

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2012**  
**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

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

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON AUGUST 22, 2012.**

Vice Chairman Chip Conner made the motion and Brian Cardoza seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on August 22, 2012. There was no opposition.

**II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.**

David Jaeger reported that the contractor has been working on completing the abutments on each end of the spillway; those were mostly backfilled prior to putting the bridge in place, but the final backfilling is now in place. The contractor is getting very close to the finished top of dam, which is 793, thirteen feet above normal pool. Mr. Jaeger also pointed out in the photo the compaction equipment to tamp the dirt in place to get the required compaction. Another photo showed the bridge that is now in place across the spillway. On the east side, on the downstream toe of the dam looking from east to west towards the spillway, the contractor is completing the toe ditch; this ditch provides two functions, number one, where the fill intersects with the existing ground there is a natural channel (a swale where the surface run off wants to travel when it rains). By putting rip rap there, it protects that interface of the dam, the existing ground, and also if there is any seepage that comes out of the dam it will seep into this toe ditch and the rock protects the slope, so that there is no sloughing of materials if there is any seepage. Seepage is not really a problem as long as it is controlled. All earthen dams have seepage, so it is something that we anticipate.

Mr. Jaeger said looking from the east side towards the spillway; the finished grade is very close to being finished. There is a little bit more to do around the top to bring the dam up to final height. He pointed out the concrete deck that has been at the end of the bridge and the end walls that will now be cast. Once the bridge was in place the end walls were then built. The next photo he showed was an overall

picture of the spillway, the bridge and the abutments where the fill is taking place. The bridge was intended for running the slope mower to the other side of the dam for mowing the sloped portions of the dam. A small vehicle can also drive across the bridge. Wave protection has not been placed yet; there will be rip rap that will go from a few feet above normal pool all the way down to the bottom of the toe.

Mr. Jaeger commented that all the areas in the reservoir have been cleared. All the stream buffers have been cleared except for a short section at the dam. Some areas are being re-cleared (the re-growth, mostly weeds and light brush) that has grown back in the reservoir body since the initial clearing. The islands are above 780 pool and they will not be cleared.

Mr. Jaeger reported that the raw water pump station project is actually very close to completion. Since the last Water Committee meeting the contractor has installed safety railing along the tops of the retaining wall system; they are of a decorative nature so they go with the facade of the building. On the back side of the building, the monitoring equipment has been installed; it hangs down into the reservoir at three different elevations and monitor five parameters in the reservoir once the lake level is up (temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, conductivity and pH). The pump station is very close to completion; there are a few punch list items left to do and once the water level comes up enough to test the pumps, the pumps will then be tested.

Mr. Jaeger reported that the park project is under way. On a photo, he pointed out the earthwork being done (blue area); this area is basically ready to put down the graded aggregate base for the asphalt paving. He pointed out the area where there were unsuitable materials that had to be removed and replaced with good soils. He said the contractor encountered some rock which they were able to scratch down to a point where they got to a suitable elevation. The red paths have already received asphalt, and the green ones are ready for the graded aggregate base. He commented that the path system is coming along nicely.

Mr. Jaeger then pointed out the area where the boat ramp will be, and the dock installation. The contractor has begun excavation for the ramp and the channel out into the main reservoir. He showed a photo showing where the ramp will be, and he also showed the channel that has been excavated down so that when the lake level is down, the ramp will still be usable to get boat traffic out to the main lake body; for about ten feet of vertical rise and fall with the reservoir. Below that, the ramp would be out of service temporarily. He showed another photo of the paving crew working on the walking path; permeable asphalt which complies with the Watershed Protection Ordinance. There will be a gazebo, and the walking path will go around each side of the gazebo and then extends down to the lake. He also pointed out the parking area for the park.

Mr. Jaeger mentioned at the beginning of the project there was some concern about getting good soil for the dam because this reservoir site had been harvested for dirt

already. When the original dam project was done in the 60's or 70's some of that dirt was taken out of the lake bed and used for some of the subgrade for the dam at that time. All that material was then gone, we could not re-use it. Then there were some other projects (the airport), that took dirt from this site. There was some concern that there would be enough good dirt, but the contractor found plenty of it; it required some lengthy hauls from the other ends of the reservoir, but we ended with enough good dirt.

Mr. Parrott explained that the plan is for the County to pave the access road to the park, and then the park contractor is doing the portion within the fence. Mr. Jaeger said that the park contract calls for us to ask for the contractor to pave from a certain point to the cul-de-sac (he pointed out this area on the photo). There will be an access gate for people in and out of the park and there will be daylight hour use of the park similar to Horton Creek Reservoir. He then pointed out another area for a gate for authorized people to get down to the dam and the pump house. Fayette County Public Works will pave the road from the Water Plant down to the road that the contractor paves in the park.

Mr. Parrott reported that we received notification from Magnolia Swamp for the release of the last mitigation credits. A wire transfer was done to pay for them. He said that he needs to verify the numbers, but it appears that we now have all the mitigation credits needed to close the gate. We will now be talking to Safe Dams and the Corp of Engineers about the schedule for some time next month.

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

Mr. Parrott explained that the Environmental 404 study is on the agenda for the Board of Commissioners approval tomorrow night.

