

WATER COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 12, 2018
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pete Frisina, Chairman
James Preau, Vice Chairman
Steve Rapson, County Administrator
Lee Pope, Water System Director
Commissioner Steve Brown

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Dennis Davenport, County Attorney
Jason Bodwell, CH2M/Jacobs

STAFF PRESENT:

Blaze Jeffrey, Parks & Recreation
Russell Ray, Matt Bergen

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON AUGUST 8, 2018.

Lee Pope made the motion and Commissioner Steve Brown seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on August 8, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

II. LAKE HORTON SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST.

Blaze Jeffrey thanked the Committee for allowing them to do their Star Gazing event at Lake Horton last time. They had a great turn out, about 300 people showed up for both of those. The Astronomy Club loved it and would like to do it again. He said they are asking for three dates. This is through the Flint River Astronomy Club; they are a club trying to grow, trying to get some younger folks involved.

Mr. Jeffrey stated the three dates they are requesting are all Fridays with a rain date of a Saturday; November 2, February 8, and April 12. The November and February dates will be 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and April will be 7:30 to 11:00 based upon light.

Mr. Rapson made a motion to approve the request for November 2, and February 8 and to keep the park open from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., as well as April 12 from 7:30 to 11:00 for the Star Gazing event. Commissioner Steve Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. WATER PLANT UPDATE.

Lee Pope reported that Leigh Jester with our consultant is working with our vendor for the filter controls and the media at the South Fayette Plant so we can move forward with the implementation of their recommendations for what we need

to do to bring those filters up to speed at the South Fayette Plant. We spent several million dollars at the Crosstown Plant remodeling the filters, but at South Fayette after CH's study we found that they were not in as bad a shape as Crosstown so we are just going to do a few upgrades to the controls and actually just top off the media. We are not even going to have to replace the media. They did some testing at their lab in Corvallis and the media came back that it still has some useful life. He said Leigh is moving forward with that and Mr. Rapson has approved the task order.

Mr. Pope went on to say we are readjusting the chemical modification for the South Fayette Plant; one thing we are looking at is what we are going to do for carbon there since we are having a lot of problems with the carbon feeder we purchased at Crosstown. We are thinking we might not want to look at that feed system again, so we are looking at maybe a different feed system at the South Fayette Plant. Two things that play in here is the carbon feed system at Crosstown is a much higher volume feed system than what we think we are going to need at South Fayette and that is due to the Water Selectors that are going in. We are probably not going to need to use as much carbon now that we are going to be bringing in a lot better quality of water into the plant. He said he thinks Mr. Rapson talked extensively about the carbon feed savings and we didn't even talk about the fact that it may save us several hundred thousand dollars on a computer that we are going to have to purchase at South Fayette, so that wasn't even worked into his savings calculations.

Mr. Pope explained that we did have a manganese event over one of the weekends back in August. He said you are going to see some Atlanta usage; we are an independent system, but we don't put out high manganese water into our system; these were some issues this system faced years ago; so we did have to purchase some water from Atlanta until we got things back on track. There again, the Water Selectors would have helped us in that event; we would not have had this water coming into the plant.

Mr. Pope stated we are meeting today with staff to prepare for Hurricane Florence; supposedly it was headed north, but now it looks like it is actually turning more toward the Savannah area, so may see it hit South Carolina and carry on over into Savannah and Atlanta. He said we test our generators weekly, so they should be alright, but we want to make sure they are topped off and ready to go and the plant personnel are appraised of that situation. We will continue to watch it. He said Michael Singleton sends out regular updates on that; he does a great job with the county and keeps us informed. He said we thought it was going to head north and would bypass us and we might need to see if we would need to send staff to assist, but it looks like it may head our way now. We will be prepared for that later today.

Mr. Pope stated we have the Tank Maintenance Bid opened, the information is in to CH and they are preparing to make a recommendation to Mr. Rapson. They are

talking that out and will bring it to the Committee, hopefully at the next meeting for a recommendation to the Board.

Jason Bodwell reported the specs are written on the filter replenishment. He said he has to get with Ted to figure out how to sole source that; the same with the filter control change out; we need to understand with Ted how we sole source that; he said we are getting close; they have been working with the vendors.

Mr. Pope explained the online turbidimeters, as part of our compliance monitoring at both plants; we are currently with Hach, which is the company everybody used to use. Now, fortunately, we have several companies that are in the mix; he said we have looked at several different companies and we will probably be moving away from Hach. The reason is every so often they retire their equipment and it goes out of service; and they are not going to support it. So this 1720D we are currently operating, at the end of December, they will no longer support, which means we will be looking at EBay and everywhere else to get the light bulbs and things we need to keep those operational. With all that said, it is time to upgrade all our online monitoring equipment and we have found that there are several other companies that now have state approval. He said he will keep the Committee updated as it moves forward. He said he will be looking at changing out some of our online monitoring equipment that will keep us in compliance.

