

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
**SEPTEMBER 26, 2018**  
**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Pete Frisina, Chairman  
James Preau, Vice Chairman  
Lee Pope, Water System Director  
Commissioner Steve Brown  
Frank Destadio  
Bill Holland

**ABSENT:**

Steve Rapson, County Administrator

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**

Dennis Davenport, County Attorney  
Jason Bodwell, CH2M/Jacobs

**GUEST:**

Tony Parrott

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Russell Ray

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

Chairman Frisina welcomed the two new committee members Frank Destadio and Bill Holland, and then all the members introduced themselves.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2018.**

Lee Pope made the motion and Vice Chairman Preau seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on September 12, 2018. The motion passed with Frank Destadio and Bill Holland abstaining.

**II. WATER GUARDIANS PROGRAM FOR 2019.**

Commissioner Brown explained he helped start a program and Jason's firm has been nice enough to help participate and obviously Lee and his staff is working with us. He said they get their kayaks and canoes and they go clean up all the water reservoirs throughout the county. He said it is called Water Guardians; they also have people who walk the parking lots and walk the asphalt paths in the area. They clean up everything to do with those reservoirs and the parks surrounding them. He stated he is working his way off the Board by the end of the year. This is a program they have done for three years. He said Leah Williams sent an email letter which is included in the packet; she has worked with him for all three years, since the very first event. She is just a local citizen who really appreciates clean water.

Commissioner Brown said Leah is probably going to be the person that takes over and keeps the program going. She has expressed an interest in doing that. He said one thing he wanted to get from the Committee is an endorsement to continue the program. The way it works is Jason's firm is fortunate enough for us to supply the food. We feed them a lunch after everybody cleans up.

Mr. Pope commented that he has already committed to next year for us to be able to continue the program. Commissioner Brown said awesome, that is wonderful. J R Ramos, who is in the catering business, prepares the food for free of charge, brings his catering trailer, sets up everything, works four hours and does it absolutely free, every event. Lee and his staff provide all the supplies, the trash grabbers, and trash bags; we also give them a t-shirt when they participate, one per year; so they can have something that shows that they are part of the event. It has been a real successful program. He said they pick up literally truckloads full of trash.

Mr. Pope said from his stand when this was initiated he thought we are going to go around and clean up reservoirs one good time and then we are going to go back and it is just going to be spotty, but it hasn't been. Every time, it is like did we even clean this one? People have a good point, he thinks it is from the rain and stuff coming in, it is not necessarily all of our citizens going out there and throwing stuff down. He thinks a lot of it comes in with the rain.

Mr. Pope said this has been very successful and the Water System is certainly on board with moving forward with supporting it because it has been a really good program to bring the community together and we have cleaned up our waters. Mr. Destadio commented he was surprised at the pictures at the volume shown that was out there. Commissioner Brown commented that it is incredible. He said there have been some days they have had to leave trash in place because they just ran out of time and couldn't get it all. When Kedron was lowered, one of the reasons why they were able to get more trash on a continual basis is a lot of times the trash sinks. It takes on water and it just submerges. Because we are getting out there more often during the warm months when you get all the activity, we are actually able to get more of that trash before it washes off the bank and submerges. That has been a huge benefit. He went on to say that we try to get all of them twice; they got Lake Peachtree once, but all the others they got twice. That really helps in terms of getting it out of the lake instead of having it sink to the bottom.

Commissioner Brown explained the reason they want the endorsement from the Committee and then he will just take it forward to the Board after this is that Leah has to do some lead work on some of this stuff. Luckily, Jason has already volunteered to do the food again, but she needs to set things up with staff and get everything going, so she wants to know if she needs to do that.

Mr. Pope made a motion that the Water Committee continue to endorse and support the initiative of the Water Guardians program moving forward into the 2019 year. Mr. Destadio seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Frisina commented to Commissioner Brown that he gives him credit; this is a great program he started and it is great. People seemed to be excited to go out there and do it. Commissioner Brown said what was interesting when they first started, they said canoes and kayaks. What started the whole thing was he was out there one day in Lake McIntosh and he got mad about all the trash. He picked up as much trash as he could; he had a trash bag he keeps in case he needs to water tight anything he will tie the bag off. He filled up an entire trash bag full of trash and still left a bunch of it out there. When he got back to the boat dock he literally couldn't get out of the kayak because he had packed so much trash inside, it had pinned his legs inside. He was taking out the trash one piece at a time and placing it on the boat dock. Everybody was accusing him of littering and he loved it. This woman came up yelling "why are you throwing all that trash"! He said it occurred to him at that point, if there were eight or nine of us we could have picked up all that trash and we could have done that in no time flat. Now, he has gone from hoping to have ten people to having fifty people show up.

