

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
**JULY 14, 2010**  
**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Jack Krakeel

**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 JUNE 9, 2010.**

Vice Chairman Chip Conner made the motion and Brian Cardoza seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 9, 2010. There was no opposition.

**II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.**

David Jaeger reported that essentially the same operation is still going on. They are under cutting the sub grade below the footprint of the dam. The first slide he showed was an aerial shot from the Coweta County side of the project that shows the diversion channel running along the foreground and then turning at the lower right part of the picture. The wellpoint lines cross the floodplain. He said that the contractor had to lower down the wellpoints and add some in order to get the extra depth they needed. He went on to show where the contractor has dug down a substantial area and then they are backfilling it with the darker red clay.

Mr. Jaeger went on to say they found some debris and construction material remaining from the original dam construction project that started and was not completed. They encountered some piping, stone materials and fabric. He believes that it would have been some type of drainage system in the foundation of the dam. He does not really know exactly what it was planned to be. When they found this, the contractor took it out.

Mr. Parrott commented that what was being built at that time was prior to the Safe Dams Program; it would not have been a Category 1 dam and we would have wound up with a dam that did not meet the Category 1 status.

Mr. Jaeger commented that the recent rain we have had has impacted the contractor trying to drain the water hazard at the golf course. They cored a hole in the concrete weir wall, the water will drop, and then, the rain fills it back up. They are considering adding another core hole to increase the speed that it drains. There have been a couple of incidences that there has been enough rain to overflow the work area. Mostly the diversion channel has been able to handle it. There are two

haul roads that cross over the creek; the upstream haul road has five pipes in it, the downstream haul road has three pipes in it. If it rains hard enough, the contractor uses plywood to block a couple of the upstream pipes to detain the water upstream of that haul road and maintain a flow through the channel that they can handle. Otherwise the upper road would allow more water through, the lower one might overflow and then as it rises it could go into the work area.

Mr. Jaeger reported that the fencers are completing the entrance gate at the Danielly-Wagner mitigation site this week. They have about 1,000 feet of fence length to do in an area that has been marshy and wet, they are trying to let it dry out a little bit.

The mitigation site work at the Mixon site has about a week left. They have started mobilizing equipment over to the Danielly-Wagner site to work there. The Board has approved their contract.

### **III. TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON UPDATE.**

Mr. Jaeger reported that the pilot programs are up and running at the South Fayette Water Plant for both the Kruger ActiFlow process and the Orica MIEX process. He showed slides of the site with both companies; they both have set up at the back end of the water plant site. They are using temporary power from the raw water pump station building; they are using the raw water lagoon to draw water from, and discharging into the backwash recovery lagoon. They are getting clean water from the maintenance building. A breaker had to be added to supply power from the raw water pump station. Kruger runs on a 460 volt service and MIEX runs on 240 volt. We did not have 240 volt available, but they were able to supply a transformer. The county had an electrician install the new breaker and then ran the connections to the trailers. Mr. Jaeger went on to describe the treatment process for both pilot studies.

Mr. Jaeger explained that Kruger spent last week fine tuning their coagulant dosages. This week, they started adding the powder activated carbon. MIEX was fine tuning their process as well. The samples from both pilots will be sent to a UL lab in Indiana for independent third party testing of the various parameters, including dissolved organic, total organic, Ph, and an assimilation of water that will be in the distribution system for seven days to determine what disinfection byproducts will exist after that period. He stated they are compared head to head in an independent lab. The samples will be shipped in two batches; they are collecting them daily and storing them in refrigerators. On Thursday, they will send a batch in, and then Monday they will send the second batch.

Mr. Jaeger stated that Orica will be on site for two weeks; they will be done Saturday of this week. Kruger has volunteered to stay on longer and continue to play with various coagulants. While they are there, head to head, we are basically comparing an alum coagulant with the powder activated carbon; the same raw water. Mr. Parrott stated that we are providing the plant chemicals that they are

using; the alum and everything is being provided from our stock. Everything is as close to how we are doing it. We still have a choice of GAC on the filters; we ran this pilot at Crosstown on one of the filters.

Mr. Jaeger commented that we feel that both of these will show marked improvement over our current traditional process. One thing that will be interesting will be the simulated water that is aged in the system for seven days. We can actually have a real measurement of what we will have to meet with the future State and Federal guidelines. It is his feeling that both of these processes will give us something that we can use. It is just a matter of which one is going to be the best solution for this plant, for these operators, operational cost, and up front capital cost. He stated that both pilots should perform well.

#### **IV. DISCUSSION ABOUT WATER RESTRICTIONS.**

Mr. Parrott explained that the state passed a Water Stewardship Act, instead of watering three days a week, you can now water seven days a week from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. So far, with the rain, we are doing alright with this change; even though we have had odd/even restrictions in Fayette County since 1986. He said that he has a withdrawal permit application into the state; it came back and the only thing that was marked as incomplete was the fact that we haven't adopted the new water conservation restrictions. We need to adopt the current state water restrictions, since it is holding up our withdrawal permit renewal.

