

WATER COMMITTEE
APRIL 24, 2013
MINUTES

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

ABSENT: Brian Cardoza

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: David Jaeger
Dennis Davenport

GUEST: Commissioner Charles Oddo
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 MARCH 27, 2013.

Vice Chairman Chip Conner made the motion and Commissioner Steve Brown seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on March 27, 2013. There was no opposition.

II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.

David Jaeger reported that the only thing we have left on this project is now almost complete; the park project and the landscaping for the park. The entire infrastructure is now in the park; all the facilities for the parking, the boat launch area, the docks, the walking trail, gazebo, a picnic pavilion, a tot lot (playground), and restroom. He pointed out all these items on the photos, including the access to the raw water pump station and the dam. The current project is just the final landscaping; trees have been planted along the entrance, at the signage, and the main gate. He pointed out crepe myrtles planted around the dedication monument. Some shoreline protection was done along the park frontage. On the opposite side of the dam, fencing was added to define the property line and limit the access to dam from the Coweta County side. All that work is complete and there are some minor punch list items left to do.

Mr. Jaeger stated that we have one final inspection on the septic system for the rest room. The Public Works Department is working with the Water System to put asphalt down to the entire access road. At that point the whole project will be finished.

Commissioner Brown asked if we had looked at the dock issue, so that Mr. Gardner’s situation at Lake Horton is not duplicated. Mr. Jaeger said that he does not think we have a situation here. We have the ability to use the ramp as far as the water level changing; maybe as much as ten feet vertically and still have the ability

to use the ramps and the docks. It is not a floating dock. Further discussion pertained to the Rotary Club request for putting in a floating dock for the Dragon Boat races. Mr. Parrott explained at different places along the dock, there is a ladder going down. As the water goes down, you can tie the boat off to the ladder and then climb up the ladder to get on the docks.

Mr. Parrott stated that we have an RFP out for the tot lot playground equipment because it was more complicated than he thought it was going to be. We could not just use what we used at Lake Kedron and Lake Horton; we had to start from scratch.

Mr. Parrott said that the requisition was approved yesterday for the piping for the road work. The Road Department will be able to start out there as soon as they get the P.O. and the piping. That leads us up to setting a date to have an event, depending on when the road is completed.

Commissioner Brown asked about cart path access. Mr. Parrott explained that the airport is on one side and the golf course is on the other side. They will have to come down our driveway to get to the cart path. Further discussion pertained to no cart path on Dividend Drive or Huddleston Road.

Mr. Jaeger stated that monitoring is continuing both on the dam itself and then downstream of the dam in Line Creek. Our 404 permit requires us to monitor the mussel sites, so there is an additional round of that monitoring that is going to be taking place in the next few months.

Mr. Jaeger reported that the Georgia Safe Dams Program asked him to give a presentation on Lake McIntosh dam, which is happening this afternoon. They have a twice a year engineer's meeting, which is a meeting they require of all the pre-qualified engineers of record for the Safe Dams Program. The Director asked him to present the Lake McIntosh project at the meeting. He said that he has an extensive presentation prepared, from start to finish. Safe Dams has been out to the project two or three times.

The same type of pay station used at Lake Horton will be at Lake McIntosh for out of county visitors to pay to get in. Mr. Parrott stated that Building and Grounds will be building the building that the pay station will be in. It will match the one at Lake Horton. We are still four weeks away from getting the machine. It was a little difficult to get due to the paperwork that needed to be signed to show they are not aliens. They are a Canadian firm.

Commissioner Brown asked if Peachtree City had been given information on how this system works. Mr. Parrott stated that he gives Betsy Tyler an update from time to time; he will send this information to her.

III. MIEX UPDATE.

Mr. Jaeger stated that we had some recent and additional meetings with Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority regarding the acceptance of the brine waste stream that comes from the MIEX process. An agreement was reached on daily contaminant, daily levels for the parameters in the brine waste. In order to comply with that, he said that we are going to modify our plan slightly that we can store the brine waste on site at the South Fayette water plant during times of peak production. Feed that to the Water and Sewerage Authority at the rate that is acceptable to them during non-peak production times. He said that he has prepared that plan; Mr. Parrott is finished with the review and will be submitting it to the State as an amendment to our original permitted set of drawings. Once we get concurrence from the State we will set a new bid date and get the bidders to submit their bids.