Mr. Pope commented some without kayaks. Commissioner Brown said yes and half of the people don't even have a kayak or a canoe, they are just walking the banks and going to the wooded areas and doing the paths and the parking lots. It is amazing how it has evolved. It has just kind of grown. He said we have had people as young as age 4 and as old as 95. It has been a good program and a lot of fun.

Jason Bodwell commented back at the office they try to encourage everybody to do at least one event per client throughout the year. They say, if you do one event throughout the year, we are going to cover all our clients and do community activity. He said he tells everybody there is no better one than this. He said paddling your kayak, paddle board or your boat around some of the most beautiful lakes around; a pretty easy sell to get some people to volunteer back at the office to participate in something like this. Commissioner Brown commented Jason holds one of the prizes for largest pieces of trash able to haul in. He literally had what looked like a pickup truck tire with the wheel still in it. He was able to bring it back on his kayak. That was a huge balancing act trying to paddle back in.

### **III. LAKE HORTON PUMP STATION (BAMBOO GROWTH).**

Commissioner Brown explained the last Water Guardians event was at Lake Horton and he had some great conversations with some lake users there who weren't part of the Water Guardians project, but they were stopping him knowing who he was and having some discussions with him. One of them was the restrooms and he has already raised that with Lee. There seems to be a mold issue, because there is a lack of ventilation in some of those rest rooms. He said he thinks Lee is on that right now. The other one is invasive species in the water and around the water. He said he does not believe that we actually have a policy on what we do. He said he thinks that would probably be worth looking at.

Mr. Pope commented lily pads, hydrilla; not in large quantities yet, but the lily pads have actually gotten pretty big at Lake McIntosh. Commissioner Brown said Lake McIntosh is always big and he thinks it is that farmer and he thinks it is the run off from his field. Matter of fact, that guy, on many occasions, because he kayaks there often, he is cutting our grass on our land all the way down to the edge of the water and then he has a spray truck and he knows he has a spray truck because he has seen it out there. He is spraying something on whatever he is planting out there. It is straight downhill to the water system. He thinks that is what is causing all that invasive growth in Lake McIntosh, but he thinks it is something we might want to look at in terms of a policy thing and say what we are going to do. The bamboo growth at Lake Horton is just incredible. Eventually, we all know what happens with bamboo, and how it spreads. That might be a civic project that we bring people together in the community and we develop a plan around that. You see this a lot with Chinese privet on a lot of trail paths where a lot of groups and nonprofit groups get together and they start pulling the privet to keep it from just eeking out all the natural native species, that might be something we might want to do.

He said he is really worried. Every time he goes there and the last time he had a woman point it out to him. The last time he was out there he walked the area near the pump house and some of the other areas. It has probably doubled since the last time he had seen it. Mr. Pope commented it is already on both sides of the road.

Commissioner Brown stated it is manageable now, if we did something now and we said we are going to tackle it, we could probably do it. In five years he does not know if you will ever get it. He said he did a similar project when he was mayor of Peachtree City; they tackled some areas that had major kudzu and they just stayed after it. They had groups that would constantly work the vines down. They pulled out roots that were seven and eight feet long and a foot in diameter. That is why kudzu will never die, unless you actively stay after it, because that root is so powerful.

Commissioner Brown stated if we formulate a plan and get some non-profit groups around it, especially in the wintertime when a lot of that other growth dies back and goes dormant, that might be a good time to do it. He said he would be glad to spearhead that, but he thinks that is something we need to figure out what do you do and you can't do anything chemically because you can't endanger the water, but figure out what that is. He told Mr. Pope if he wants to figure out what that is, he will be glad to, in these cooler months, to bring some crews out there and see what we can do.

Mr. Pope said he will make some contacts and see how others are addressing it, what the State recommends. Chairman Frisina asked who maintains our parks. Mr. Pope said we have a contractor now.

