

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
**JULY 11, 2012**  
**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**

David Jaeger

**GUEST:**

Stephen Hogan

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

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON JUNE 27, 2012.**

Vice Chairman Chip Conner made the motion and Tony Parrott seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 27, 2012. There was no opposition.

**II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.**

Mr. Jaeger reported that the rebar is now being installed in the labyrinth wall. All the slabs in the spillway have been completed. The labyrinth wall is about 75% complete. He pointed out the section that was poured on Monday night this week. There is just a little bit of the labyrinth wall and some of the wing wall left to do. He then showed construction photos of the rebar installation for the last slab pour; the work on the upstream wing wall and then on the west abutment, they are still working on the general drainage system. As that is complete, and the wall is complete the backfill operation will begin. He pointed out where the bridge will be located across the spillway. He said the photo was taken Monday night during the pour; early Tuesday morning the contractor installed burlap and wet it down to keep the temperature of the concrete lower as it cures; to keep it slow and steady in the cure process.

Mr. Jaeger said the next two shots give a perspective of how the top of dam will be at 793; he pointed out the top of the wall. In the spillway 780 is full pool which lines up with the top of the labyrinth wall.

Mr. Jaeger stated that there has been no more progress on clearing of the main stream buffer, but that will be coming up shortly. It is the last section on the lower end of the lake. The electrical inspection has been done. Mallett Consulting has provided Georgia Power with the certification that we are ready for them to energize the transformer. This will be done shortly. Inside the pump house, the contractor is pouring the pads for the pump bases; equipment that has been received on site will be installed once the pumps are ready to be installed. Mr. Jaeger said that he just approved the certified test for the pumps, so they should be shipping any time.

Mr. Jaeger stated that Mr. Parrott will appear before the City Council for a variance for the Lake McIntosh Park on the buffer from the lake. The Peachtree City Watershed Protection Ordinance has a buffer along the lake shore. The park requires a variance to have some of the facilities within that buffer; which is consistent with the other parks at the other reservoirs in the county as well as Peachtree City. That meeting is on July 12, tomorrow night.

Mr. Jaeger reported that the two inch waterline from the water plant down to the park is installed. It has been pressure tested and bacteria tested, so it is complete. The park contractor will tie into that to provide service to the restroom.

Mr. Parrott commented that we still don't have the final release of the wetland mitigation credits. Mr. Jaeger stated that the environmental monitoring of the mussel site at Line Creek is in place, now. Mr. Hogan with Peachtree City Water and Sewer Authority assisted with getting access to Line Creek. Mr. Parrott explained that the permit requires us to monitor the endangered mussels. Not many companies have this expertise.

### **III. LAKE PEACHTREE DREDGING.**

Mr. Jaeger reported that he had a discussion with the Environmental Consultant about the permitting requirements for dredging of Lake Peachtree. He said that he has been told there is a submittal process that goes with the Corp of Engineers that requires some up front field survey work to be done from a wetland and habitat wildlife perspective. This is submitted to the Corp; then the Corp makes a determination whether the project is exempt or requires a permit. If it does require a permit it would not fall under any of the nationwide or regional permits; it would be an individual permit, because of the quantity of materials that would be dredged out of the lake. What he has been told is, if we fall into the exempt category, it is about a four month process; to do the work, submit it, and have them review it, come back and tell us it is exempt. At that point, we would have to submit to the state for just the typical NPDES erosion and sediment type permit. That is about a four month process. He said that is the best case scenario.

Mr. Jaeger went on to say, if we go through the study, submit it, they review it, come back and say no, you need an individual permit, that will kick it into a much broader scope of work from an environmental standpoint. He has been told nine months. He said that he does not believe it will get done that quickly. His experience with any environmental project, particularly an individual permit which brings in different agencies, not just the Corp of Engineers, it is going to drag out longer than that (he thinks). We won't know until we get into it, but that is the time frame of the options that we are facing as far as the regulatory part of doing this dredging project.

