

WATER COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 15, 2012
MINUTES

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT:</u>	Pete Frisina, Chairman James K “Chip” Conner, Vice Chairman Jack Krakeel Tony Parrott
<u>ABSENT:</u>	Brian Cardoza
<u>NON-VOTING MEMBERS:</u>	David Jaeger
<u>STAFF PRESENT:</u>	Russell Ray

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON OCTOBER 24, 2012.

Vice Chairman Chip Conner made the motion and Tony Parrott seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on October 24, 2012. There was no opposition.

II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.

David Jaeger reported that there was a meeting with the Safe Dams Program about two weeks ago, and they approved our project. They gave us authorization to close the gate and start impounding water. He explained that we now enter into a monitoring phase where we monitor the monitoring wells and the settlement plates and the discharge from the internal drainage system. Since there is no lake yet, there is nothing to check, but we do an initial background reading of all those items, then as the lake starts to rise, we check them again at intervals all the way up, so that we can determine that things are functioning properly and there are no problems. Then they will give us a schedule for filling as well, for the first third or so of the lake, you can pretty much fill it at any rate unrestricted. The second third you can fill it two feet vertically per week and then the top third, one foot per week. If we were to get a real large storm that filled it faster than that, we would access all the wells and settlement plates and drainage outlets, consult with the Safe Dams Program, if we don't see any issues or problems, they would not make us release that extra water. It is a case by case situation, if you have a large storm that raises the water level faster than required, or the requested filling schedule.

Mr. Jaeger showed a photo of the people from Safe Dams, along with the contractors and engineering staff at the bridge overlooking things. As far as he can tell, they really had nothing to complain about at all. They were very pleased with the project; they were excited to see that we had opted to put sod down. At this

stage of the project, often what they are looking at is something that has been seeded with straw and mulch. Inevitably, you end up with erosion issues before all the grass is established. The fact that we had sod placed was a real bonus, and it made the job look finished as well.

The next photos showed where the construction trailer was, looking down the dam embankment with the sod placement, the rip rap, toe ditch and then the pump station in the background. Another photo was shown looking back from the bridge towards the vantage point where the trailer was; the trailer is gone, and the equipment is off site as well. They are essentially done, there is a little bit of finished work left to do on the spillway, but basically the contractor is through.

Mr. Jaeger stated that the staff gauge is in place, when you are at the pump station, you can visually see the lake level. He said they posted signs; there have been four wheelers running in and out of the lake bed the entire time the construction has been taking place. He said we did not want them on the sod, so we posted it.

Mr. Jaeger went on to say that one of the last things the contractor did was go back up in the reservoir and clear out the regrowth that had occurred since the initial clearing. These areas show the shoreline where that has all been accomplished. He then showed a shot of the finished spillway with the bridge sign and the rip rap placement.

Mr. Jaeger stated that the pump station is complete as well. Right now we are waiting for the reservoir to come up and then once it is high enough to have proper suction on the pumps, we can test the pumps and get all that equipment calibrated. He mentioned that Safe Dams provided us the opportunity to close the gate. Because we have a requirement to release water downstream, we can't close it completely until we get the water level high enough that it can be routed through the metering system. Right now, the gate is shut, but right now it is only shut down to where the creek level is, because there is actually less flow in the creek currently than what we are required to release downstream. We are not going to see any backup of water until we get some rain, at least.

Mr. Jaeger reported that the park project is coming along. He stated that the red lines indicate the walking trails that have been paved; he pointed out a short stretch that is ready for asphalt. He then pointed out the parking area that has asphalt binder down; the contractor has begun construction on the pavilion and the restroom facility, as well as the gazebo. There is also construction down at the dock area. He pointed out where the septic drain field is being located. There will be a force main from the restroom through a lift station. The power for the lift station will come from the transformer over by the raw water pump station.

Mr. Jaeger showed where the monument would be placed. It is currently under fabrication. The next photos showed the construction of the boat ramp, he pointed out the placement and finishing of the ramp. Then he showed photos after the

completion of the ramp and the sidewalk installation. Piling has been placed and driven into place; they will be trimmed off at finished elevation and the framing will be installed for the docking. The next photo showed the package septic lift station; this was being placed earlier this week. He then showed slabs for the restrooms, and fencing that has been put around the perimeter of the park.

Mr. Jaeger stated that Mr. Parrott has a ribbon cutting ceremony scheduled for December 7.

Further discussion pertained to being able to have an irrigation system and sod placed on the dam. This helps with erosion control. Mr. Parrott commented that we will be sodding part of the Lake Horton dam soon. If we can get Safe Dams to approve watering it, he will be recommending sodding the face of it.

