

WATER COMMITTEE
JULY 14, 2004
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Chuck Watkins, Chairman**
 Dr. George Patton, Vice Chairman
 Chris Cofty
 Tony Parrott
 Chris Venice

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: **Jim Mallett**

STAFF PRESENT: **Dennis Davenport**
 Russell Ray

ABSENT: **Bill McNally**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chuck Watkins at 8:00 A.M.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON JUNE 23, 2004.

Tony Parrott made the motion and Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 23, 2004. There was no opposition.

II. DISCUSSION OF RE-INTRODUCING GRASS CARP INTO LAKE PEACHTREE.

Mr. Parrott reported that after the dredging of Lake Peachtree, we began to get some grass growing again. We still treat a 17 to 28 acre area around the intake with copper sulfate to keep the grass down at the deeper end because of taste and odor. He went on to say that Al Messick had called and asked if we had noticed how much more the grass is growing. A greenish tint is beginning to start to show up around the shoreline.

Mr. Parrott went on to say that 1500 grass carp that are 8 to 10 inches long would cost \$6.00 each. The 10 to 12 inch size would cost 7.35 each. Other prices will be checked and he will verify with Fish & Wildlife the number of carp that are needed for the lake. The number needed is determined by how much grass there is and the size of the lake.

Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton made a motion for the Water Committee to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to put a certain number (whatever is recommended by the experts) of grass carp to control the grass in Lake Peachtree. Chris Cofty seconded and there was no opposition.

III. UPDATE ON RADIO READ METER INSTALLATION.

Mr. Parrott reported the last phase of the radio read meter installation is nearly complete. Utility Partners of America are installing over 200 per day. They will finish Monday or Tuesday of next week. All but a little over 100 of the 3/4" meters will have been changed out with this five year project. The ones that are not changed out have different plumbing problems. The homeowners plumber did not connect properly when the house was built. There have been very few problems with this project. It has worked very well. This has been nearly a \$4,000,000 project over the five years.

IV. DISCUSSION OF FEES AT LAKE KEDRON AND STARR'S MILL.

Mr. Parrott explained that during the Board of Commissioner's discussion about fees they were interested in looking at fees for Lake Kedron and Starr's Mill because they want to be consistent. They approved fees at Lake Horton, but there was some dissension because they want to look at uniformity across all places for fishing.

Attorney Dennis Davenport commented that in talking with Mr. McNally, he seems concerned because part of the funds for Lake Kedron were through a Federal Grant for drinking water. It had nothing to do with recreation. There might be some issue with charging fees at Lake Kedron. They are getting those documents from off-site storage, and will review them to determine, if in fact, it is possible to do something like this with the presence of a Federal Grant.

Chairman Watkins commented that he remembers several years ago the argument came up about trying to restrict usage at Kedron or disallow someone to use the park.

The Committee further discussed National Parks charging fees. Attorney Davenport explained that the difference in Lake Kedron is the Federal Government has given the County some money and attached a lot of strings to it. We have to look at all the restrictions of what the County can and cannot do and determine whether within that group of restrictions you can charge fees for fishing at Lake Kedron.

Mr. Parrott commented that a problem at Starr's Mill is we don't own all of it. When talking about fishing, if someone is fishing in a boat, the Marshal's office is going to have the problem of determining whether they put in from adjoining property or whether they put in on the County side. We own about 17 acres. The stream channel is closer to our side. Starr's Mill is roughly 60 acres. When people fish close to the bridge, they are on DOT right-of-way.

OUTDOOR WATERING SCHEDULE

Mr. Parrott reported the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners made a request about

our going with our outdoor watering schedule that we have used since 1986. The response came in less than seven days. It stated that Fayette County needs to adopt the DNR Rules for Outdoor Water Use by August 1, 2004. They would not consider letting us keep the odd/even we have had since 1986 that was actually working. The Board will consider going to their restrictions at the July 22 meeting. You will not be able to water on Friday. If you have an even address you get Saturday and if you are an odd address you get Sunday and it never changes.

Each city will adopt their own rules for enforcement. Vegetable gardens can be watered any time.

There being no further business, Chairman Chuck Watkins adjourned the meeting at 8:35 A.M.

Chuck Watkins

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 28th day of July, 2004.

Lisa McElwaney