Commissioner Brown commented that he thinks it is something that if you can hit it, if you can start working it down and just start harvesting what is there, cutting it all

the way down to the ground and then just stay on it. Mr. Pope said right now he thinks we could have our contractor probably go in there and remove it and we could probably have some sort of a civic group or have a community event out there and have people come, it is not that big now, so we could probably handle it.

Commissioner Brown commented it is growing at a rapid pace, he said he was shocked when the woman said “have you seen it lately”, and it was probably double from when he had last been over there and looked at it. Mr. Pope said he would gather some information and bring back a report to the Committee.

#### **IV. WATER TANK REPAIR BID UPDATE.**

Mr. Pope commented we received the bids back. They were very pleased; there were several really good companies that responded. We broke it down into some bite size pieces, we plan to do a portion this year and recommend this to the Board and then the remainder of the tanks next year. He said we budget a little bit of money for this every year, but we know that wasn't going to be enough to address the problems we were going to have with this initial repair. We are going to have to do some repair on those tanks to get them at a level that they should be and then we just maintain them. Then we will have a maintenance program behind to look at the tanks on a regular basis.

Mr. Pope explained this first year we are going to look at the smaller tank at Lake Peachtree. Mr. Bodwell said we split it up roughly 50% this year and 50% next year, but he suggested we get with the contractor and talk with them about how we split it up. It seemed like the county was indifferent in how it was split up, it seemed like there was one tank that was super high priority over the others, so we will be getting with the contractor and saying is there a way to potentially save some money by splitting it up this way, is there a way to potentially not increase the cost by splitting it up this way. They might have some ideas because the tanks are spread out, it is easier to do Tank 1 and 2 this year, and 3, 4 and 5 next year or some combination.

Mr. Pope said we are going to try to do as much as we can with the funds we have available this year, there is no sense in doing any kind of budget amendment for this. We can hardly do all the tanks in one year anyway because of operations. We will take off a bite this year, and then we will properly budget for the remainder next year so we can properly present that to the Board and let them know that we need “X” number of dollars to finish the Tank Maintenance. That will be a lot easier way to get it approved by the Board. We will look at all five of the tanks.

Mr. Bodwell said the scope is power washing, sand blasting, fixing some chipped areas, minor, little repairs to ladders and level equipment; things of that nature and demo one of the twin tanks over in Peachtree City. It was cheaper to demo it because it is not needed than to actually repair it.

Commissioner Brown mentioned the movie industry in some cases is very interested in tanks. He mentioned talking to Pinewood about this little water tower to install on their site. Mr. Pope said he thinks they are looking at something smaller, but we have talked to them. They do want to put a tank at Pinewood Forest; so this will be something we probably will discuss; as the hydraulic model is developed it will be decided what is feasible. He said he and Mr. Rapson have discussed putting a tank there for some emergency water supply for the hospital as well. We have had some conversations with the hospital as well, like redundant water supply for them. We have made them aware that the only way of getting water to them right now is off of Highway 54 and that is infrastructure that is aging. We have a line now all the way to the Military College so there is no reason why they can't have a redundant water supply, how wonderful would it be if we had a tank right there in that area that could assist the hospital in a crisis.

Mr. Destadio asked about a discussion about a two loop system when they were first put in there a couple of years ago. Mr. Pope said we did and he just met with their entire maintenance group. Their problem is they are only set up to receive water on the 54 side. They don't have a loop around the hospital. The maintenance group has been asking for it, but it has not been approved. He said we had a scare recently when we had the break on Graves Road when the Stormwater line washed out and took out our waterline. They had some low pressure there in that area. We let them know that we had no other way to get water to them, but 54, so we got their attention. He said he thinks Mr. Rapson is going to speak to the Hospital Authority Board and get it on their radar so we can get some attention. He said he thought if we put a tank back there, if the Studio wants to have a tank we could also use that as storage for that area. It would be nice to have a tank right there at the hospital.

Mr. Pope explained after World War II all hospitals were required to have wells so they couldn't come under attack if the water supply became contaminated. No hospitals wells now will support what they need and they admitted that in the meeting; that their well definitely would not run that hospital. Their only backup plan now is to bring tank water in and pump it into their system. That is not really very feasible either. We have got their attention and we are going to see if they will look at doing something and for that discussion we will see if we can try to come up with a recommendation to put a smaller tank back there at Pinewood Forrest and Pinewood Studios.

