

WATER COMMITTEE
MARCH 22, 2006
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Bill McNally

ABSENT:

Jim Mallett

STAFF PRESENT:

David Jaeger
Russell Ray

GUEST:

Rod Wright

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON MARCH 8, 2006.

Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton made the motion and Tony Parrott seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on March 8, 2006. There was no opposition.

II. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE.

Mr. Parrott reported that the subcommittee met last week and discussed the septic and small wastewater treatment plants. Bartow County has an ordinance that limits the installation of these type facilities. In talking to a staff member from EPD, they are honoring the fact that they have an ordinance that won't allow it. This gives us a fourth option to consider. One of the few facilities we have of this type is in Tyrone, Swanson Ridge. It has been having some problems. Recently one was installed at Millbrook at Tyrone. This facility has been in less than two years and is having trouble. It is a community septic system that has approximately 60 lots hooked up to it.

The Board of Health made the decision they will inspect all installations, whether they are State permitted or Health department permitted. However, the question came up about the systems that are inside the city limits. The Board of Health will need to communicate with them on the inspection process.

WATERLINE EXTENSIONS

Mr. Parrott reported that the subcommittee discussed different ways to have homeowners participate in line extensions. They also discussed the current policy of having developers installing waterlines for their developments. The subcommittee does not have a recommendation for the Water Committee at this time. They are still reviewing options, how much to fund for line extensions, and participation of the homeowner groups.

Currently there are two different ways for homeowners to participate. The fire department reimburses the cost of fire hydrants. We have a participation program for developers for waterlines. The subcommittee will have a report at a future Water Committee meeting.

Rod Wright requested to speak to the committee. Chairman Watkins asked if there were any objections from the committee in allowing Mr. Wright to speak since he was not on the agenda. There were no objections and Mr. Wright addressed the committee.

Mr. Wright asked for consideration of his request. He is planning to build a development off Highway 92, just south of Woolsey. The water stops at Woolsey, and it is approximately two miles down 92 to get to the property. By the zoning, he does not have to put water in, but he would like to. The Commissioners are in favor and have made note of water and stuff like that. Of course, he wants to bring water down to it, it would make it a better community. They ran the water down Goza Road, which was enlarged, and the County paid for the increase of size from 8" to 20". It is a lot of money going in, to run the water down Highway 92. It is pushing close to a half million dollars to put the water in.

Mr. Wright asked for consideration to consider how somehow, over a period of term he could recoup something, because he knows people up and down the 92 corridor, that he is running down 2 miles of waterline, people are going to want to tap onto that line. It would benefit the water community and everything by running the water. He is asking can he be involved in recouping some of that money that he is putting in to go down there. He has an engineer working on all the plans to see how much water he needs for the development and see what size pipe he has to put down there to get the water to him. Will he be able to accommodate more people? If he is running an 8" line two miles and that is all he needs, will that limit everybody else from getting onto the water, which would interfere with the flow? Do we need to increase the size?

Chairman Watkins commented that we would increase the size of the line to what is beneficial overall for the County. Right now, the subcommittee is updating and looking at different ways to modify this policy. They will take Mr. Wright's comments into consideration. Right now, if he needs an 8" for his particular project, and we wanted to put a 20" in, we would pay the difference.

Attorney McNally asked Mr. Wright how large the development would be. Mr. Wright responded that he has 393 acres on the left side of the road headed south. It will be 61 lots. On the right side of the road he has 15 acres that is zoned 1 acre. There will probably end up being about 12 houses on the right with a total of 73 homes. He had been told that the County is not interested in being involved or increasing the size of the waterline to upgrade it. He is hoping to be involved. It is between \$400,000 and \$500,000 to run the water down there. He asked for the committee's consideration of that. He would like to run the water for himself and the community.