Mr. Parrott commented that storing the brine on site at South Fayette gives us a little more leeway than what we were going to have. We were going to truck it from South Fayette to Crosstown anyway. Now that we have storage we will have a little bit more flexibility. We won't have to haul every day.

Mr. Rapson commented that he spoke with Ted Burgess yesterday about getting wired in with Mr. Jaeger. He said that he thinks it is important to have Purchasing involved so when it goes to the Commissioners for approval, we can say that is routed through our processes. Mr. Jaeger stated that in the past, he has always copied Purchasing on everything, but they did not attend the bid opening. Mr. Rapson said including them makes them feel more comfortable, too.

IV. DISCUSS CURRENT PROJECTS AND ENGINEERING.

Mr. Parrott explained that the Water System has a list of items that are ongoing; he updated the Committee on this list.

Lake Peachtree Dredging

Mr. Jaeger has been working on the permitting that it takes to get the project ready to bid. We finally got the consultant to do the application. Mr. Jaeger said that this application goes to the Corp of Engineers to determine how the project will be classified as far as whether it is a national permit, a regional permit or potentially an individual permit from the Corp. An individual permit is a lengthy process. He said that yesterday he received the second draft of that permit application. He and Mr. Parrott reviewed the first one and sent it back with comments. Assuming that all the comments were handled and there are no new issues, we will be ready to submit the permit application to the Corp today.

Mr. Parrott stated that the first time we drained Lake Peachtree we did not ask anybody; we pulled the plug and went on. The second time we did the dredging, we didn't ask anybody, we put a contractor out there, we dredged and went on. We no longer can do that, which is why it has taken us fourteen to sixteen months to get to the point that we are at now. By the time we got the City of Peachtree City to do

their part of the contract because we are contracted with the City on the lake, then by the time we found a consultant that could work on this permit because it takes somebody that is almost full time working on a Corp permit to even get you one now. He said that he suspects that we are six months away even getting to the point where we can put bid documents out.

SCADA System (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System)

Mr. Parrott explained that the SCADA System operates both water plants and is tied in with all our controls out in the distribution system; it tells us how much water is in each one of the tanks. He said that we cut the water off and on using it with the City of Fayetteville, which is our biggest wholesale customer.

Mr. Parrott stated that the SCADA system started in 1986 in its current form. Technology has moved away from it. He said that the Water System has approved for Mallett Consulting to work on upgrading it. This is a project that will come up in the next couple of months. With the size of both plants now, and the amount of water we are producing in the summertime, if this system does not work real well, we will have to send someone in a truck to check the tank to see what the water level is. By the time he radios back, this does not work well when we are producing 17 to 18 MGD. It is impractical.

Annual Waterline Extension Contract

Mr. Parrott explained that the Board of Commissioners approved the Water System to allocate a certain amount of money to put in short waterline extensions, either 600, 1200, or 1800 feet to pick up a customer or two at the end of the line that usually has well problems. The reason we have an annual contract is so that we already have a price so that the contractor can just look at a set of plans and tell us what it will cost and then he can go on. We have already bid it and it is low bid.

Mr. Parrott commented that last year we only had one line extension and this year, we have already had six or seven. It has to do with the fact that we had a drought last year and the groundwater table has dropped significantly. This project is coming up for bid soon.

Commissioner Brown asked what the criteria are for selecting the sites. Mr. Parrott said that it is first come first serve based on when the customer comes in.

Commissioner Brown referred to a gentleman that spoke during one of the Stormwater meetings about the waterline coming down both ends of the road and not meeting in the middle. Mr. Parrott said that we had customers from one side of Adams Road pay for a line extension to get it so far. Coming from Sandy Creek Road the same thing, it was the shortest distance. The people in the middle have no problems with their wells. Mr. Parrott stated they just want fire protection. His argument is that the Water System is not going to put in a waterline just for fire protection and not get any revenue. These line extensions don't work out very well price wise, much less just putting one out there where you don't pick up any customers. Mr. Parrott said that we are gradually filling these gaps in; if the

groundwater table is shifting so much that you pick up two or three at both ends of Adams Road, he would be concerned if he lived in the middle. Even with this system, it takes anywhere from six to eight weeks to get the water in, depending on how many are ahead of you.

