

WATER COMMITTEE
JUNE 9, 2010
MINUTES

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

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: David Jaeger
STAFF PRESENT: Russell Ray
GUEST: Stephen Hogan, PTCWASA

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON MAY 26, 2010.
Vice Chairman Chip Conner made the motion and Brian Cardoza seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on May 26, 2010. There was no opposition.

II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.
David Jaeger shared a diagram of the current work at Lake McIntosh. The second page of the handout shows an aerial photograph that the contractor had taken. This shows what is going on in the area of the dam site; the diversion of Line Creek is in the foreground. He pointed out on the left hand side where the haul road crosses the creek; the contractor has reinforced the banks of the haul road as erosion control prevention. There are actually two crossings, the main crossing of the haul road and a secondary crossing downstream where they are hauling fill material into the dam area. Both of those have been reinforced with armoring on the shorelines to protect from erosion in that creek channel. He went on to say that the diversion creek runs down the side and turns 90 degrees and runs back to the original creek. Within the main footprint area of the dam, he shows the wellpoint lines; each one has a manifold with vertical wellpoints that go down 30 or 40 feet to draw down the water.

Mr. Jaeger explained that the area outlined in red is an area where they under cut poor material and completed back fill of it. It is adjacent to the existing pump station. The area outlined in blue is the area that they are working currently. The contractor has done some under cut; they got down to a certain depth and realized they were still encountering some groundwater. The contractor had to supplement/modify their dewatering system at that point. Mr. Jaeger went on to explain in the second photo on the sheet, you can see where the man in the background is standing. That is an area that has been benched out and the manifold for that dewatering line has been lowered down to that elevation, versus the elevation above his head where a truck is parked. By lowering the manifold

down, they can then draw down farther. It is essentially filtered water because it is being pulled out of the ground. Each of the wellpoints has a sand collar around it. It is clean water and is being pumped back into Line Creek.

Mr. Jaeger stated this area was originally the floodplain down around the creek. Within the footprint of the dam, the contractor has to clean out all the unsuitable sub-grade. In the second photograph, the color of the dirt is a light color; it is a very sandy material that has been deposited by the creek over the years. That is what they are pulling out. You get down to either rock in some areas, or a residual acceptable soil material; they can stop excavating at that point and start bringing in the clay. The red dirt is the good clay fill material.

Mr. Jaeger stated the second page has more photographs showing the dewatering and excavation. At the bottom of the sheet, the contractor has begun dewatering the eastern branch which is the tributary that flows through the golf course from the Peachtree City side of the reservoir. That branch provides some water hazards at the golf course and the concrete wall is a weir that holds water in the water hazards. Instead of tearing it down, the contractor has chosen to core a couple of holes at the base of it. That way he can lower the water down, timber and clear the area known as the eastern branch and then patch the holes, and let the water fill back up. Until the reservoir is filled the water hazards will come back to their original level. Once the reservoir is full it will inundate these areas. But, as it is drawn down with water consumption, the water hazards will come back to their normal level as the lake level drops. The desire was to maintain that concrete weir wall as a permanent structure.

Mr. Jaeger stated that some of the fencing work is still being completed at the mitigation sites. There is some fencing that remains to be completed on the Danielly-Wagner tract. It is scheduled to be completed within the next week or two.

Mr. Jaeger said the site mitigation work is complete. Mr. Parrott stated the Board of Commissioners approved the Eco South Agreement for the Danielly-Wagner site at the last meeting. The paperwork is being completed.

Mr. Parrott commented that they are further ahead on all the sites than he thought they would be by now. They could have 50% of all four of the sites done by the time the weather starts turning this fall. That means that by next spring we could start the time with the Corp for the five years.

III. TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON UPDATE.

Mr. Parrott mentioned we made the paper this morning. He distributed a copy of the article. This item is on the Board of Commissioners agenda tomorrow night for the two different pilot tests. The news article says that it does not pose a health risk.

IV. TOWN OF BROOKS WATER TANK.

Mr. Parrott explained that in working with the Town of Brooks for the county to begin operating and maintaining their system, one of the things is that we lease them the water tank in Brooks. The water tank was in Tyrone originally. It was no longer needed in Tyrone and it was moved to the end of our water line in Brooks. Just putting it at the end of the water line in Brooks did not make it function very well with our system. Water tanks work better on high ground. Brooks had a well system with a pressurized tank. This tank had pin holes in it, and was going to have to be replaced. Mr. Parrott stated that he recommended that we lease the water tank that we were not using as long as they would maintain it. They have used it and maintained it until about a year and half ago. Then they started just running off of our system. Once they started running off our system, they discovered it worked well running off of our system. One of the things the Town wants to get rid of is their agreement to use the tank.

