. We worked with them for a while. In exchange for the well, we used the well for a while to offset the cost of putting in the meters. Since then, we have turned the well off. The well did not produce as much as we had anticipated.**

**Mr. McNally asked what the cost would be to replace the line and put in fire hydrants. Mr. Parrott replied between \$40,000 to \$50,000. It is an existing subdivision, we would have to bore the driveways, and landscape the yards back. Mr. Parrott said he has had a couple of requests from the residents and he is just updating the committee. Mr. McNally asked if there are any other subdivisions with this same situation. Mr. Parrott replied that this is the only one. We have already changed out the pipe in the other one. We have other places**

that we do not have sufficient fire flow or line size. To his knowledge, this is the only place we still have Class 160 pipe. It more than adequately serves them drinking water. We have not had any problem with the line.

The committee discussed further what is needed to bring all fire hydrants up to 1,000 gpm required by the fire department. They discussed what would be needed, who should absorb the cost and how many subdivisions there are. The committee agreed to further discuss this at a future meeting. Mr. McNally suggested that the cities that we supply water to be informed that if they are going to allow development to take place where we have a line that is too small for fire protection, they need to have that developer increase the size of that line. If not, the Water System will constantly face upgrading as a result. Mr. Parrott commented that we approve the plans and they have to be to our standards.

#### **ADDENDUM:**

##### **1. LARRY TURNER TO DISCUSS WATERSHED ASSESSMENT.**

Mr. Turner referenced a package that was distributed to the Committee. As part of their proposed plant expansion, they were required to do a Watershed Assessment. The packet includes the conclusions of the assessment. In general, he does not think there were any surprises. It was probably a little bit better than they anticipated. It showed some problems. A few DO problems, a few fecal coliform; zinc, which is a naturally occurring element in this part of the country. Most of them were related to storm water runoff. The DO problem, he thinks is theirs. The models show that when they complete the plant expansion and increase the level of treatment, that problem will be solved.

He mentioned that Mr. Parrott sat on the Advisory Committee and was involved in the process. Now that they have completed the process and submitted the assessment to EPD, they have a response. They basically are approving the Watershed Assessment which means they have their final waste load allocation and will allow them to start final design. There are two caveats. The second caveat is they have proposed sampling twice a year. EPD wants them to do it quarterly. That is not a problem. The first issue is the fifth sentence of their letter. They talk about results. They say that they want a statement from the City and the County that they acknowledge and understand the assessment findings and implications, that some improvements to their Watershed Protection Programs may be required as part of NPDES permit revisions.

Mr. Turner went on to say that personally, he can not think of anything that would not be required by Phase II storm water regulations when they are implemented. Most of the problems are storm water related. The Authority's attorney is working on preparing a letter that would satisfy this requirement. Obviously he needs a letter from the County to get final approval. He proposed at this point in time, now that the County is aware of this,

once he gets the letter from his attorney, that he get with Mr. McNally, let him review and see if he has any problems or sees any ramifications from it. Mr. Turner stated he thinks it can be worded in such a way that there would not be any ramifications. If it is acceptable with Mr. McNally that Mr. Cofty go ahead and sign such a letter for him to present to EPD.

Mr. Parrott commented that this refers to Line Creek from the confluence of Flat Creek down to where it runs into Whitewater. Mr. Turner commented that the Watershed Assessment did show some biological deterioration around 85 and Line Creek. Mainly from sedimentation control. Mr. Parrott stated that erosion control and storm water is the impact to the County. This is something that the County, at some point in time, will have to comply with. With this type of degradation of a stream, next time we request a permit they will probably give us the same thing.

Mr. McNally commented the County is already re-addressing erosion and sedimentation controls. What Mr. Turner has outlined would be appropriate to do.

Dr. Patton made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that Attorney McNally review the letter written by Peachtree City Water & Sewerage Authority's attorney on the Watershed Assessment, and then Chris Cofty sign it, before it is sent to the Environmental Protection Division. Chris Venice seconded and there was no opposition.

Mr. Parrott referenced some articles provided by Dr. Patton from Scientific American Magazine that would be of interest to committee members.

## **2. SEWER AT HIGHWAY 138 AND 314 INTERSECTION.**

Mr. Parrott explained that the new owner of this property did not understand that sewer is not available. He read from the letter written to the owner by Clayton County. Since the owner appears to be confused, Mr. McNally suggested having the Board vote on this issue again.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that Fayette County not provide sewer service or allow sewer service to be provided to the property on Highway 138 and 314, recently owned by Larry Woolard. Dr. Patton seconded and there was no opposition.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mr. Parrott made a motion and Chris Venice seconded to adjourn to executive session for discussion of two potential legal items.

**The County Attorney advised the Committee on two potential legal items. No action was taken on these items.**

**There being no further business, Water System Director Tony Parrott adjourned the meeting at 8:55 A.M.**

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**Tony Parrott**

**The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 14th day of February, 2001.**

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**Lisa Gillis**