

WATER COMMITTEE
MARCH 11, 2009
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pete Frisina, Chairman
James K “Chip” Conner, Vice Chairman
Tony Parrott
Jack Krakeel
Brian Cardoza

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

David Jaeger

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 25, 2009.

Vice Chairman Chip Conner made the motion and Jack Krakeel seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on February 25, 2009. There was no opposition.

II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.

David Jaeger reported that the timbering contract is 100% complete. The contractor is off the site. The archaeological investigation required by the Corp in the Phase I investigation of the mitigation sites has been submitted by the archaeologist. The report indicates that the work planned in those areas, if it can be done with hand planting for the new vegetation, will not be considered a land disturbing activity. Other areas that they found were outside the limits of what is planned. He said that he does not anticipate any issues with regard to archaeology and further investigation on mitigation. The report needs to be reviewed and approved by the Corp, but at this point he does not anticipate any issues. The report does not include the Helmer Road site. Once they have the boundary survey, Eco-South will start on this site.

Mr. Jaeger went on to say that the last piece of the stream monitoring is the cable that will span Line Creek upstream of the reservoir. The County has secured the easement on the Candler property for the anchorage for the cable and he has been in contact with USGS about installing it. The stream monitoring station is in place currently and is functional. This cable provides a way to measure high flow conditions in Line Creek. USGS indicated that they will likely schedule that for April.

Mr. Jaeger stated that he attended an engineers meeting two weeks ago at Safe Dams. They have these meetings twice a year. It is a general status meeting that

they have to educate and inform the engineering community. At that meeting he had a chance to briefly visit with Ed Fiegley and Tom Woosley. He reminded them of our desire to keep this project moving forward and that resulted in another meeting that he will attend today with Tom Woosley to answer any questions they have. He went on to say that they will be discussing, at some level of detail, the soil report and the geotechnical engineer, Karl Meyers will be joining him at the meeting today. Also, they have requested topographic information downstream of the dam to Highway 85 for their dam classification requirement. Safe Dams has to classify the dam as Category 1 or Category 2 or non-classified. A drinking water supply reservoir is required to be designed as Category 1 and it has been submitted that way. The Safe Dams Program runs a dam break analysis; they model a dam failure and see if it causes potential loss of life downstream. If it does, then they classify it as Category 1. If it does not, then it will be Category 2; the difference being that with a drinking water supply reservoir, if it is Category 2, Safe Dams would be involved through the completion of the construction. At that point, it would no longer be regulated. If it is a true Category 1, they would continue to regulate it indefinitely. They are in the process of doing that, and that is a good sign. Mr. Jaeger explained that the County has provided the topographical information from the GIS system. He will be delivering the information today and he will reemphasize our schedule and our desire to move forward on this project.

Mr. Jaeger stated that the fencing bid is on the Board's agenda tomorrow night. Three of the six mitigation sites will be fenced in this contract.

Mr. Jaeger stated that the letter of map revision was submitted to FEMA last week. We have to show them the impact of the project on the existing floodplain and computer modeling, and map revisions. They then take the information and ultimately revise the maps that are published for the floodplain. In this case, our impact is contained to the area immediately around the reservoir. It doesn't proceed upstream very far. The county owns or has flood easements in those areas and we don't anticipate any major problems. The letter was signed by Phil Mallon and Chairman Smith last week.

Mr. Parrott commented that the County attorney is working on the contract with Eco-South for the Johnson tract. Eco-South provided us with a proposal for doing next years stream monitoring on Line Creek where we have to continue to watch for inflow of mussels and a couple different types of fish and make sure we don't disturb them. He went on to say that since we will have two years worth of stream monitoring downstream of the dam before we start, then we will have two years under construction, when we get it full we will have good records. With the low flow we have had the last two years, the low flow release that we will be required for Lake McIntosh is going to exceed what the low flow was the last two years. We will be improving their habitat.