### **IV. WATERLINE EXTENSION TO SOUTHMILL SUBDIVISION.**

Mr. Parrott explained that this does not come up often. One of the policies that we have worked on over the years is not to reduce the size of a waterline as it is extended. Years ago, if a waterline was going out of a city, as it went out it got smaller and smaller. If there was an annexation, the line was too small to tie onto and you would have to back up and start over again. Then, we did the same thing within the county at different times. We allowed a developer to drop the size of the waterline down, because it was not what they needed for their development, and then when the next person wanted water, there wasn't enough water. Mr. Parrott stated that the Board of Commissioners decided that they would pay the difference between the waterline that we had and the waterline size that the developer needed so that we could continue the bigger waterline. Southmill subdivision is on Highway 85 South just below Highway 74 going toward Coweta County. They only need an eight inch waterline, but where they tie on is a twenty inch waterline. We have a hundred and eighty eight feet of pipe before it gets to the intersection where it turns. Mr. Parrott said that he is recommending to continue this as a twenty inch

waterline. He provided price estimates using the most recent annual contract, showing the difference between putting in a twenty inch waterline at \$33,238.70 and putting in an eight inch waterline which cost \$11,691.10, a difference of \$21,547.60. This continues the twenty inch waterline, so that in the near future if we cross over Highway 85 going down Padgett Town Road we will have a twenty inch waterline heading that direction. There are some subdivisions already down Padgett Town Road that are on a well system that have had challenges in the past.

Mr. Parrott went on to say that when you go down Padgett Town Road and then Morgan Mill it comes back out on 85 Connector, and that is where the loop waterline is located, which ties back into a twenty inch waterline.

Mr. Parrott explained he is recommending this because the developer already has a contractor, and he already has a price for his project. Mr. Parrott said that what he is doing is using our prices for the difference to pay according to what it would cost us to install the waterline. If we were to do the installation using our annual contract that is what it would cost. To use the developer's contractor price, then the question comes up whether he got other prices or not. This price is what the Water System has gotten approved and we are using per foot for eight inch and twenty inch that we are paying.

Mr. Jaeger clarified that the County would make a contribution to the developer to have his contractor install a twenty inch waterline. Mr. Parrott said, yes; we have done this in the past, but it does not come up often. The last time was about six years ago. In the future, Highway 85 and Highway 74 will be four lanes in this area.

Vice Chairman Conner made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of paying the difference between the cost of an 8" waterline and a 20" waterline in the amount of \$21,547.60 for a line extension to Southmill Subdivision. Brian Cardoza seconded and there was no opposition.

## **V. STATUS OF RESERVOIRS.**

Mr. Parrott reported that a lady that lives at Lake Horton called him yesterday because she is unhappy that Lake Horton is lower than Lake Kedron. He said that he tried to explain to her that Lake Kedron's withdrawal is four million gallons a day, while Lake Horton withdrawal is fourteen. We have not been able to pump out of the Flint River lately. She was not happy with this explanation; she thought we still ought to have to take more out of Lake Kedron so that they were impacted that same way she was. He commented that she does not have a lake lot, she has a lake view lot, and she can still see the lake.

Mr. Ray reported that Lake Horton is 13 feet down this week; that is 31% capacity, just over 1 billion gallons. At the usage rate of 6.5 MGD we have 160 days of water stored in Lake Horton. Lake Kedron is at 76% capacity with 1.5 billion gallons, which is 240 days at the rate we use it.

**Mr. Parrott commented that we had a little rain shower a few days ago and we were able to pump from the Flint River for nearly a half a day. Mr. Ray referenced the U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook report; he said this report shows that Fayette County is in the exceptional drought area. Some improvement is expected based on an El Nino winter forming which means it will be cooler and wetter.**

**Mr. Parrott commented that the water usage for September is down to 9.3 MGD, and last year it was 10.8 MGD. The customers are using a million and a half gallons a day less now than they were a year ago. That also helps with our resources.**

**Mr. Parrott mentioned that we use the Loghouse Well in Peachtree City; it is owned by Peachtree City. We give them 15% of the water from the well as a credit against their water usage. They saved \$11,703.00 on their water bills.**

## **VI. ROTARY CLUB REQUEST.**

**Vice Chairman Conner explained that a while back the Water Committee had a visit from representatives of the Rotary Club in Peachtree City requesting use of Lake McIntosh for the Dragon Boat Race. He said that he had a call from Bill McDonald; they would like to go in and lay out the course while the lake is dry. They would set anchors for the buoys that would mark the race course. They would do it while the lake is dry so they could do it accurately. He said that they asked him to bring it up at the Water Committee meeting. This request would need to go to the Board of Commissioners.**

**Mr. Parrott said that a request for installing anything on county property takes approval from the Board of Commissioners. Brian Cardoza asked if there is any reason not to allow them on the grounds to do so. Mr. Jaeger stated that the rise and the fall of the lake impacts the position of these buoys, because the lake could go up and down. Vice Chairman Conner commented that he imagines they would be adjustable. The buoys would be in place all the time. Mr. Parrott explained that as the lake goes down, instead of being straight up, they will lean one way or the other because they have slack on them. He said that we had some buoys at Lake Kedron trying to keep boaters away from the spillway. He said that we anchored them down by buckets of concrete; the fishermen figured this out and they started towing them to where they wanted to mark their fishing spot. Anchoring them down makes them more permanent.**

**Vice Chairman Conner explained that right now, they do not have permanent ones in Lake Peachtree. They have temporary ones that are out now because the race is coming up. Mr. Parrott said that we put some permanent buoys in Lake Peachtree to try to keep skiers away from the pump intake to keep them from stirring up the water around the intake. He said that the Fire Department Dive Team put in anchors like you use to anchor down a trailer.**

**Vice Chairman Conner made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to allow the Peachtree City Rotary Club to install permanent buoys in Lake McIntosh for the Dragon Boat Race course before the lake is filled with water. Tony Parrott seconded and there was no opposition.**

**Mr. Jaeger explained that the area close to the park is not very deep. The contractor had to cut a channel to make sure we could get boats out when the lake is down.**

**There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:35 A.M.**

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**Peter A. Frisina**

**The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 26th day of September, 2012.**

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**Lisa Speegle**