Mr. Pope reported we had a surprise follow up visit from the State last Friday. They came by to do a follow up on the Sanitary Survey and it seemed to go extremely well. She will do a write up and let us know. Supposedly, we had addressed all their comments from the earlier Sanitary Survey and she saw no issues with our operations. He said that went well and we will see what comes back in the letter.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Commissioner Brown reported they did Lake Horton; it was the last one of the year for Water Guardians. They pulled up another pickup load full of trash. He said they filled two fifty five gallon bags to the rim with trash, just around the picnic pavilion area, on the ground. He said it is just incredible; all the trash that was in the woods. There were two ladies that literally filled two fifty five gallon bags of trash just around the picnic pavilion; much less what they pulled out of the water. They still pull out bizarre things such as car tires, iron beams and lawn chairs. He said he has that on the agenda for the next Committee meeting to see where we want to go with that next year. There are some people that are still willing to take it on. He said they are going to recognize the Water Guardian folks at the meeting on Thursday. He asked Jason if he could be there as one of the sponsors, they would love to recognize him as well.

Mr. Pope commented this is a worthwhile event because every time we have one, we are thinking how we are going to find anything because we just did this and every time we come up with all kinds of stuff.

Commissioner Brown commented every time it rains, he keeps trying to tell people, it is not necessarily the trash that is coming out of our area; some of it is washing downstream and we are getting everybody else's' trash. You have to look at it that way too. He said he did have one person who wasn't part of the Water Guardians event who caught him and they went over the restrooms at Horton and they were talking about what we can do. He said it looked like there was some black mold on the floor. He said he noticed there is really no ventilation in those restrooms; it is kind of a sealed box. Once you get the moisture in there, he does not know how we get it out unless you have somebody going in there opening the doors and leaving them open every now and then. That might be something to look at.

Mr. Pope said we are supposed to be checking the ventilation fans. Those have ventilation fans. Commissioner Brown said there was no air; you could see there was no air moving in there. This was in the morning and it was just really warm and dank.

Mr. Pope said we are already headed on the budget to paint those, pressure wash the flooring and put a coating on the floors. We are doing some coating on the floors at the plants so we are considering doing those same coatings in the restrooms to make it easier for us to pressure wash them out and we already have a vendor that is supposed to be installing new stalls. The new stalls are on the way, we already noticed they needed a face lift.

Commissioner Brown went on to ask if they have put the ramp back on yet; for the kayaks and the canoes. Mr. Pope said he thinks Carlos had ordered some parts. He said this was bad timing; they had the Water Guardian event and we had just had a storm. Mr. Rapson commented this was the same time there was a water leak in the restrooms and the water was turned off. Commissioner Brown said it was, he had called Lee in sheer desperation. Mr. Pope said they fixed it Friday night, but they did not realize there was an event. Commissioner Brown commented they did a good job fixing it.

Mr. Rapson reported we have two new resident representative recommendations on this meeting coming up Thursday night. Bill Holland and Frank Destadio are being recommended.

Mr. Rapson reported the pump house at the spillway is being painted, and we are attempting to relocate the USGS gage off that pole and bury it. Peachtree City is planning on paving from where the new spillway is all the way up to 74; so obviously if it is going to have to be under the road and the gage has to be placed on the other side, now that we have a new spillway we need to move the gage, we need to go figure out how the gauge is moved so we don't have to cut the road after they pave it. We are all trying to coordinate all that.

Mr. Pope commented that USGS was supposed to send him some dates to come down and meet; they are talking about relocating it a little closer to the spillway and they may go with a solar panel on it. Mr. Rapson commented if that is the case, we either go ahead and bury a one inch conduit under the road and then let them pave it and then if we need it, we need it, if we don't we don't, but if we are going to do something with that road, let's go ahead and get that done. Even have the conduit there capped at both ends is probably not going to hurt anything. They are going to pave the road from the spillway all the way up to 74 so it all looks nice and then they are also going to be redoing the golf cart path over by the pump house.

He said what we are trying to do is get everything we need underground before they pave all that and then we have to cut a new path. Mr. Pope commented we are going to have to cut a new road. Mr. Rapson commented they have already paved up to the school.

Mr. Rapson stated there is a meeting next Friday with Piedmont Hospital to discuss having a dual connection for the hospital because we think it is a good idea to have redundancy for the water. This is the preliminary meeting of the engineer to talk about the extension of our waterline; to tap in and do some redundancy. When we had the Graves Road incident they did not lose water, but it came close enough it is a concern.

Mr. Pope commented he and Mr. Rapson's concern is that the hospital, since he has been here, in just five years has grown in size, they have an entire new wing. He said he does not know if anybody has thought about their water infrastructure to make sure they have redundancy; that is not a hospital that could be easily relocated, should they lose pressure or water. We have got to figure out some way to get them some redundant water. Commissioner Brown commented this is a very good idea.

V. ADJOURNMENT.

Steve Rapson made a motion to adjourn the Water Committee September 12, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Steve Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:15 A.M.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 26th day of September, 2018.

Lisa Speegle