Jack Krakeel stated that he talked with Bernie McMullen and they are talking with the City Council members about the access road. They renamed TDK Boulevard to

the Lake McIntosh Access Road. They are having one on one conversations about the release of both ends to the County. We are trying to clear up the two ends to insure that we have permanent ingress and egress. Hopefully, within the next couple of weeks, there will be a resolution to that, then we can move forward and the contractor can do what is needed so that we can get our access road in there.

Mr. Krakeel commented that he needs to have a meeting with Mike Satterfield with the Board of Education on the site at the Sandy Creek educational facility. The Board of Education has some concerns that the water tank will interfere with cellular service to the school. They want to have some kind of public hearing on it. There was a situation that occurred about ten years or more ago. There was a radio tower located on Swanson Road; a private tower, but we also have the County radio system operating off that tower as well. It is one of seven towers that we operate off of. Whoever the owner of the tower is, allowed a radio station to locate on the tower; they put a transmitter on it. Their frequency was so close to our frequency that the radio was actually coming in over our radio system inside the school. That was resolved fairly quickly, but apparently Mrs. Smola, one of the Board members, has concerns that similar things could occur if we allow this water tower to go up.

Mr. Jaeger stated that he is sure he could coordinate with a rep from the tank manufacturer to address any concerns. We would have somebody that is familiar with tank installations and maybe those types of issues.

Mr. Parrott said that he was at the meeting. Mrs. Smola was concerned that the tank would fall down and hit the building. She was concerned that kids would climb the tank. You don't climb the outside of these tanks. She was concerned about the phone service and she wanted to get the PTA and the community involved in putting this tank on school property. She wanted to know why we didn't put it somewhere else since we had looked at other places. He explained to the school board that he could get them a picture of Homestead Florida where a hurricane came through; demolished the entire town and the two water tanks were still standing.

Vice Chairman Conner asked about the recreational site at Lake McIntosh. Mr. Krakeel stated that right now the road is strictly designed as an access road to access the pump station. There has been some peripheral discussion that we will want an all weather access road at some point in the event that the County did establish a small park there with a boat ramp, parking spaces or something of that nature, or docks to fish off of.

Mr. Parrott commented that the site we have to work with is smaller than the site we have up at Kedron. There is about five acres, more or less. The original design included emergency overflow that would go a certain way, and then it was redesigned. That is the only reason there is a piece of property there.

Mr. Krakeel mentioned that at some point the Water Committee needs to make a decision regarding the issue of having a boat ramp and boat docks or anything of that nature. He said he would think that at some point during the actual construction we would want to do something if we were going to pour concrete for a boat ramp. He thinks we would not want to wait much beyond that period.

Mr. Jaeger stated there are two ways to tackle it. One way is to put it in with the dam contract and have the same contractor build the park amenity. This is not a bad idea; it is all in the same general area, the same kind of work. Or, it could be bid separately. If it were included in the dam contract, we would want to make a decision soon so that we could provide additional engineering plans for that in the dam set when it is bid. If it were done separately, then we have quite a bit of time to make the decision because it doesn't need to be complete until the water starts to be impounded which is a few years away. He said that he does not know that there is a big advantage to doing it one way versus the other. If you do it separately, it is possible that you could get smaller contractors interested and maybe get a lower price, than if the general contractor pulls it in with the rest of his work, potentially.

Mr. Jaeger suggested that he come up with some conceptual ideas about what could be done with the area we have and bring them back to Water Committee to discuss in more concrete terms; what the possibilities are and what we want to recommend to the Board.

Mr. Krakeel asked about the grubbing work on the lake, will it be hauled, shredded or burned. Mr. Jaeger stated that typically we let the contractor decide what he wants to do. Obviously, burning would have to be done within the permitted times. Other than that, it is up to him to decide how he wants to deal with it.