Commissioner Brown commented that it would be neat to see a map that identifies all of those roads that are gapped in the middle, just to see where we stand with all of that; to have a clear picture where we are. Mr. Parrott said that he could provide that. There was a discussion once, about being more aggressive in the north end of the county about tying these gaps together. But, for the funding, if you tie gaps together where you pick no customers or you spend this half a million or the 1.2 million that we have each year to put in waterlines for people who need it, instead of just closing the gap. Commissioner Brown suggested making them an offer, say we have identified this as a gap area, do you want to tie into the system and here are your options in summer when the water table goes down drastically, something for them to consider. At least we just put it out there to them.

Mr. Parrott said that if we get too aggressive in asking them then we don't have enough money to take care of the customers that are out of water. Commissioner Brown mentioned this would give us some forecasting ability. Mr. Parrott said that if you put in four of them, and the last two did not really need the water, and then you have a couple of them that are out of water, then he would be in front of the Board asking to see if we can't get money to take care of these people who don't have water. People without water tend to be a little more aggressive.

Mr. Parrott said that he would have this item on an upcoming meeting agenda to show where the gaps are; and also get an estimate on the cost.

Mr. Jaeger added that the annual contract is set up with about a hundred different bid items. He said that we list pipe size from 6" to 20" and everything in between, valves, road bores, fire hydrants, fittings, concrete encasement, etc. The projects are not pre-designed. Unit prices are included for manpower and equipment so that if the Water System has an emergency repair that comes up, that either is beyond the scope of their equipment, or maybe the equipment is already committed, and he needs somebody to come in and do it, we have somebody immediately that can do that. It is all bid competitively, so the numbers are competitive numbers to start with. He said that we try to weight the bid, number one with the quantity based on past experience year to year; what was really done, versus what you might expect would be done. The bid is weighted so that high priority bid items have a higher percentage going towards the number to award it. It is not just a bottom line number because there may be pricing in there for stuff that doesn't get done, or infrequently done, and if the contractor weights his bid differently it could skew what his bottom line is, versus what he ends up being paid for the work that is actually done. It is structured in a way that benefits the county the best we can without knowing the projects ahead of time. It allows the Water System to respond not only to waterline extension requests but also to repair issues quickly without

having to go through a complete bid process for every single one of them. It has been successful; we have had a series of good contractors, they have been responsive and have done a good job. From our vantage point he thinks it has been a good process. We have been doing this about ten years or more.

Mr. Parrott stated that we finally got the Department of Natural Resources Drinking Water Program to approve Mr. Jaeger being able (because he is our consultant engineer) to do the design on anything up to 2,500 feet without us having to send that separate set of plans back to the State to approve it. This took forever to get them to acknowledge. Now they allow him to approve up to half a mile of pipe going in, that makes the whole process even quicker because somebody can pay for the waterline, Mr. Jaeger can turn out a set of plans so that by the time the contractor finishes wherever he is, we have the next one ready. He said that has been working out very well.

Lake Horton Dam

Mr. Parrott explained that we have to re-grass the dam; it is only 2,500 feet long. We had the inspection with the State, he does not have the results back, but the biggest thing that will be on the list is where we were not doing well with the fact that we don't have good grass down there. We do not have grass because we have had a drought for two years. He said that they allowed in the design that Mr. Jaeger did for the Lake McIntosh dam to put in an irrigation system, which was unique. They have only done this once or twice; Henry County was able to do it, a little bit different design from Mr. Jaegers.

Mr. Parrott said that he sent a letter to the Safe Dams Program asking them if they would approve the concept of putting in an irrigation system, and we were going to sod the dam. He said that he has not heard back from them yet. The grassing is for erosion, there is no public access to the dam. The dam is compacted to 95% plus, and it is difficult to grow grass. Further discussion pertained to what is the best type of grass or sod. Safe Dams Program has to approve what is planted. They no longer allow love grass. They found that because of the way it grows water will make little ditches underneath it that you cannot see. There are only four or five grasses that they will approve.

Mr. Jaeger explained that in the past they would not allow irrigation. They do not like to have a pressurized system within the dam. The system we designed for Lake McIntosh is not under pressure when it is not running. The only time it is under pressure is when it is actually active. They have learned over the past years that the problems with growing grass and maintaining it and the erosion that happens when you can't maintain it are a higher risk than having a pressurized system to irrigate that is de-pressurized when it is not running. That is why they have switched their feelings about that. He went on to say that one of the main issues is that right following construction is when you need to get this grass established. Allowing us to use sod solves that problem immediately, grade it, prep it, put it down, you are basically done. Then you have to irrigate, but if you go with standard grasses, even

the ones that they allow you to use, it takes a while for the grass to germinate, then you get some erosion that occurs during that time and you have to go in and try to fix that erosion. In doing that you are damaging the grass that has come up. It is a never ending cycle. And, you are dealing with a very high compaction requirement for the dam stability. Trying to grow grass on a highly compacted soil is difficult, also. It is a hard situation, and they don't allow you to use all different kinds of grasses.