III. WATER RESTRICTIONS.

Mr. Parrott explained that the Environmental Protection Division Director approved for us to have stricter water restrictions. The approval is for 150 days, which gets us through March. At that point we can ask to have them extended if we are still in trouble. We are putting the notice in the water bills, everyone will get notice in 30 days that we are back to odd/even. We also had something in the paper about it. We are making a good effort to inform the customers. He commented that we are a half a million gallons a day ahead of where we were a year ago. The City of Fayetteville is almost 10% of our total production.

IV. REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR TREATMENT PROCESS UPGRADES AT WATER PLANTS.

Mr. Jaeger reported that we advertised a Request for Qualifications to pre-qualify bidders for the MIEX Treatment Process Upgrade Project. It was advertised and we received RFQ sealed submittals and reviewed those. There were eleven contractors that submitted. Mr. Jaeger said that he is recommending that we pre-qualify all eleven of them. He provided a summary that includes a listing of each of the contractors. The first three contractors on the list are contractors that he was not familiar with, prior to this process. In reviewing their submittals, he said he talked with the sales representative for the MIEX process, who is familiar with them. They are all national large contracting firms that are very diverse. They also have a lot of experience in the water/wastewater industry. One of them is actually installing a MIEX treatment process in Florida, currently. He said that he has no problem pre-qualifying those first three. Mr. Jaeger went on to say that the next five contractors on the list are contractors that he is familiar with. They are all essentially the same size; their company size and types of projects that they deal with. Contractor number five, Layne Heavy Civil was formerly Reynolds, Inc. They are located in Fairburn and we have a lot of experience with Reynolds, they built the Crabapple Booster Pump Station. They also built the Horton Creek Reservoir Project; they are a quality contractor. P. F. Moon, number six, built the

Crosstown Water Plant expansion back in the early 90's. They are out of West Point, Georgia and they also built Starr's Mill Pump Station. We have good experience with them; they have done some other smaller projects for the county as well, some drying bed installations. Bates Engineers/Contractor, Inc., number seven built the South Fayette Water Treatment Plant. They are out of Bainbridge, Georgia; another very high quality contractor. We had excellent experience with them on the South Fayette Water Plant. Number eight is Allsouth Constructors, Inc.; they have done various work for the county over the years, upgrades to pumping stations, filter rehabs at the water plants, they modified the alum system at the Crosstown Water Plant; they are local, out of Conyers. He said there is no problem with them, he is happy to have them as a pre-qualified bidder. H. C. Coleman is a contractor that he does not have experience with, however the rep with Oraca Water Care has a lot of experience with them. He highly recommends them, says they are a high quality contractor, very organized, easy to work with. Lanier Contracting is a contractor that bids on Fayette County work quite often. They have done some work in the past and they are also the low bidder on one of the other agenda items on today's meeting. They are qualified to do this kind of work. They majority of work they have done is probably a lower dollar range than what we would be looking at, but they do have bonding capacity, and they have the expertise to handle this kind of plant work. The last bidder on the list, RDJE, Inc. was formerly Ronnie D. Jones Enterprises; they reorganized recently, but it is basically the same operation. They are teaming up with Willow Construction for their proposal. Ronnie Jones, RDJE, is a utility contractor and does a lot of pipeline work. We have a lot of experience with them on waterline installations and they are a quality contractor. Willow Construction, as part of the team is the contractor that just finished building Lake McIntosh pump station. They have done a lot of other work for the county as well. The combined team of those two contractors presents a group that can handle the project, he thinks, with no problem. Ronnie D. Jones certainly has the bonding capacity for the project, too.

Mr. Jaeger stated that in reviewing all this, it is his recommendation that all eleven of these be pre-qualified for the bid. We are still waiting for approval from the State on our submittal, once that happens, we will be ready to provide bid packages and set a bid date.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend these pre-qualified contractors to the Board of Commissioners for the upcoming MIEX project. Mr. Krakeel seconded and there was no opposition.

