

WATER COMMITTEE
MARCH 12, 2014
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pete Frisina, Chairman
James K “Chip” Conner, Vice Chairman
Steve Rapson
Lee Pope
Commissioner Steve Brown

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Dennis Davenport
Frank Destadio

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 FEBRUARY 26, 2014.

Commissioner Steve Brown made the motion and Vice Chairman Chip Conner seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on February 26, 2014. There was no opposition.

Frank Destadio commented that Mr. Preau had called him to say that he is very pleased with the comments that Mr. Pope made at the Water Committee meeting. He went on to say that Mr. Preau was one of the citizens that came, he happens to know him, he goes to their church. When he was complaining about that, he came here and he was very satisfied with the Water Committee’s actions.

II. OPTIMIZATION PLAN UPDATE.

Mr. Pope explained that we have done several things. We have approval back from the state to allow us to change where we are feeding the pre-chlorine. We actually still call it pre-chlorine, but we are actually feeding filter chlorine now. We had actually already started that without their approval; he said that we knew they would approve it. There are still important steps for us to go through and we are currently waiting for them to approve the temporary sodium permanganate that we are feeding at the water plant. Again, that is something that we have put in place, anticipating their approval.

Mr. Pope reported that since we have started feeding sodium permanganate, our TOC removal, which we have struggled to keep the 35% removal that is required by law; the amounts have been between 30% and 35%; we are now removing 50% to 60% of TOC’s; almost double.

Mr. Rapson commented that sounds like optimization. Mr. Pope said we are coming up on budget time; and he thinks we will see some cost savings in our

chemicals as we move forward and start feeding things in the proper places; we will be able to cut back on some of our other chemical feeds.

Mr. Pope went on to report that we have all the basins on line and that is going to assist us in detention time. Again, those are the things that will give us the ability to cut back on some of our primary coagulant chemicals. He said that we may look at changing some of that; there are several things in the mix right now.

Mr. Destadio commented that EPD is really pleased that we are following procedures and identifying things. This really was required, but you could have gone ahead and did it without them knowing about it. But, coming forward and identifying it the way it was, it all goes to the relationship building that you have improved significantly.

Mr. Rapson explained that we are in the process of finalizing the CIP plan that CH2M Hill has been helping Mr. Pope to develop. He said they will be presenting it in full at the Retreat on April 4. He said that he thinks it will be a good step in the right direction over the next couple of years. All of that will wrap into the consent order as well as the deficiencies. We are well ahead of putting all that in place so that we can be in compliance.

Mr. Destadio asked if Mr. Rapson would like any representation from CH2M Hill at the Retreat on April 4. Mr. Rapson said that he expected they would be there. They are more than welcome; the meeting is open to the public.

Commissioner Brown commented that he spoke with Ted Jackson from EPD at the Governor's Water Meet. He is very happy with the direction things are going in. Several of his staff was there and they all had positive comments.

Mr. Destadio mentioned that they are working on the press releases that will be the positive statements going forward. The people who do their press releases are working through it. He added that he and Mr. Pope have some things they want to make sure they are right.

Mr. Pope explained that he will be doing a presentation at the GAWP Managers Conference in Callaway Gardens. The subject is about a sodium hypochlorite generation system that we will hopefully be migrating to in the future in Fayette County. That is due to safety and also it is a little bit easier to operate.

III. LAKE PEACHTREE DREDGING.

Mr. Rapson stated that this will be another retreat topic to we talk about. He said they actually have a template of a position paper on the different options we are going to use. He said that he and Mr. Pope are finalizing the position paper and then they will run it through CH2M Hill to make sure they are comfortable with that approach. At that point, we will give a copy to the Water Committee before they go to Retreat on Friday, April 4 at New Hope South Campus in Peachtree City.

Commissioner Brown commented that it seems like the City Council in Peachtree City is really not communicating among themselves very well. He suggested doing a presentation so that they don't have to have five phone conversations on what is going to happen with the dredging. He said that he thinks that would be a good idea, once we decide it, go do a presentation at one of their council meetings.