Mr. Parrott commented that this list amounts to 2 ½ million dollars' worth of projects. Mr. Jaeger stated that most of the design for the SCADA project is done. All of the sites are radio communication, each one has a remote telemetry unit at the site that measures tank level, pressure, or valve position or pump status. Those are already out in the field; they are existing telemetry cabinets. An inventory of each site has been done, to determine what is there, what the function of it is, what the size of the existing cabinetry is. They can basically remove the guts of what is there now and reuse a lot of these cabinets, because they are stainless steel high quality cabinets. We don't need to replace as long as the new guts will go in. He said that he is designing the retrofit for all of this and putting together the bid package. They have finished the inventory and his instrumentation consultant now has it. He said that he hopes to have the bid date set in about 45 days.

Mr. Rapson stated that he knows under the master contract that Mr. Jaeger is handling all these projects, but to wire in Mr. Burgess and the Purchasing Department so that they are included. He said that when it comes before the Board, his philosophy is the Purchasing folks have been wired in with the consultant who is with Mr. Parrott and it is a dual recommendation as opposed to just a recommendation from a consultant. He said that he thinks that will make the Board feel better about what the process is and it will also keep the same consistency for Purchasing for us.

Mr. Parrott stated that the project would come before the Water Committee before it goes to the Board. Mr. Rapson said getting purchasing involved now, and then Mr. Burgess can be here with him when it comes before the Water Committee. That will alleviate the county attorneys and the Board of Commissioners concerns. Mr. Rapson went on to say that the only concern he has about the contract as it currently exists is how we pick subcontractors for that contract. He said that Mr. Burgess will talk to Mr. Jaeger about how we wire that in as well. He said that he was a little leery; he does not want consultants picking consultants. He would rather us be somewhat involved in that process.

V. FLOATING DOCK AT LAKE HORTON.

Mr. Parrott commented on the presentation at the last meeting from Mr. Gardner for his request for a floating dock at Lake Horton for access. Mr. Parrott said that he went down there and looked at it. In order to do this we are going to need some engineering to put in some kind of structure; the area we need to put this has been previously excavated. To put in some kind of structure to put the dock on

means that we will have to do some additional soil testing and that type of thing. He said that he needs to put together a Request for Proposal. This work will be difficult; the elevation difference is more than a ten foot drop with the lake. It will be an extensive project to put this in.

VI. SERVICE AREA WITH CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE FOR MRS. LOYD ON HIGHWAY 54.

Mr. Parrott stated that Chairman Brown spoke with Mrs. Loyd about a stormwater issue. She is in the gap in between where the City has water service and the county has water service. Commissioner Brown said that he feels sorry for the Loyds. They have pretty much been tortured because the DOT lifted the elevation of Highway 54 significantly in front of their yard. It has created some very interesting stormwater problems. The water does not drain adequately. DOT doesn't maintain their right-of-way, doesn't clean out the ditch. There is an exposed gas line in the ditch. They have spent \$15,000.00 trying to mitigate mold in their house because of the water that is on the property now and the mold is back. He said that they are in a real bad situation. One of the things that they noticed is the water quality coming out of the well has declined significantly. They are desperately trying to get on to somebody's water system. Commissioner Brown said this understanding is that Fayetteville is a couple of properties down from this site. He understands that we are across the street. Mr. Parrott stated that we are on Callaway Road.

Commissioner Brown said that he is desperately trying to figure out which jurisdiction can get to these people to try to help them out. Apparently, at one time, they offered with the county to cut a check or something and then we said we could not do it.

Mr. Parrott explained that there is a City of Fayetteville service area, in order for the county water system to serve them; we will have to have a resolution between the City and the County to change that service area. He said that we did this recently between Drennan Lake and Honey Lane, to swap those services. It takes a joint resolution by both bodies in order to modify it. All you would have to do is describe it as Callaway Road going back up to Camp Memorial. You could describe ever what properties you want it to be.