V. BID OPENING FOR PUMP STATION TRAVELING SCREEN INSTALLATION.

Mr. Jaeger reported that we opened bids on November 14 for the traveling screen installation at the Flint River pump station. He said that we had five bidders that had plan sets (bid packages), of those five, two submitted bids. The low bidder was Lanier Contracting at a total base bid of \$325,271.00. When he reviewed the

submittals of the RFQ on the MIEX project, Lanier does have a good level of experience on this type of construction. We have some experience with them in the past. He said that he has no problem recommending that we go with Lanier at low bid of \$325,271.00. He stated that the summary he prepared also shows that we had an alternate bid. The bidders were required to bid the base bid equipment, which was a certain manufacturer or vendor of this traveling screen system, but they had the opportunity to provide us with an alternate bid for a substitution from a different manufacturer. They were not required to provide an alternate bid, they were required to provide the base bid. Neither Lanier, nor the second bidder Willow, offered an alternate bid. That was not a factor in the decision. He went on to say that he had a conversation with Keith Stein with P. F. Moon the day before the bid, and he told him that he was calling to apologize that he would not be able to submit a bid. He was planning on it, but he had multiple projects bidding at the same time and was unable to provide us a bid. The other information that he learned during this process is that Screening Systems, Inc. is a Louisiana contractor and they specialize in manufacturing their own screening system. He said that he does not know for certain, but he thinks that they probably elected not to bid because we required the base bid in addition to an alternate bid. They would have been bidding an alternate only. He went on to say that he has not had contact with All South, so he does not know why they did not bid.

Chairman Frisina clarified that the recommendation is to award the bid to Lanier Contracting. Jack Krakeel made a motion to recommend the low bidder, Lanier Contracting at \$325,271.00 to the Board of Commissioners. Vice Chairman Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

VI. DISCUSSION OF CONSOLIDATING SERVICE AREA WITH THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE.

Mr. Parrott explained that we have a couple of pockets of service areas with the City where we sell them water to part of a subdivision, part of a street, and we have an area where they sell us water for the subdivision, Drennan Lake. Drennan Lake was supposed to have been built so that the main drive came from Hilo Road, went across the dam and caught the rest of the subdivision. In the planning process that fell apart and the road did not go across the dam. So, the waterline came in from the City side in the Chanticleer subdivision and serves about 28 houses. Then in the last few years, off of Gingercake we have Whisper Creek subdivision, we serve the first half of the subdivision, the City serves the back half, plus we also have a meter on Hood Avenue where the two inch meter serves three or four houses on it.

Mr. Parrott stated that he wanted to see if there is any interest in talking to the City about swapping what we have in Drennan Lake that they are serving wholly through their distribution system for what we are serving the same way on the other side. It is pretty close house to house. Chairman Frisina asked if the subdivision is in the city or the county. Mr. Parrott replied that it is in the county, but so is Chanticleer. The City service area is set by contract, but it does not match the City

limits. Our service area also does not match the service area; we serve over 1,000 customers that are inside the City limits now because the City limits keep changing. What we have is, we purchase water from the City for these 26 or 28 lots every month. The other side of it, every month, they purchase water from us to these lots that are the same way off Gingercake and Hood Avenue. It would make the service areas work easier, and people would understand better, especially in Drennan Lake. For example, the corner lot, his neighbor gets water from the City; he is getting water from the County. The only way he can get in and out of the subdivision is to go past his neighbor. Whisper Creek is even worse; there is not even a dividing line that the people can see. It is a lot line from the contract; that lot line in the contract cuts across the subdivision. He stated that it would make things smoother if there were any interest in starting that conversation with the City.

The committee agreed for Mr. Parrott to contact the City of Fayetteville on this matter. Mr. Parrott commented that it takes the approval of both the City Council and the County Commissioners; there is a provision in the contract for an amendment. This is a fifty year contract.

VII. DISCUSSION OF WATER BILL CONTENT.

Mr. Parrott explained that we bill sewer for Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority, Town of Tyrone, City of Fayetteville and Town of Brooks. We put all that information on the back of the water bill. It has gotten to the point where it is not real user friendly. He said what he wants to do is make it so that we just have the sewer provider, their web site and their contact information. We have been putting the rates on the back of the bill, and they keep changing the rates.

Mr. Parrott said that he cannot change the water bill without Board approval, so he wanted to make a recommendation that we just put the sewer provider and their contact information on the back of the bill.

Vice Chairman Conner made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to update the water bill content as Mr. Parrott recommended. Mr. Krakeel seconded and there was no opposition.

Mr. Parrott commented that since we will be billing Stormwater, we will be adding the Stormwater information to the back of the bill, also.

EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE.

Mr. Parrott commented that a copy of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals Certificate of Excellence for Emery Jackson for his outstanding customer service is included in their package. Emery is a Field Customer Service Representative; he goes out when somebody has a high bill and has a leak. He is an excellent employee.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:30 A.M.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 12th day of December, 2012.

Lisa Speegle