Mr. Rapson stated that he told the City Manager that the staff of Peachtree City is certainly welcome to be at Retreat so they can hear the Board's feedback so they know what sense of direction we are heading. He said the he told him that he is sure we are going to be implementing the project the following year. We have plenty of time to get to a council meeting to talk about any concerns that they have.

Commissioner Brown suggested that the presentation include how we are going to do it, the basic timeline (subject to change with weather); here's the plan.

Mr. Destadio said he thinks that will be good, because everybody that is interested would show up and report it. He asked if they video the Council meetings. Commissioner Brown said that they do. Mr. Rapson agreed we could do that.

Vice Chairman Conner mentioned if the Water Committee was kept in the loop as to when and where, then he would pass on the information to the HOA. Mr. Rapson agreed; he said that he would expect some of them to be there too. All we are really doing is trying to lay out high level options of here is one way to do it, another way to do it, and also talk a little bit about how we would stabilize the streambeds and that type of stuff. Lay all those options out for them, so they can get a sense of what it is. Once they determine what option they wanted to do, then we would develop that into a detailed timeline for implementation. At that point, we would probably roll that out to the Mayor and Council. A lot of times, most folks just want to know when is it going to start, what is it going to look like, how is it going to be implemented, and when it is going to be finished. We can lay all that out so that everybody and the HOA's will know this is when we will do this. He said that he thinks part of the plan is also incorporating lowering of the lake for folks to work on their docks. We will incorporate all of that so everybody with a particular interest will know when all that is going to happen and can plan accordingly.

Mr. Pope explained that he will be meeting with USGS on March 17. They are going to bring some knowledge they have for sediment removal and prevention, stream bank restoration. Mr. Destadio commented that stream bank restoration is a big issue. That is the best thing you can do, because that is going to work at stopping the problem; not cleaning it up after it is been silted up.

Mr. Rapson mentioned that he has heard rumors of positions that Peachtree City may want to take; a lot of those positions could be outside the scope of what we are doing, but could easily dovetail off some of the same folks we have doing some work. If they want to do additional mitigation or if they want to do Stormwater

improvements, incorporate and roll it all together; then we would be agreeable to doing those type of things; put in alternatives and whatever we need to do.

Mr. Destadio said we might want to consider taking some analysis in some of those areas where it comes in; especially where drainage off the road is coming; you get petroleum products. Where the houses come right down the road, you get the herbicides or insecticides; you can take some simple analysis and just stop some concerns before they start. There are no problems within the dredging material. He went on to say that he thinks we should get the stream gauges in at the time the dredging is done, so once it is back up, you won't have those issues any more.

Mr. Pope explained that in installing the stream gauges the other thing is for USGS to assist with calculating load and rates. This is something they can do in a very simplistic manner; give us sediment loading rates so we can get a report from them every year. Every five years we can see what kind of sediment load is against the lakes.

IV. CAMP SOUTHERN GROUND.

Dennis Davenport commented that his intention was to have a draft this morning on the basics of this agreement. That timeline was a little too ambitious. He said that he has emails back and forth with Matt Bergen to get some issues worked out. He said he is highly confident he can have a draft for the next Water Committee meeting. It just did not come together this time.

Mr. Destadio commented that they have a revised cost estimate. The original estimate, he guesses that they assumed incorrectly that they were going to go ahead and do the normal stuff they do. Since, you have already had this designed by Engineering Science; their scope is going to be to review that document. But, then to do all the permitting and licensing requirements that have to be done.

Mr. Davenport stated that he will refer to those types of costs as attachments, so whatever the most recent revisions are should not do anything to change the scope of the agreement itself. It will just be referring to Attachment A or Attachment B. He said if they have some revised numbers...

Mr. Destadio stated for the record that they are not doing the design because Shockley is the company that is doing the construction and they would be the one doing it anyway. The Engineering Science design was adequate. There is no reason to redo the design; but they cannot stamp and seal that; they have to. He said they can look at it and give their recommendation on how it meets the county standards, but after that they will do the permitting and the license.