Mr. Parrott said that Mr. Bergen took the current line extension prices and looked at the cost. It will cost the Water System between \$22,000.00 and \$24,000.00 to run a waterline up to the hydrant. That is the liability to the system. The Loyds would pay according to front footage, plus the meter; about \$4,000.00 of it.

Commissioner Brown said it may be a good opportunity to talk to their neighbors, say this is on the drawing board. Mr. Parrott said there are only three properties, Camp Memorial has a well.

Mr. Rapson asked financially, why we would do this. Mr. Parrott said that it would be a line extension, they would show up, pay for a line extension and pay for it out of

the line extension budget. Mr. Rapson asked why we would go \$18,000.00 in the hole to do it. Mr. Parrott said that a lot of these waterlines don't break even.

The committee further discussed the possibility of future customers in this area, some line extensions never pay for themselves and some do.

Mr. Rapson stated that we need to send a request to Fayetteville about the service. Mr. Parrott agreed that he would make the request to the City about this issue.

VII. WATER LINE EASEMENT AT 1391 HIGHWAY 85.

Mr. Parrott explained that Commissioner Oddo had a request from one of the constituents out there; they are redoing the veterinarian clinic on Highway 85. They want to put sewer in. The City sewer has an easement outside the DOT right-of-way that is ten foot wide and has a waterline in it. They want to put the sewer in that easement. This easement is property of the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Commissioners has to do make the decision. When the veterinarian clinic was built initially it was on a septic system. Mr. Parrott said that the initial waterline was installed when Ed Koons was the County Administrator and Engineer; this was in the 1970's.

Mr. Parrott went on to say that the proposal for the sewer can be worked around with the waterline. There is room in the easement; the waterline is a 20", it is ductile iron pipe and is not hard to find. They are only proposing putting in a small diameter pipe to get sewer up to the manhole. It is easy to do; it just needs approval by the Board. There is enough separation between where they put the sewer line and the waterline in. If we can locate the pipe, we can make sure that they are far enough away from that pipe so if we have to work on the pipe they are not in our way.

Mr. Parrott explained that in 1986 the City and the County came to terms over service area. The City drew a circle two miles from the courthouse and thought that the City would never get any bigger than that. They have run outside of that on several areas. He said that we have been able to keep the water service area in the City. We probably have 1,100 customers that are actually in the City of Fayetteville, which includes the Pavilion. The contract had a way in order to do the rate so that the rate is adjustable according to what we do on raising our rates. We don't have to ask them, it is an automatic rate increase. It was as good of an agreement that you could get. It is not really 100% what the county would want or 100% what the City wants, but it is close enough that it has not been changed substantially.

Mr. Jaeger suggested that the county have the ability to review the drawings before it is installed, and possibly some onsite inspection, and an as-built drawing so that the county has a record of where that sewer line is for the future. If we ever have to maintain that waterline, we know exactly where the sewer line is: just some minor conditions.

Tony Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to allow the City of Fayetteville to use the waterline easement on Highway 85 with the stipulation that the Water System review the plans, do an onsite inspection and be given as-built drawings. Vice Chairman Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

Mr. Parrott stated that he would contact the customer and let them know it has been forwarded to the Board's agenda. He will also talk to Chris Hineman at the City of Fayetteville.

LAKE LEVELS

Mr. Parrott stated that Lake Horton is getting closer to being full. In March our average production was below 7 MGD, and then we moved a little above 7 in April. Trouble is, last year we were producing 9.4 MGD that is a difference in revenue that we are not getting. The customers are getting enough rain, plus they are still conserving.

STORMWATER

Commissioner Brown asked about an address correction. Mr. Parrott explained that after the retreat we sent out some Stormwater rebills and some of those were returned by the post office. Mr. Rapson mentioned that he had talked with Vanessa Birrell about the May communication for Stormwater. In that May communication we are going to reference the fact that we are going to add a penalty for it, even though the actual ordinance has not been adopted. Dennis Davenport has taken Mrs. Birrell's changes and let us know if we can do a penalty. Commissioner Brown said that he thinks we should wait until later in May before sending it out. Just to make sure we have ironed enough of that stuff out with the SPLOST deal, so that we can include that in the newsletter. Mr. Parrott stated that we need the last week. Commissioners Brown said he wants to include the SPLOST information, since we are going to spend the money. The folks in the unincorporated area don't get the newspaper.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:50 A.M.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 8th day of May, 2013.

Lisa Speegle