Mr. Parrott stated that we don't need the tank. He said he wants to recommend that when Brooks submits their formal desire to no longer use this tank that we go out for bids to take the tank down, and get it off the site. It is an attractive nuisance in a recreation area. We have a substantial fence around it and a ladder guard. The bidders will bid taking the tank down with the knowledge that they will recover some scrap price.

Mr. Parrott stated the last meter readings for the Town of Brooks will be June 24, this will be our first meter reading to start operating the system. He is still having discussions with the State over the operational permit.

V. SEPTIC TANK MAINTENANCE MAILER.

Mr. Parrott explained that the Stormwater Department needs to mail an insert in the water bills. It gives the County credit for different programs with the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District. It will only be mailed to the customers in the unincorporated part of the county; between 12,000 and 13,000 customers.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to insert the septic tank maintenance mailer in the water bills mailed to Fayette County Water System customers in unincorporated Fayette County. Jack Krakeel seconded and there was no opposition.

ADDENDUM

1. DISCUSSION ABOUT WATER RESTRICTIONS.

Mr. Parrott reported that the governor signed a new state law on outdoor water use at the end of last week. He said he got surprised, he thought the new law was going to be odd/even and you did not get to water between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. What he signed was that you get to water any day of the week regardless of your address other than between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Parrott stated that he is concerned. We have had odd/even water restrictions for our water customers since 1986. We have designed and built the system with the fact that we at no time planned for everybody to water at the same time. Now, we have the opportunity for everybody to show up from work and turn the sprinkler on. Or, those who had it set for Saturday, the other bunch for Sunday, they no longer have to leave it set that way. They may decide they want to water Saturday instead of Sunday. They will change our demand flow.

Brian Cardoza commented that he wondered how many people will notice this change and how many customers honor the restrictions. Mr. Parrott stated that our customers do honor the odd/even system. When the water usage gets up to a certain point he would put the meter crew with the trucks going down through the neighborhoods knocking on doors. With restrictions, we could hit 16 and 17 million gallons a day, which is twice our average.

Chairman Frisina asked if we can have laws here that are more restrictive than the State. Russell Ray stated that from the reading he did yesterday, he is not convinced that we can on a statutory state law. If it was a rule done by EPD, during the drought conditions, they had a mechanism where you could apply for either stronger restrictions or less restricted situations; and you had to prove it to them. However, from what he has read so far, he is going to say that we probably cannot go against the state law.

Mr. Parrott stated that even with the drought rules it was odd/even. It wasn't what we had, but it was still half the people watering half the time. We have a little bit of time right now, just because of the weather pattern. This is one of those, that there are differences from when he looked at it while they were working on it. What wound up signed; there are some differences that he was surprised.

Mr. Krakeel suggested that since these new regulations are restricted to landscape water use only, he was under the impression that our irrigation meters accounted for about 2 million of daily production. Mr. Parrott stated that is just the meters that are irrigation separate. It does not include everybody that has an irrigation system hooked to their water system.

Vice Chairman Conner mentioned that Matt Ramsey has volunteered to meet with us. He wondered if we bring the problem to his attention, see if there is not something that we could do.

Mr. Krakeel stated that there ought to be a capability for a local jurisdiction to have more stringent water restriction measures in place than the State mandates.

Mr. Parrott explained that he had thought the intent was that they were already recommending that you not water between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. because that is not a good time to water. The other part of it was that they wanted individual apartments to have individual meters, which is something that Fayette County has

already adopted. We already require them to sub-meter the apartments with any new construction. The other thing they wanted us to do was a water loss audit according to AWWA/IWA format. Then they wanted each jurisdiction to be aggressive in the low flow fixtures.

Mr. Krakeel suggested having Scott Bennett take a look at the new regulations as they relate to ours and give us his legal opinion on whether we can continue to use our more restrictive approach to water conservation. Mr. Parrott said he does not want to change the notice on the water bill for odd/even. Mr. Krakeel agreed that we should not change anything at this point.

Mr. Parrott explained that because we have the restrictions that we have, last year you could actually tell at 10:00 the tank started going up. That is how many automatic systems our customers have. You wonder how many people participate in what you want them to do. We are lucky down here, a large amount of our customers will follow the restrictions, as long as they can still use enough water to do what they want to do.

Mr. Jaeger stated it is a lot easier now with the digital controllers for your irrigation system because you can program them for Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, or Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday. It is not an inconvenience for people to comply. He said that a thought that occurred to him was that if you changed the language in the notification on the bills to the customers; instead of saying it is a restriction, say it is a Water System policy that in order to help balance the flow throughout the week for the system, water on this odd/even system. Don't use the word restrictions, use the policy. Most people would assume that it is a requirement and that there is a penalty if you don't comply with it. If they are already doing it, a subtle change in the wording that takes it away from a legal requirement to a policy request of the customers, so that you are not telling them water anytime you want. You are saying this is what we want you to do.

