

WATER COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 26, 2012
MINUTES

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

ABSENT: Jack Krakeel
Brian Cardoza
David Jaeger

GUEST: Stephen Hogan, WASA

STAFF PRESENT: 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 SEPTEMBER 12, 2012.

Tony Parrott Vice made the motion and Chairman Chip Conner seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on September 12, 2012. There was no opposition.

II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.

Tony Parrott presented the update on the Lake McIntosh construction. He explained that the contractor is installing the irrigation lines on the dam. He said that we got permission to put irrigation in. Top soil is being added to the dam, and sod will be planted. Additional rip rap is being put in for the spillway slab to protect it from erosion. The labyrinth walls are complete. This is an earthen dam and it has an internal drainage system. He said that the State no longer inspects Category I dams, but requires the owner to perform a quarterly inspection, these used to be once a year. You have to measure any flow that comes out of any of the drainage pipes and keep a record of it. Some of them will have a flow during wet weather and some will not.

The contractor has been taking care of the regrowth and has completed a good portion of it. The buffer on the creek has been cleared all except one small section close to the pump station. The pump house is 95% complete; we still need to test the pumps and there are a couple of punch list items to complete.

Mr. Parrott reported that parts of the walking trails in the park have been paved. He pointed out on the photo the section that has been paved. The GAB has been put down for the remainder of the trails; the Board of Commissioners approved the change order for the unsuitable soils. The storm drains have been put in and the contractor has started the construction of the boat ramp.

LAKE MCINTOSH MONUMENT

Mr. Parrott explained that we need to put something out that denotes Lake McIntosh Dam and Reservoir Project; he distributed copies of a proposal to the committee to review. He said that it will be a block that will be put at the end of the cul-de-sac; you will be able to stand there and look at the monument and overlook the pump house and dam. The monument denotes the Board of Commissioners, the bottom part has the County Commissioners taking part in the effort; then Water Committee members current and former also at the bottom. He went on to say that this project, having gone on for more than thirty years has had several Commissioners vote for different items to keep this project going. He said that he feels all of them should be recognized somewhat in their efforts. To date, not including final payout, the Water System has spent over \$21,000,000.00 on this project.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend the Lake McIntosh monument to the Board of Commissioners for approval for placement at the end of the cul-de-sac at the Lake McIntosh Park. Vice Chairman Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

III. REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL WATERING RESTRICTIONS.

Mr. Parrott reported that Lake Horton is 13 feet low. Lake Kedron is just barely over 5 feet low. We started out the year with Lake Horton not being full, and he said the he does not believe we will be able to fill Lake Horton up this year either, judging from what we have had going on. He referred to the USGS Flint River at Woolsey report; on September 13, 14 and 15 there was only 10 cubic feet per second in the river. It has to be 35 cfs before we can pump water.

Mr. Parrott explained that the water restrictions under the Georgia Water Stewardship Act are what we are currently following. The law states that local governments may, upon application to and approval by the director of the EPD, impose more stringent restrictions during periods of drought and periods of non-drought. A local authority must be able to demonstrate good cause.

Mr. Parrott stated that he thinks that we have good cause to ask for going back to our odd/even restrictions with nobody watering on Friday. It will take the Water Committees recommendation to the Board and the Boards approval; then the application to EPD. It will take about two months to get the approval and we need to have these restrictions in place so that everybody knows this year, come next spring we have odd/even restrictions. They will not be able to do all the planting they want; they will not be able to water 18 hours a day. They will have to plan because our resources are challenged. He stated that he honestly does not want to go another year; starting off as low as we did this year. Percentage wise, Lake Horton is 31% at 13 feet. We have right at a billion gallons of water. Mr. Parrott stated that we are at the point that we need to do something.

Mr. Parrott went on to say that EPD has allowed six places to have variances. The additional restrictions for the upper Oconee Basin Water Authority is for the same reason that we are asking. To go back only takes asking to go back to the Water Stewardship Act and it would be a simple project. He said that he suspects that we will want odd/even all the way through next summer. Lake Horton is not going to fill up. City of Fayetteville, in the past, once we instituted different restrictions, has adopted the same thing.

Tony Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to authorize him to contact the Director of the Environmental Protection Division to request approval of a variance from the outside water use schedule to the following: Outdoor watering for any purpose be restricted to odd-numbered addresses being allowed to water on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays; even-numbered addresses and unnumbered addresses be allowed to water on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, with no outside watering allowed on Fridays. Vice Chairman Chip Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

IV. LAKE HORTON PUMP #3.

This item was tabled.

V. WILLOWBEND WELL.

Mr. Parrott stated that the Willowbend Well in Peachtree City is our oldest water source; it was the original water source for Peachtree City. The well is located in the parking lot of a church and is surrounded by asphalt. Annual testing is done by the Drinking Water Program; and this water has a trace of tetrachlorethylene (.53 ppm). It can come from factories and dry cleaners. The limit is 5 ppm, and it was reported on the last Consumer Confidence Report as .53 ppm. There is a long range between the two numbers. We use about 60,000 gallons a day from this well. On an average, we are doing somewhere between 8.5 and 9 MGD annually. This is not much of a water source.

Mr. Parrott went on to say that in the last month we got this year's test results and it has gone up a little bit more. We do not have a problem, but he is concerned about the well pumping cone of influence. The well head is in the middle, the more you pump, the bigger the influence is. The cone goes down as the pump pulls water, which means, especially with dry weather, that cone of influence is bigger. Where ever this chemical is and however much it is we have no idea. We could actually have an increase significantly from one to test to another and have no way to prepare for it. He said that he does not believe the water that we get from that well is enough benefit to us to wind up having the reading being a 2 or anything like that. The county has never operated where we did not try to provide the best water available. He said that he has enough question about what this water source could be in the future that he is recommending that we close the Willowbend Well down

as part of our drinking water source. We would take this well off as a source, secure it and leave it. There would be an opportunity in the future to test pump it and check to see what the chemical may or may not be. We would not pump the water into the system when it is tested. The water quality meets the State standard.

Tony Parrott made a motion to recommend notifying the Board of Commissioners that the Water System is no longer going to use Willowbend Well as a water source. Vice Chairman Chip Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

FLINT RIVER PUMP STATION TRASH SCREEN.

Mr. Parrott commented that the Flint River pump station trash screen was approved by DNR. It will be going out for bid next week.

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 24th day of October, 2012.

Lisa Speegle