



Water Committee Minutes  
October 29, 2025  
8:30 A.M.

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Committee Members Present:	Bryan Keller, Chair; Environmental Management Director Jeff Hill, Vice-Chair; Chief of Fire & Emergency Services Steve Rapson, County Administrator Vanessa Tigert, Water System Director Jim Poff, Citizen Representative William Yarde, Citizen Representative
Absent:	Bill Holland, Citizen Representative
Committee Non-Voting Members:	Patrick Stough, County Attorney Michael Diaz, Arcadis Aaron Capelouto, Arcadis
Staff Present:	Susan Lee, Water Production & Operations Manager Carrie Gibby, Business Operations Manager Anita Godbee, Parks & Recreation Director Courtney Hassenzahl, Environmental Mgmt. Asst Director Lindsey Choisset, Engineering Technician

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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bryan Keller at 8:32 A.M.

Acceptance of Agenda

**Vanessa Tigert moved to accept the agenda as written. Jim Poff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

1. Approval of the August 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes  
**Jeff Hill moved to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2025 meeting. Jim Poff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
2. Approval of the 2026 Water Committee Meeting Schedule  
**Jim Poff moved to approve the proposed 2026 Water Committee meeting schedule. Vanessa Tigert seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**  
**Bryan Keller then moved to amend the approved 2026 meeting schedule by**

changing the November 11, 2026 meeting date to November 18, 2026. Vanessa Tigert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. System Updates

Susan Lee reported on the Fiscal Year 2025 initiatives for both treatment plants. Chemical system upgrades are approximately 90% complete, and final bid documents are pending. Improvements to the carbon system at the Crosstown Plant are also planned, and the telescoping valve for Lake Kedron is expected mid-November.

Mr. Rapson noted that the most impactful initiatives are the Standard Operating Procedures for Development and Operator Training Expansion, which will standardize operations across both plants. Ms. Lee shared that several new operators have been hired and are completing cross-departmental training.

Ms. Lee also announced that Fayette County Water System received first place in the state for its Consumer Confidence Report and that she will accept the award at the Georgia Association of Water Professionals Fall Conference.

The Assistant Field Operations Assistant Manager recently departed; interviews for the position are scheduled for next week. Arcadis is continuing formalized training for staff, including leak diagnosis and service line repair.

Staff are also updating the system's Risk and Resilience Assessment and Emergency Response Plan under the American Water Infrastructure Act.

Carrie Gibby discussed efforts to expand the Water System's on-call program through cross-training with other county departments. Mr. Rapson added that third-party contracts are also being used to supplement staffing needs, reflecting industry-wide challenges in hiring and retaining skilled trade workers.

4. Director's Report

Vanessa Tigert reported that the update to the 2005 Cross-Connection Ordinance reflects current practices. Contractors on new developments will now install and test backflow devices, with results submitted to the County's third-party vendor, The Compliance Engine.

**Jim Poff moved to make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to approve the updated Cross-Connection Ordinance. Steve Rapson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

A tentative Master Concept Plan for the Starrs Mill Education Center will be presented for public feedback immediately following this meeting. Neither the Board of Commissioners (BOC) nor the citizens have yet reviewed the plan. We'll take feedback into consideration before presenting the Plan to the BOC.

Two Water Committee terms will expire December 31, 2025. Interviews will be scheduled after the November 7 application deadline.

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Committee's Comments

William Yarde asked about a waterline leak protection insurance distributed to residents. It was noted that the mailing was from a third-party vendor unaffiliated with Fayette County, and participation is at the discretion of individual residents.

Adjournment

Jeff Hill moved to adjourn the October 29, 2025 Water Committee meeting. Vanessa Tigert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 A.M.



Bryan D. Keller, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 14 day of January, 2026.



Lindsey Choiset, Water Committee Clerk