Tony Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to adopt the current state water restrictions. Vice Chairman Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

Mr. Parrott explained that between now and the next few months, we also need to adopt the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Model Ordinance for car washes. He commented that no one is going to build a car wash now that doesn't recycle. He also does not believe that anybody is going to invest what it cost for a car wash now, that doesn't have sewer. He does not believe we will have a car wash in unincorporated Fayette County without sewer. If the recycle system goes down, they do not want to have to shut down; they want to be able to dump it into the sewer while the repair is being done. They don't want to be out of business for a day and a half waiting on a part.

#### **V. ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR WATERLINE EXTENSION BID.**

Mr. Jaeger reported that the bid opening was June 29 for the Annual Contract for Waterline Extensions for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. This is the same bid that we have done for the past six or eight years. There were four people interested. Low bidder is Lantz Construction. Total of their base bid was \$635,325.00. Lantz is the contractor that has been doing the project for the last two or three years. Shockley Plumbing was the contractor that did it for the years prior to that. The two lowest bidders were contractors that were familiar with the type of work they would be doing and the general set up of the contract. He

stated this was done with a weighted bid; as we did last year. The actual comparison and bids were based on the weighted bids. Lantz was low on that at \$375,903.75. The weighted bid puts a 75% weight on about thirty of the bid items, and 25% on the rest of them. Prices are for things we might encounter, but a higher priority for things we know we will be doing.

Mr. Jaeger stated that Lantz was low and the contract would be written for \$635,325.00. This is within about 5% of what they did last year. We did not change any of the quantities and the number is actually a little bit lower than it was last year. He said that he feels that we have a very competitive number and we have a contractor we have worked with before, so we know they are capable of doing the work. He recommended that the County move forward on this and award the contract to Lantz Construction for the base bid amount.

Vice Chairman Chip Conner made the motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to award the low bid to Lantz Construction for \$635,325.00. Brian Cardoza seconded, and there was no opposition.

#### **VI. FUTURE WATERLINE EXTENSION TO ELLENS RIDGE.**

Mr. Parrott explained that Ellens Ridge is a subdivision off Milam Road that we serve with City of Atlanta water. We can serve it with our water if we run a line down Coastline Road. There is not a reason to do that other than the fact that occasionally grant money is available for shovel ready projects we would want to do. We get 1% total for the year, from the City of Atlanta. This would make it even less. He would like to have a set of plans already drawn up and in the drawer for this project, so that if money became available, maybe 75% of the project; this would be the project ready to go.

Mr. Parrott went on to say that this would give us an opportunity to put water up Coastline Road through Ellens Ridge, back up to Milam Road and then when we turn east on Milam Road we could eventually tie it back in to Lee's Mill Road and we would have a loop through there on the system.

Mr. Parrott stated that we need to have the Board support this being a project on our CIP. Having this engineered and already on our CIP, then as more money becomes available we will be ready. They are not doing as much, but it pops up at inopportune times. There is no rhyme or reason as to when the money becomes available. This project would be less than a mile. We have budgeted money to handle the engineering, but we don't have the money to do the project. We would ask the Board to put this pre-engineered project on the CIP, because we don't have it on the current CIP.

Vice Chairman Conner made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to support a waterline extension to Ellens Ridge as a Capital Improvement Project and to expend the funds for the engineering plans to be done. Mr. Parrott seconded and there was no opposition.

## **VII. PAYMENT OPTIONS.**

Lisa Quick explained that she received a call from Walmart Financial Services. They have a service where you can go to Walmart any where in the nation, go to Customer Service, pay your bill and they will send us the money. They want us to advertise this is available. We already have several payment options available to our customers. Many banks provide a free service for bill payment through an electronic process. The committee discussed the current options we have available: Water System office, post office mail, Ebox, Paymentus online, bank drafts and four drop boxes. Paying at Walmart is another option for our customers that is already available. We would not have to do anything other than share the information with our customers. Walmart will not take a payment that is past due or from someone whose water has been disconnected. Payments can be made in 3 business days (.88 cent fee) or one business day (\$1.88 fee). Putting a flyer in the water bill would include all payment options available to Water System customers.

## **JULY WATER USAGE.**

Mr. Parrott stated that we are doing alright on the water usage. We are not selling as much as last year.

## **STATEWIDE INTER BASIN TRANSFERS.**

Mr. Parrott referenced a news article from the August Chronicle about the statewide inter basin transfers. They are talking about taking water from the Savannah River and bringing it to Atlanta or taking it out of Tennessee and bringing it to Atlanta. The article lists existing Georgia inter basin transfers, City of Atlanta, Chattahoochee to the Flint – 1.6 million gallons per day to Fulton, Fayette and Clayton. Of that 1.6 million per day, Fayette County's part is 23,000 gallons per day. He commented that this is a big deal; it is a big deal for the governor's race.

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

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Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 11th day of August, 2010.

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Lisa Quick