

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
**MARCH 12, 2008**  
**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Pete Frisina, Chairman  
Chris Clark, Vice Chairman (speaker phone)  
Tony Parrott  
James K “Chip” Conner

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**

David Jaeger

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Russell Ray

**ABSENT:**

Jack Krakeel

**GUEST:**

Commissioner Jack Smith  
Kent Campbell, Eco South

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Frisina at 8:00 A.M.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 27, 2008 MEETING.**

Chip Conner made the motion and Tony Parrott seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on February 27, 2008. There was no opposition.

**II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.**

**A. STREAM BUFFER VARIANCE REQUEST APPROVAL.**

Mr. Parrott reported that we have approval on the stream buffer variance request. Safe Dams received a copy of the request as well. Mr. Jaeger commented that we have achieved that mile stone with the buffer variance. That will come into play later on in the project. It will also allow the timbering contractor to move back and forth across the creeks without anybody enforcing the buffer. That is good news. He was told when we submitted the request it would be a six month process and it took four months to get it. We intend to maintain the stream buffers until the very end of the project, prior to impounding the reservoir.

Mr. Jaeger stated in regard to the timbering, he requested an update from Tommy Craig’s office on the release of the credits. He was not able to receive an update prior to today’s meeting. He does not have any new information since the last Water Committee meeting. To recap from that meeting, he was told the Corp of Engineers was processing the paperwork for release of those credits. We are still waiting on the Corp to finish the paperwork, release the credits and then we will issue the letter declaring the marketable timber.

In regards to the archeological work, the recovery phase on one of the archeological sites, we had received approval from the state and from the Corp of Engineers on the plan for this recovery phase. He and Mr. Parrot have met with the archaeologists on site. He also had a second meeting with them on site to gain access to the property through some private property on the Coweta County side. We have achieved that as well. As of yesterday, he was informed that they would be mobilizing today and tomorrow and most likely begin the actual excavation work next week. He is anticipating approximately two months to complete the project. Some of that depends on what they find, weather conditions and so forth. It is approximately a two month operation.

We have a requirement to provide stream monitoring stations upstream and downstream of the reservoir. The one on Shoal Creek is in place; the one on Line Creek upstream of the bridge requires easements on each side of the creek for the installation of this station. The survey work is complete and the easement documents have been prepared and submitted to the County attorney for acquisition of easements from Peachtree City and from a private property owner on the Coweta County side of the creek. That property owner is the same property owner that is allowing us access to the archaeological site. They are aware of this situation. They have met with us on site, so he is hopeful that will be a smooth process to get those easements and get the stream monitoring station installed shortly. The last stream monitoring station will be downstream of the dam site. We now have the property lines marked out there. He and Mr. Parrott will be meeting with USGS next week on site to establish the exact location of that monitoring station.

Mr. Jaeger went on to report that the geotechnical folks are still investigating the potential borrow sources within the lake bed. They are finding that there are not any concentrated areas for borrow to be gathered close to the dam. They are having to look throughout the lake for multiple sites. That is still under way. We anticipate wrapping that up in the next few weeks.

#### **REPORT FROM KENT CAMPBELL**

Mr. Campbell gave the committee a report on where we are on the mitigation sites. They have started doing the field work necessary. They first thing they have to accomplish is delineating existing wetlands and streams on the sites. This is sort of a new requirement that the agencies want to see done before you submit your work plan. They have completed that on four of the five sites. They have also completed the ecological assessment work that is necessary to provide the baseline conditions that, again, is a new requirement. It will be done in conjunction with the work plans. They have also completed all of the data collection they need on the site in Manchester, the Johnson tract. They are about 90% complete on data collection on