Mr. Parrott said we are in the Metropolitan area and it is going to flare up on some of the other systems, too.

Mr. Ray commented that it is worth noting that there are still some other areas that the odd/even still applies. They did not address anything but the landscape, so far. The other areas are still under odd/even. You can only wash your car on an odd/even system.

CANCELLATION OF MEETING ON JUNE 23, 2010.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to cancel the Water Committee meeting on June 23, 2010. Vice Chairman Chip Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

WATER TANK IN TYRONE AREA.

Mr. Krakeel explained there has been some discussion regarding the re-location of a fire station in the Tyrone area. There had been some discussion in the

past about different sites and one of the sites that was looked at had the potential for possibly co-locating the future water tank for the north west section of the county. For various reasons that particular parcel is not working out. In those discussions that Board had asked for us to take a look at the likelihood of the need for that water tower in the northwest part of the county in the immediate future (five year time frame). He asked Mr. Jaeger if he has had any follow up conversations with the church.

Mr. Jaeger said no. Mr. Krakeel asked him to go ahead and have some follow up conversations with them about us potentially securing that site, if that is the site that is the most optimum site at this point for that water tower. Mr. Jaeger commented that the original discussions were between the church and Mr. McNally, if he does not have the contact person in his file, he will get with Mr. McNally for the contact and talk with the church about reopening that conversation. He went on to say that his recollection was that they had some plans to expand their facility, and as long as we did not interfere with them expanding they were ok with selling the parcel to the county. The parcel is adjacent to the railroad track so it was not part of their property that would impact them a lot. We have done some geotechnical work there as well, so we know that it is a suitable site. The initial investigation of all of this, the intent of putting a tank there was mostly about improving pressure. He thinks the need is the same now as it was when we first looked at it. It will only get worse going into the future when there is more demand. It was less about storage and supplying capacity as it was about improving pressure. He said he could re-evaluate that, but he still feels that is the case. That whole area is the high point of the county so the pressure there is the lowest, especially during the higher demand times.

PEACHTREE CITY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Mr. Krakeel stated that he and Mr. Parrott had meetings with the Peachtree City Airport Authority. We currently have a waterline easement that runs north of the terminus of the runway. Their plans are to expand the runway 700 feet, 550 feet of which is actual runway, and an additional 150 feet that would be considered the blast pad (over run). Our easement goes under the first 30 feet of that 150 foot blast pad. They came to us a month ago, and discussed the possibility of strengthening the pipe through some type of sleeve structure and then providing access through manholes. Apparently the FAA does not like that idea, so they came back to us again now to discuss the relocation of that line. Obviously, one of the things they would like for us to do is to absorb the cost of any potential upgrades in the line itself that may be required at some future point. They are doing the homework on acquiring additional right of way for us to relocate that line. There was discussion about the current 20" waterline being upgraded to a 40" line to take care of future need. He went on to say that the problem we are running into is when you look at the amount of right of way that is available adjacent to the new roadway, if you use the 60 foot right of way for construction of the road, appropriate slopes and everything else, it doesn't give you enough room to put in 2 lines. It only gives you enough to put in one line. That line is capable of pumping 11 million gallons a day,

but our ultimate withdrawal gives us one day at 17 million, or an average of between 11 MGD and 17 MGD during the month.

Mr. Krakeel went on to say that the question becomes if they relocate just the 20" line, another 20" line would obviously handle the additional capacity. What size line if we went with a single line, and upgraded it, would handle the 17 million capacity?

Mr. Jaeger said he would have to look at it and run some pump scenarios and see what line can handle that capacity. He said we had parallel water lines on Highway 74 that were both 20" within a 20 foot easement. That is how much space you would need if you went with 2 lines. One 5 foot inside one edge, and you would have 10 feet in between them and 5 foot more.

Mr. Parrott said they were looking at a 20 foot easement for the replacement. They are going to move their fence. That is where the difference is on the airport property, they are looking at, in order to give another 20 foot easement it will be from their property and not with the road which would be 20 foot in. They have the property to do that. Their concern was that they did not feel that we could do the construction to put the other line in without getting out of the easement. The 20 foot easement is actually the south side of what was going to be the TDK/Crosstown Road at one time. Working room had nothing to do with it at the time we got the easement.

Mr. Krakeel said that if they are willing to cover the cost of not only the replacement, but also increase the line size, maybe it is in our better interest to go ahead and run a larger line. It would be better to run the same size line the entire length to the plant. Mr. Jaeger said if you had a section that is larger, it would help, but it would be best to have the whole line the same size.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 14th day of July, 2010.

Lisa Quick