

WATER COMMITTEE
JUNE 12, 2019
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete Frisina, Chairman
Steve Rapson, County Administrator
Russell Ray, Acting Water System Director
Charles Oddo, Commissioner
Bill Holland

ABSENT: Frank Destadio, Vice Chairman
Jimmy Preau

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: Dennis Davenport, County Attorney
Jason Bodwell, CH2M/Jacobs

STAFF PRESENT: Carrie Gibby

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON MAY 8, 2019.

Bill Holland made the motion and Commissioner Oddo seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on May 8, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

II. WATER SELECTOR UPDATE.

Russell Ray reported the Water Selector is operational, there were some issues with a leak at the bottom, IXOM brought out the divers to check it out. When we were producing water at a high flow it became obvious there was a leak; allowing water from the bottom of the lake to enter into the wet well, then it was being pumped up to the plant. The divers were able to stop the leak and it will be re-evaluated in the future to see if it needs another repair.

Mr. Ray went on to say our IT Department met with IXOM and they have come up with a solution to get the information from the unit at the pump house up to the plant. He showed a photo of their cabinet; we are going to install another cabinet where we can have communications set up next to their cabinet. He explained this is the RTU (Remote Telemetry Unit) at the Lake McIntosh pump station. We will mount another box and put in a cradle point, which gives cellular access with network capability. Once that is installed and they put a new network card in their cabinet, we will be able to just plug into their cabinet and have that connection.

Mr. Rapson stated we are looking at the analysis of the prior chemical cost versus what they are going to cost now and validate that savings before we flip the switch to do the second Water Selector. It is pretty much tracking the way we thought it was going to track. We will probably do that as early as late July or late August. As

soon as we validate the savings and extrapolate those out, then we will do a notice to proceed and talk to the vendor about why we are not seeing the type of savings we thought we would see.

III. TANK REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE UPDATE.

Jason Bodwell reported the project is complete, the payment request from Southeastern Tank and Tower has been approved and is now in Russell's court to pay. Once that is paid, we have a couple of month's hiatus and then we will bring Southeastern back in the fall. Highway 92 tank was completed, and Twin Tank 1 in Peachtree City was taken down. They looked into the other tanks to see what additional work would be needed over and above. They popped the top, drained them and went in.

Mr. Rapson stated we have already amended the budget for 2020 to build up that account for the cost overruns. That has been amended and baked into the revised 2020 M & O budget for the Water Department. We have all the money we need in Tank Maintenance to spread full circle by the end of next year.

Mr. Bodwell commented it should not be any more than we budgeted. He does not anticipate anything, unless something develops in the next three months. He does not see why it would be higher than what we budgeted. In the fall they will do Ellis Road, Crabapple and the Peachtree City tank. The work will be scheduled when the water demand goes down which is usually in the October time frame.

IV. WATER PLANT UPDATE.

Mr. Ray showed photos of the finished floor coating project. He showed the chemical building floor, the chlorine dioxide equipment and the floor in that room, they cleaned up the trough in that room as well. He pointed out the chemical feed lines from the outside tanks for the purate system (chlorine dioxide system). He then showed the pump house and the two million gallon pump house where the painting has been completed; and the filter hall floor with the new coating. The tiles were coming loose, we took them off and installed this coating with a type of epoxy base. Mr. Ray commented it is a three step coating system.

Mr. Ray reported we are getting the contract documents ready for the chlorine dioxide system at South Fayette. Mr. Bodwell commented that he, Russell, Ted and Natasha sat down and talked about the few projects that we have to bid out and the few projects that we have going. We have three; the filter replenishment, adding filter media at South Fayette. He said they realized before we replace the filters we need to address the valves in the bottom of the filter basin. Ted was reluctant to agree to his sole source justification, and has asked us to put the replacement of the filters out competitively. He said they are quickly running a specification, it is not going to be much to put that out competitively with the bid documents that Ted and his group have. He said they got a quote from somebody, the quote was around

\$60,000.00 to replace those valves. Now we roughly know the order of magnitude it is going to cost so we will put that out for a competitive bid. The valves will be competitively procured and once those are addressed, the filter media replenishment will be taken care of.

Mr. Rapson clarified the valve replacement will not be sole source, but the filter media is sole source. Mr. Bodwell said yes, a special company will supply the media. There are only three certified installers of that media in the United States and one of them is here in Georgia. That was justifiable as sole source. He said he hopes the company that is going to do the media is also the low bid on the valves. That will just be easiest, but we will have to wait and see.

Mr. Bodwell went on to discuss the filter controls. He said Ted did not agree with his sole source justification on that one, and has asked to put it out competitively. He said they are writing a quick specification, which shouldn't take long and they are putting that out for bid.

Mr. Rapson asked about Ted's concern. Mr. Bodwell said Ted's concern is can anybody do this work. He said yes, there are a few companies out there that can do this work. Mr. Rapson said he agrees with Ted's position.

Mr. Bodwell explained his sole source justification was the company that originally installed them knows how they work, the folks that were employed by that company have left to go to another company. All that institutional knowledge is with this other company. His sole source justification was to use that other company where all that institutional knowledge is. Ted did not agree. Mr. Bodwell said they will put this out for bid.

Mr. Ray added that institutional knowledge comes in handy, don't take it lightly. Just this past week the same gentleman that was the reason that we were going to the company that we were looking at, we had to have them come out and do some adjustments on the system, just last week. We will see what comes out of the bidding process.

