

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
**MARCH 8, 2006**  
**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chuck Watkins, Chairman  
Dr. George Patton, Vice Chairman  
Tony Parrott  
Chris Venice  
Pete Frisina

**ABSENT:**

Bill McNally  
Jim Mallett

**STAFF PRESENT:**

David Jaeger  
Russell Ray

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

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 22, 2006.**

Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton made the motion and Tony Parrott seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on February 22, 2006. There was no opposition.

**II. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE.**

Mr. Parrott reported that the subcommittee discussed the septic and sewer issue. To go further, the subcommittee needs some direction from the Board on how to proceed on the different options. When Mr. Kilgore spoke with the subcommittee he stated he did not see a problem with the installation of any of these systems. They hinge on what kind of maintenance is performed and the follow up for reporting.

Chris Venice suggested an issue paper be prepared for the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Parrott stated an issue paper could be prepared from minutes that have been taken at the meetings. Pete Frisina stated he also has some information that could be used. Mrs. Venice asked if this item could be ready to go on the first April meeting agenda for the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Parrott replied, yes.

Mr. Parrott commented that he had been given the impression from a Department of Natural Resources staff member, that if a local ordinance had been passed, the State would take this into consideration when approving these systems. This was new information to the members of the subcommittee, and Mr. Parrott stated he is trying to verify this information.

Chairman Watkins stated that he felt the subcommittee should make a recommendation to the Water Committee, and then a recommendation go to the Board of Commissioners from

the Water Committee.

Mr. Parrott commented that the subcommittee is continuing the waterline extension discussion and should have a report on this item at the next meeting.

### **III. CUSTOMER SERVICE POLICIES.**

Mr. Parrott explained that the DNR audit on policy and procedures is requiring a policy, as part of the conservation plan from the Metropolitan North Georgia Planning District, for each apartment within a multi-family complex to have its own meter. You can still have a master meter serve the complex, but they want the complex to install individual meters for each apartment. It cuts down on the amount of water that apartments use. The last two sets of apartments that were built, sub-metered their apartments to start with. It benefits them because the person who uses more water pays more for it. They don't have to balance it across the entire complex. The Water System has not been approving water service without sub-metering. DNR wants a separate code adoption in each jurisdiction, which means Peachtree City, Fayetteville and Tyrone and the unincorporated County would have to do separate adoptions.

Mr. Parrott recommended that the Water System adopt a policy to require sub-metering and before they are given service, we inspect to be sure they have installed sub-meters for the project.

Chairman Watkins questioned the cost of installing all the meters. Mr. Parrott explained that it saves money because tenants conserve water and report leaks that need repair quicker.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of this policy. Vice Chairman Dr. Patton seconded and there was no opposition.

Mr. Parrott presented a draft Red B Gone procedure. He also presented a report that outlined what some of the surrounding Water Systems do in this discolored water situation. Henry County's Plant Manager makes the decision on reimbursements. Mr. Parrott stated that we would continue to give Red B Gone to customers when they have an incident with discolored water in their washing machine along with more concise directions for correct use of the product.

The committee discussed not giving out the product, reimbursement of ruined clothing, and other counties using the same type product. Mr. Parrott pointed out that this is a problem all water system's have. This type of product takes care of most problems. We need to provide better instructions for using the product.

Customer Service would gather information about a problem that was not corrected by Red B Gone, then pass it along to the Director for approval and recommendations to the Water Committee and Board of Commissioners. At night and on the weekends, water

plant operators are the first ones in contact with the customer. Customer Service follows up on all complaints because plant operators rotate shifts and we need someone to follow through during 8 to 5 working hours.

Mr. Parrott made a recommendation to approve the policy as presented with the change of clearer direction on the decision of reimbursements to customers. He agreed to bring the policy back to the Committee at the next meeting for review.

**SENATE BILL 575 – RETRO FIT ON RE-SALE**

Mr. Parrott commented on the retrofit of resale, Senate Bill 575. We don't have to do anything at the current time, however, it is something we may have to develop a policy on in the future. The bill would "require local governments to refuse water service on any building sold after January 1, 2007, unless said building contained low-flow plumbing (faucets, toilets, shower heads, etc.)." Mrs. Venice commented that this would affect older homes for sale that have to go to the expense of the retro fit before they can even sell the house. Mr. Parrott pointed out that we would have about 13,000 customers that existed before 1992 that could be affected. Further discussion pertained to who would do inspections of the change outs. This bill affects the 16 county metro-area, and is the responsibility of the local government to do the retro fit. Average price for retro-fit is just under \$1,000.00.

There being no further business, Chairman Chuck Watkins adjourned the meeting at 8:40 A.M.

---

Chuck Watkins

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 22nd day of March, 2006.

---

Lisa McElwaney