III. CUSTOMER SERVICE POLICIES.

Mr. Parrott commented that one of our customer service policies is to provide Red Be Gone to the customer. He presented an updated procedure that had the requested changes. He went on to say that the bottle will be provided with a written set of instructions. The print on the bottle is small and complicated.

Attorney McNally asked about the procedure of showing damage. He asked for clarification on getting a Marshal's office report before determining if we would replace damaged clothing. Chris Venice stated that a customer request for reimbursement of clothing should trigger a Marshal's report. Once you get the Marshal's report, then you determine the next step.

Mr. Parrott stated he would have the wording in the policy changed. Further discussion pertained to handling situations case by case, when and how often this happens and responsibility of the Water System.

IV. ANTIOCH ROAD WATERLINE.

Mr. Parrott explained that there are two wells at Lake Horton that provide water to two rest rooms. The water quality at neither well is equal to the water we provide anywhere else. The water fountain at the north well is cut off, because it has iron bacteria. It is red and we can't clear it up. We have re-sterilized the well, and put in a filter. He recommended running a waterline down Antioch Road to replace the service of the two wells for the rest rooms and put a fire hydrant at the end of the line, near the Lake Horton pump station. This is one of the keys to our system and we need to have fire protection there. There was an incident about a couple of years ago, that a man soldering set some insulation on fire. The project will cost approximately \$300,000.00 using prices from the current annual contract with Shockley. He recommended taking this out of the Extension and Renewal fund.

Chairman Watkins stated that we should have done this in the beginning, now he cannot see spending the money. Not for two drinking fountains and two bathrooms.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to extend the waterline down Antioch to service the Lake Horton Park. Chris Venice seconded for discussion. Vice Chairman Patton asked for clarification of the location of the line. Mr. Parrott stated it will start at the intersection of Brooks Woolsey Road and Antioch Road. The homes along Antioch Road would have the opportunity to tie on. An 8" line would be installed. Vice Chairman Patton stated at some point the County might want to build a lodge at Lake Horton and the line should be big enough to take care of that in the event it ever happens. Potentially there are about 20 houses that could be picked up. A development is building at the corner of Brooks Woolsey Road and Antioch and we would pick up where they leave off.

Chairman Watkins called for the vote. Four were in favor with Chairman Watkins opposed. Chairman Watkins commented that the reason he opposed is because he wishes

we had done this in the beginning. For some reason we did not have a chance to do that. We have a gentleman here wanting an extension for his service, and we are going to provide service for two bathrooms for \$300,000.00.

Chris Venice stated there is no potable drinking water at the park. Chairman Watkins stated it should be a passive park and you bring your own water. Attorney McNally stated it was a passive park in the beginning; however the nature of it has changed.

V. TRAILS AT LAKE HORTON.

Mr. Parrott made the recommendation to ask the Board to bid the 4,000 feet of trails on the McCalla place and to pay for the project out of R & E, like we did the other trails at Lake Horton. Since this is a non budgeted item, we need to get Board approval to do the bid. Then the Water Committee will review the responses and make a recommendation on the contractor or doing the project. Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton seconded this motion and there was no opposition.

A question was asked about the total amount of trails. We now have two miles, and this is another 8/10ths. It is about 2.8 or 2.9. All improvements at Lake Horton have been paid out of Water System funds.

DAVID JAEGER APPOINTED MEMBER:

Chairman Watkins commented that David Jaeger is present at most Water Committee meetings, since Jim Mallett is semi-retired; he suggested that Mr. Jaeger be a member of the Water Committee. He stated that he does a great job. He made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that David Jaeger be appointed as a member of the Water Committee. Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton seconded and there was no opposition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Parrott made a motion to adjourn to executive session for discussion of one legal item. Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton seconded and the committee adjourned to executive session.

Attorney McNally briefed the committee on one legal item. No action was taken.

There being no further business, Chairman Chuck Watkins adjourned the meeting at 9:00 A.M.

Chuck Watkins

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 12th day of April, 2006.

Lisa McElwaney