Mr. Krakeel asked if the contractor wanted to put in pits to do air curtain structures; if there is anything that would prevent him from doing it; either from an archaeological or a federal Corp perspective. Mr. Jaeger replied that there was nothing to his knowledge. If the archaeological work is complete, they have done the recovery on the one site that required it. Now we have the ability to do whatever we need to do with the reservoir bed. Other than that, he thinks it would be staying within the guidelines of any other regulatory requirements for burning.

Mr. Krakeel asked if the general contractor is responsible for that. Mr. Jaeger replied yes and we would have to do it right at the end once the dam is essentially done, right before they start impoundment. Mr. Parrott stated that burning is better for the water quality than grinding. You don't have the organics still in the water. They won't haul it away, because there is too much of it. They would not be allowed to grind it and leave it on site. There would be too much organics and too much that would float. The last reservoir project in 1996, they burned it.

III. DISCUSSION OF METROPOLITAN NORTH GEORGIA WATER PLANNING DISTRICT WATER, WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER PLANS.

Mr. Parrott explained that every five years the District plan will be updated. The District plan includes water, water conservation, stormwater and wastewater permits. When the plan was first adopted, EPD decided they would audit compliance with the plan. Now, metrics and benchmarks are being set as part of the plan. For example, one of the benchmarks for conservation pricing is one hundred percent of residents with irrigation meters billed at the third tier rate or higher by 2010. Whatever your third tier rate is, which in our case is our water conservation rate at \$4.18 per thousand is what they want to charge every gallon of water that goes through an irrigation meter at. That is how much they want to have control over what each system does. One of the things they want is pre-rinse spray valve education. We don't have that many restaurants in the county; the others are in the cities and we have no control over the water use inside these restaurants. We are at a disadvantage. Some of the other systems, especially some of the water authorities that serve multiple jurisdictions are in the same boat. We sent an educational brochure about compliance to all the restaurants the last time.

Mr. Parrott went on to say that we can comply with most of the regulations, but they want you to conduct water audits on twenty five percent of the highest water use residents. If the customer does not want a water audit, what do you do about the twenty five percent? We are audited on compliance. With the 2003 plan we were audited on compliance before they would issue our permit to withdraw water from Lake McIntosh. He said that we have six withdrawal permits, a groundwater use permit and we have a permit to operate the water plant. We have eight different permits. Even though we don't have wastewater, with the audit they make the County responsible. That pulls in wastewater and how you handle it, as well as how you handle stormwater. Phil Mallon handled the stormwater the last time. One requirement in the new plan is for high efficiency toilets and urinals to be installed in all government buildings; they are also going to require car washes to recycle. There is no trouble permitting a car wash to recycle, but there is no way to require them to recycle, because at some point it can easily be turned off. Will we be required to make sure that they run the recycling? They want multi-family apartments to be individually metered and we already master meter those sites. The Board passed the ordinance that requires they put in meters for the individual apartments. We have no way of requiring them to maintain the meter, read the meter or bill accordingly. We can only make sure the meter is installed.

Mr. Parrott stated in 2035 the water sources in Fayette County will total 31 MGD which, with water conservation and growth we should have adequate water to meet the projected growth. We also have plans to expand both water plants in order to produce that amount of water. The bottom line on having enough water and having a way to treat the water, we are on track and there is no problem.

Mr. Parrott commented that the District Board has not adopted this plan yet. They will get the revised plan on May 6. They will either adopt it then or at the June meeting. When they adopt the plan, we will then have to implement it.

Mr. Parrott stated that he made a call yesterday to the Department of Natural Resources asking how to go about asking for a modification of our drought restrictions. He was told that he could send the paperwork in and they would address it the same way they did Clayton County. We now have Level IVC and we won't be able to get better than IVC. Lake Kedron is full and Lake Horton is four inches low according to the SCADA system this morning.

Mr. Parrott reported that we had a day that we only produced 4.7 MGD, the average day in February was 6.3MGD.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:55 A.M.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 25th day of March, 2009.

Lisa Quick