Mr. Jaeger stated that Peachtree City is saying we are ok with you doing the project, we are ok with you using Drake Field to stock pile the sediment, dewater it, and can you do the project this fall. The answer is that it is unlikely that it would be

able to happen this fall. If everything went perfectly smooth, then maybe you could get it started by the end of fall, but he thinks that is the best case scenario and not the most likely scenario. He said he thinks we are into next summer or next fall, depending on what the City wants to do with the park during that time period. That would give us time to go through, most likely the entire individual permit process and satisfy the Corp. He said that he could get the bid package done in a much shorter period of time. The regulatory part takes a while.

#### **IV. LAKE HORTON OUTPARCEL PURCHASE REQUEST.**

Mr. Parrott explained that one of the neighbors to Lake Horton is interested in buying a piece of property that we purchased for construction of the lake. He pointed out the property on a plat. He referenced a tract that was owned by Mr. Womack; he also pointed out where the dam is located. Mr. Womack did not want his property cut up, so the county bought the entire five acre lot. Mr. Parrott said that now a neighbor is interested in purchasing the part that we are not using. The future floodplain goes through this piece of property. Currently we are not using the property, but it is downstream from a Category I dam. The commissioner that passed this on to Mr. Parrott stated that the interest in the property was for a garden.

Mr. Parrott stated that he was not in favor of leaving anyone in this area with a non-conforming lot. That is what this would have been. Each one of the non-conforming lots out there creates problems. He said there are more than half a dozen of these same types of situations. Once we make the offer available to one, other requests will come in. Mr. Parrott speculated that future regulations might change in relation to properties located below a Category I dam. He said he does not want to sell this piece of property, then the regulations change and we have to buy it back. It just depends on regulation changes.

Mr. Jaeger commented that this piece of property gives the county lots of flexibility for the future. If there was ever anything required that needed to be done at this dam site, we have land there to work from, to stage from. If there is more downstream monitoring that may be required for some reason, it gives us a place to put things. Mr. Parrott stated that we have access to the dam from the left and the right.

Vice Chairman Conner made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to consider not selling this piece of property. Mr. Cardoza seconded and there was no opposition.

#### **WATER USAGE**

Mr. Parrott stated that the Court ruled that the City of Atlanta has the right to water out of Lanier. The Corp is issuing the permit; the Corp is reviewing issuing a permit for additional water. This means that Alabama and Florida will then sue again. He said that we had to use Atlanta water on Monday for a little while. We

were pumping at the 18 MGD rate, plus we had 2 MGD rate coming from City of Atlanta. The customers were really pouring it on the grass.

Mr. Parrott pointed out that in July our average day so far is 14 million, and last year it was only 11 million. He mentioned yesterday a contractor was installing a 400 horsepower motor at the Crosstown Plant; the contractor opened the wrong valve on the pump that was running next to it and killed the pressure on the Landings, Fayette Villa and Highway 54.

#### **STORMWATER BILLING AND ORION PROFILER METERS**

Mr. Parrott reported that the Water System will be doing the billing for the Stormwater system soon. Vice Chairman Conner speculated that once people receive their water bills reflecting the usage for their irrigation for these past few days, they will be commenting on the amount they are charged. Mr. Parrott mentioned that the new Orion Profiler meters that are being installed will enable the Water System staff to run usage reports off the meter that will tell us when the sprinkler systems are coming on and cutting off. A staff member has to go out to the meter to get the report. Mr. Hogan mentioned that when WASA is asked for credits for pool filling and other issues, this information will be helpful for them, also.

#### **LAKE LEVELS AND WATER PLANT PRODUCTION.**

Lake Horton is 9 feet low; Lake Kedron is 2 feet low. We have been able to pump more from Whitewater Creek which offsets the withdrawal from Lake Kedron. Mr. Jaeger explained that one thing the average production numbers don't show is that Mr. Parrott got the South Fayette Plant capacity upgraded from 6MGD to 9MGD about six months ago. So, during this higher demand period he was able to ramp that plant up above what used to be the maximum of 6MGD. This has helped cover some of the high demand period.

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

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Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 25th day of July, 2012.

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Lisa Quick