Mr. Rapson commented his historical working with institutional knowledge is typically those are the lowest folks because they have less of a startup cost associated with it. Typically it will be okay.

Mr. Bodwell reported on the chlorine dioxide. The design is done, the documents are done and yesterday afternoon Natasha sent him some comments back on the documents. He said he will return the documents to Natasha and they will pick a date and get it out. The cost estimate is \$1.4 million. Mr. Rapson stated we have more than that budgeted in the five year CIP. Mr. Bodwell commented that was the primary driver for the mid-year budget adjustment a few months ago.

Mr. Rapson stated the task order on the Private Water System Analysis has been issued. Mr. Bodwell stated the kick-off meeting is tomorrow internally to get everybody up to speed and start working on that. Obviously, the first step is to get contact information from the systems. He asked if we have that. Mr. Rapson said it was part of the Attachment “A” for a while, there is a list of the names. Mr. Bodwell asked if we have a list of the owners. Mr. Rapson commented that he is sure Carrie has something somewhere. Mr. Davenport said he thinks there is a list that is part of the ordinance. Mr. Bodwell said they put that in the task order. Mr. Rapson commented EPD has a list.

Mr. Rapson mentioned the Inter Connectivity task orders are on the street. We are figuring out what we talked about at Retreat, where we are looking at the safe analysis, the modeling and all that information. This wasn’t a piece of what we call the Inter Connectivity, but having an assessment of the Private Water Systems was a component of that, too. At the end of the day, if we end up doing the interconnection that is how we can set money aside so we can start acquiring some of those private systems in the future.

Mr. Rapson stated we recommended the Artifact Program for \$45,000.00. He said he requested the school system be a part of that. They are in their summer break so we will circle back around to them, but the Historical Society is going to work with us in regards to how they implement that program. If we end up having a stationary type location for that type of stuff we are thinking about using the old pump house at the top of the hill at Starr’s Mill. Then the people at Starr’s Mill, when they are open that day of the month, they can send them up the hill to take a look. They are going to coordinate all that effort. He said Alice Reeves was gracious enough to say she would help us.

Mr. Ray updated the committee on the rain event on Saturday. He said we had six to seven inches of rain. He showed pictures of Lake Peachtree, the children’s park and the spillway. Mr. Holland commented that Lake Peachtree appears to be a bit high to him, in the last month or so it has seemed to be higher than he has ever seen it. Mr. Ray said he asked James to talk to the engineer about the exact invert elevation on the dam. He said he thinks it is 748.5. He pointed out the water is up in some of the boat houses.

Mr. Bodwell asked if we lower Lake Peachtree in anticipation of a big rain event. Mr. Ray said we are not in the practice of doing that. Mr. Bodwell asked if we are willing to do it. Mr. Ray said there is a drain. Mr. Rapson said he thinks Peachtree City’s position has been the areas that have flooded historically will probably continue to flood, if we did release a lot of water, then we would create flooding problems downstream. With eight inches of rainfall, we could have had the gates wide open and he does not think it would have changed a whole lot. The spillway was not designed to address flooding concerns, it was designed to maintain the level of the lake. It is working exactly how it was designed.

Mr. Ray showed a photo of one of the USGS gage stations downstream of Lake Peachtree. We fund these sites for collection of data. He then showed a photo of the bridge below the spillway, the pump station on the lake, the old intake structure, the new dam. He pointed out where the water typically is, as well as showing the first and second tier levels. The water made it over the second tier on Saturday. The upper tiers are based on the 500 year flood. Mr. Rapson said he believes we have hit the second tiers twice since they were built. This is the second time. We have one 50” gate. That is a lot more water than a 50” gate that was flowing through there. He stated he thinks the lake is definitely at full pool. Full pool probably looks a lot different than what it has probably looked like for the last year and half that it has been operational.

Mr. Ray showed the graph from the gage in the stream below Lake Kedron from the USGS web site. Mr. Rapson commented that the rain event we experienced on Saturday is the same kind of event we would experience if a Category 3 came through and dumped on us for a day.

Mr. Ray pointed out the lake level at Lake Peachtree (for example), 784.5; prior to the rain, then we had the big event and we went just over 3 feet in one day. With the dry conditions we had for two solid weeks, Lake Horton is a big surface water lake, 650 acres; 780 is full pool; during that rain event it filled back up and it is above full pool again.

Mr. Holland asked if we had any damage downstream. Mr. Ray replied he is not aware of any. Mr. Rapson said that gets back to the argument, if there was damage, it is not because of the lake level being higher than the lake level historically has been. If you open up a 50” gate and you open up the liability of now you have actually caused harm and how much of the harm is due to your 50” gate versus natural water flow over your dam.

Mr. Ray then showed photos at Lake McIntosh, including the launch for handicap; below the dam and a pathway down below Line Creek. He then showed the Flint River pump station; presently we are not using it since Lake Horton is full. He pointed out the device on the bridge, the wet well, the HVAC, the device that was added to screen debris from coming into the wet well; the USGS station mounted at the bridge and the water that was backed up. There were no problems.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public. Mr. Holland asked for an update on the status of replacing the Water System Director. Mr. Rapson said as of yesterday, we have fourteen applicants. We have two people that have contacted Lewis that intend to apply and we are probably going to close that at the end of the next week and start setting up interviews.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

Steve Rapson made a motion to adjourn the Water Committee June 12, 2019 meeting. Bill Holland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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 10th day of July, 2019.

Lisa Speegle

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: June 26, 2019