Mr. Davenport explained that even though Shockley is our waterline extension vendor that we use; in this relationship they are going through Camp Southern Ground to us. We are not really directly over Shockley. Shockley is indirectly involved as far as we are concerned. Our main relationship is Camp Southern

Ground and they have authority over Shockley; we just have the inspection ability to make sure it is done properly. That is the way he understands the relationship.

Mr. Destadio added that he thinks in the future when you have a company or a developer that wants to develop something, typically they can develop anything inside the development, but the waterline that comes down really probably ought to be controlled by the county. Shockley is actually going to bring the waterline into the campground. They are the waterline extension contractor, and they will do as good a job as anybody else because they are working for you. But, then, the developer is kind of controlling what you get.

Mr. Davenport stated that is right and that was our comment when we first started this whole issue that we need to be in control. But, there are certain mitigating factors here that go toward Camp Southern Ground being in control because of dollar savings, cost savings issues.

Mr. Pope stated that this is a special partnership. Mr. Davenport went on to say that it is the same kind of problem that we experienced on Lee's Lake; we allowed a developer to go down the right of way and we are paying for that now by going in and doing fixes. He said that Mr. Destadio is right, the more control you can take on in this type of a project, the better off you are in the long run; because it is your waterline in perpetuity.

Mr. Rapson stated that the important thing to note here is that even though Shockley is our prime vendor for the waterline, that is why we have the faith that this is not going to be an issue. It saved Camp Southern Ground in excess of a quarter of a million dollars to do it this way. This is really a good example of Shockley, the County, CH2M Hill, and the Water System all working together for the betterment of Camp Southern Ground in this particular case.

Mr. Destadio added that Mr. Bergen will be doing some inspections, and they have included at least one inspection. There will be some people watching to oversee for the county. Mr. Rapson said that now and then we will have unique partnerships that come up.

Mr. Destadio said that Mr. Davenport is right; you really need to have control of your portion of the system in terms of quality and installation. Commissioner Brown commented that it would not hurt to document that relationship really well. Mr. Rapson commented that is the IGA.

Mr. Destadio asked if the IGA would cover the concern for the portion that is outside of the normal area going down the street that they have to go down (Ebenezer Road). If later on, three to five years, ten years if the quality of the craftsmanship is in question that there is some liability on their part.

Mr. Pope said that he does not think so, because we will be involved in the inspections and it will be our contractor. Mr. Davenport stated that once we accept it, it is our property. Mr. Rapson explained that this is unique, but it is no different than us accepting a system the developers put in a subdivision. The reason we have CH2M Hill involved in looking at the design and the reason our guys are looking at the inspections as well is to insure that we have that level of oversight.

Commissioner Brown said that he did a presentation on the letters from Mr. Lentz at, not the past meeting, but the Commission meeting prior. He said that he had a power point presentation listing some quotes and then trying to give the accurate representation of what those things really are. Pat Cooper did cover it and the comments are in the packet. The Citizen did not cover it. He called and asked them, why they wouldn't do that, they printed the letters. They said they just don't think... it is not relevant. He said he may write a press release and send it to them again and see if they put it in the newspaper that way.

Mr. Rapson stated that he knows Phil Mallon and Vanessa and the Stormwater folks are in the process, as well as the Water System, of addressing anybody who sends us any – if you write on your bill, if you send us an email, if you send us a thank you, whatever the case may be, whether it is good or bad. If there is anything that we, as a county can respond in regards to those citizens, our policy now is that we respond in kind to that individual so that we at least communicate either the good or the bad, just because he thinks that is good Customer Service. We are in the process of going back and looking; a lot of the stuff that happened with the Stormwater happened so rapidly over a period that we are going back and we are sweeping some of those comments that we could address. We are getting a lot of positive feedback from a lot of unhappy letters. A lot of times, folks just want to hear that you heard what I said. I may not agree with you but at least be professional and courteous and respond in kind. We are in the process of doing those. Commissioner Brown stated that this is a good policy.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:25 A.M.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 26th day of March, 2014.

Lisa Speegle