the large sites, the one they call the mega site (Danielly Waggoner tract). They are about 60 to 70% on the Mixon tract. They have not done any field work other than just reconnaissance on the Busey tract in North Fayette County. They intend to work on it next. The last tract they will work on will be the one on Whitewater Creek (Starr's Mill). They feel like they are pretty much on schedule. The way they set it up, on the work plans was try to have them all done by the deadline, which is the end of June, and submit them to the Corp then. He thinks, knowing the project manager at the Corp of Engineers, the best approach is to maybe start giving them as we complete them. They hope to have the Johnson tract work plan finished by the end of this month and go ahead and submit that to the Corp of Engineers. They are on track for just about every two to three weeks after that, they will have the work plans finished. Hopefully by early June, they will be turning in the last work plan for the site in Whitewater Creek. At that point, they will be ready to begin construction. A couple of other issues have come up with the Corp of Engineers, and he talked briefly with Mr. Parrott about the fact that now they want to see cultural resource assessments done on their mitigation tracts. It is just one other piece of red tape. Because of one particular project, he is not even sure where it happened in the country, apparently the Corp of Engineers was involved in authorizing mitigation on some work where some sort of artifacts were uncovered and they had to stop the work, they had to call in the archaeologist. They ended up determining that it was a significant find and the Corp of Engineers was held somewhat responsible for it. What they want to see is a report from an archaeologist that provides some sort of clearance that there are no significant cultural resources on the sites. He has gone ahead and asked for proposals from R. S. Webb, they are the archaeologist working on the reservoir site. It makes sense to add these to their tasks. He is planning to turn in the work plan on the Johnson tract ahead of schedule and have the cultural resource letter with the work plan.

He mentioned that doing a detailed cost estimate and proposal for construction on the site down in Manchester (the Johnson tract), if things work out, he could very well go ahead and get that site under way. Maybe as soon as next month, then by the time the June deadline shows up, they could be pretty well finished with that one. They would then only have four sites to do for the next 12 to 18 months. They would be well ahead of schedule. By the time we are ready to impound, the mitigation will be done. They will be into the monitoring. He asked the committee to consider this and let him know, if we want him to pursue going ahead and do cost estimates. He asked the committee to consider allowing them to do a proposal to the Board of Commissioners to actually start construction on that site. Mr. Campbell went on to say that the work plan will be sufficient for their purposes. If the Board of Commissioners decides they want to advertise and receive bids, then he believes they will probably want to follow whatever procurement procedures they have in developing contract and bid documents. He stated in this case we will probably need more detailed engineer drawings for each site. One advantage to doing turn

key with a company like theirs is that they can take the work plans and their familiarity with each site will allow them to just move right in and start to work. He thinks we will see time savings and cost savings. The quality of the work, he believes, would also improve. There won't be that lag between them and Fayette County being the designers in working with the contractor that may not be that familiar with doing mitigation work, but because of procedures they turned in a competent low bid. There could be problems that would arise with that. Obviously, that would be up to the Water Committee and the Board of Commissioners to make that final decision. He just wanted to give that option.

Mr. Parrott asked about an animal problem on one of the sites. Mr. Campbell said there was a hog problem on the large site (Danielly Wagner tract). He guessed that the adjoining property owner to the south still has some cattle. Eventually, we will have to fence the entire boundary of that site. It might keep some of the hogs out, but there is also the chance that we will fence them in. His recommendation to Mr. Parrott was if they start, maybe do some thinning out, some trapping and some hunting to try and at least establish some sort of control. Those hogs have probably had free reign down there for many years. They are and can be a big time problem in trying to establish native vegetation. That is going to be critical during the monitoring period, to show that we are successful in the trees that we plant, if they survive and also the volunteers that come up, that they have a good chance of survival.

Mr. Jaeger commented that thinning of these hogs would be something the County would need to contract separately from any of Mr. Campbell's operation. Mr. Campbell said that during the monitoring period they could probably do their best, with they guys that they have, they have a couple of good Forestry grads and they love to hunt. They know a couple of guys that build traps. The first thing that came to their mind, once you establish and get the hogs accustomed that people out there working also have guns, apparently the traps are the kind that you can catch multiple hogs in. One will walk in, and maybe two or three will follow them in. They think that the Hunters for the Hungry will accept feral hogs. They could donate the meat to a worthy cause. The area is pretty remote.

Mr. Campbell mentioned that when Mr. Busey sold his site, he moved his cows out. A good bit of that site has started to come back in wetlands. Initially, when you are going through negotiations with the agency you want to see the site in the most degraded state possible; there has been some concern that since it is coming into wetland and we have to do these wetland delineations as part of the work plans, that they are going to come back and say they are not going to give any credit. They have talked to EPA and the Corp about hypothetically, when that happens, and they have said, as long as you can document that, during your permitting process, that site was in fact degraded to a point that it required restoration, they are still going

to give us restoration credit. This is on the Busey tract and possibly the Mixon tract, because the cows have been out of that for a while. They are going to have to include some historical photographs and narratives to support the fact that we are still doing restoration.

Mr. Parrott commented that the Busey tract is the first one that we will fence between the new subdivision and the property, because they are going to put house lots all the way down that property line. We want to make sure that these homeowners understand that we are behind them and where their property line is located. After we do the stream, we will look at what we are going to do on the Clayton County side. We are not going to fence it until after the stream work, or we will be putting up a fence that will be in the way because it gets narrow in a couple of places.

Mr. Campbell said that the tract goes to the opposite bank of Camp Creek; it was pretty extensive swamp on the east side of Camp Creek. He is not sure we need a fence except to establish a line.

Mr. Parrott commented that the site we did not fence when we went through this before was a site on Sandy Creek that we had the most trouble with. We had the most vandalism, the most four wheeling and the most people riding horses. It constantly gave us trouble. We thought for a while we would get in trouble on the monitoring, because of where they tracked through. You pick these places that are plots; they come back every year to check how the plot is doing. If your plot is one of those places they four wheel through, it impacts your plot.

Mr. Campbell stated they have put in the monitoring wells on the mitigation sites. That was the first half. They have started the ground water monitoring. He will continue that through construction and then hand it over to the Water System.

Mr. Jaeger asked if Mr. Campbell anticipates needing the surveyors to do work ahead of him on the other tracts. Mr. Campbell said the next that should be surveyed is the Danielly tract. Go ahead and establish that line and where the fence needs to go, then the Mixon tract. Mr. Jaeger said he wanted to be able to stay far enough ahead of him that the surveyors schedule does not impact his schedule.

### **III. UPDATE ON DROUGHT SITUATION.**

#### **A. RESTRICTIONS.**

Mr. Parrott stated that this is on the agenda for the Board tomorrow night. The City of Fayetteville adopted the governors' proposed reduction of restrictions. This same recommendation is what is on the Board's agenda. Town of Tyrone will follow the same restrictions. We met the 10% reduction for February. We have

continued to be able to meet the reduction. We have already been doing odd/even watering restrictions for years. Out of 81 systems in the area, that use 1,000,000 gallons or above per day, 40 made the 10% in February, and 41 in January.

Mrs. Quick updated the committee on the toilet rebate program and water saver kits. She stated that we have the toilet rebate program on the web site for public access. We already had 34 customers that had called about the program, and we have contacted them to let them know they can now go on the web site and sign up. The District will handle all the information, and send it to us once a week for us to credit customer accounts. We have given out 127 water saver kits, between the office on McDonough Road and City Hall in Peachtree City.

Mr. Ray updated the committee on the lake levels. He said that Lake Kedron is at 97% full, one foot down. Lake Horton is at 62% full, that is 5 ½ feet down. We are projecting around 4 feet on April 1. Compared to last year we were about 1 foot down on April 1.

Mr. Conner commented that the projected forecast for April is for drought. He wondered what the conditions will be once we get past this. We need a way out. He is sure we could back out of the swimming pools and the watering at some point. Again, in April they are predicting lower than normal rainfall. Mr. Ray said we will monitor the situation, watch the reservoirs, and it will depend on the reservoirs to meet the demand.

Mr. Parrott commented with 10.3 MGD, that we will have to sell, to meet the goal, we have over 300 days worth of water storage. There is no trouble supplying the need. The problem is whether we meet the 10% or not. He thinks our customers will adhere to the restrictions. They have shown a willingness to work with whatever the rules are. We will see how it goes. To his knowledge, we have had only one call, either in this office or the marshal's office in the last two weeks about anybody doing anything. It was about pressure washing a driveway. He does not know if it was a homeowner or they paid somebody. It could be a legitimate use of water.

#### **IV. BID OPENING – FLINT RIVER PUMP STATION ADDITIONAL PUMPING CAPACITY.**

Mr. Parrott made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Mr. Conner seconded the motion and there was no opposition.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:35 A.M.

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**Peter A. Frisina**

**The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 26th day of March, 2008.**

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**Lisa Quick**