Mr. Bodwell mentioned Veterans Parkway waterline design is being done right now. He asked if that includes a connection to put the hospital onto that. Mr. Pope replied no. Mr. Bodwell commented the line would be there. Mr. Pope said that is right. Mr. Bodwell said it would be their responsibility. Mr. Pope said their problem is they have nowhere to bring it on site, because they don't have a line. He said he just assumed they had a loop line, but they do not. They have no waterlines off the back of the property. He said they are talking about building a Medical Arts Building, or something, so they would need water for that. Commissioner Brown commented that you would think that somebody designing a facility like that with

the absolute necessity to have to stay in operation under any circumstances would think about doing something like that.

Mr. Pope commented that Fayette Piedmont has expanded now they have added this whole other wing. They are not what we call a re-locatable hospital. You have some hospitals where their backup plan is to relocate, this one cannot be relocated. There is no where you can take that many patients, even if they dispersed them a few here and a few there. They are just that big; they have to be a standalone facility. He said we are going to help shore them up with that. He said he thinks all this talk at Pinewood Studios might tie in with we might be able to help working on that.

Commissioner Brown commented that might be able to serve two purposes. Be in the movies, when they need it and supply the water on the back end. Mr. Pope commented that Jacobs is helping us look at our hydraulic model. They are currently designing lines so we have the line design for Veterans Parkway in place.

Frank Destadio asked about the bid. Mr. Bodwell replied the bids have been received, the recommendation has been given to the county of the lowest bidder and they have done the reference checks, and gone over the bid price. It is just now a fact of getting with procurement.

Mr. Pope explained they wanted to update the Committee on where they are at. This is already approved in the Water System budget and we knew it was coming. Mr. Bodwell said we did an a la carte menu, listed all the tanks and all the items to be done with the tank, because we knew there wasn't money to do an eight or nine hundred, or million dollar project. The total price to do all the work was about eight hundred thousand. He said we are going to split it up roughly fifty fifty, but we need to get through the procurement and go back to the contractor. He asked if anybody has communicated with the contractor. He said Ted had told him not to; the communication would come through him.

Mr. Destadio asked how long the bids are good for. Mr. Bodwell said probably 60 days and we are still within that. Mr. Pope said all the companies knew we were going to break this up. It was done where we may only do one tank or maybe two tanks. He said he does not think any of them would have a problem holding. Mr. Bodwell said we were clear on that.

## **V. WATER PLANT UPDATE.**

Mr. Bodwell reported they are continuing with the design of the chlorine dioxide system at South Fayette. They will probably be at 60% in the next two weeks. Probably set up a meeting with staff at the South Fayette Plant, probably the week after to go over the 60% design. He said they hope to have that done the second week of October. The plan is to be at 90% in mid-November, they are moving through that pretty quickly. He said he has a variety of questions to get

with Mr. Pope and the staff. The design staff has run into a few questions they need help answering.

Mr. Bodwell went on to talk about the media replacement at South Fayette. They are working with Jerry Wills to get a quote. They have a quote, but they need to work on pricing a little bit. They have the quote on the replacement of the filters. They have the scope and the quote on those. In the next couple of weeks, he said they will probably get that in and once they get the thumbs up, they will need to get through procurement.

Mr. Bodwell reported on solids handling; they are doing an evaluation to potentially put a belt filter press or some sort of solids handling equipment out there. We need to work with the plant staff to determine what the solids production is. They just use roll off trucks right now to skim off the solids and those roll off trucks drive away. Nobody really has a good sense of how much solids production is out there. How often do the roll-off trucks go and what is the level of solids production. He said they are discussing putting a flow monitor out there to figure that out; how much solids is really the key to all this. How much solids you produce kind of drives the technology and drives the equipment; drives the size of any belt filter press or plate and frame filter press.

Mr. Pope said our solids process is due for an upgrade. It is basically very old technology, very old methods. The water is decanted back into the onsite water treatment pond and that is not a good thing, so we are going to decant that offsite. We will get on the States general discharge permit and we will get that water taken offsite. If we run into a situation like we did a few weeks ago where we have high manganese coming through the plant that water is actually going back through and coming right back through the plant. That is not really a good process. All of this will upgrade that to something more state of the art and current. It is going to be a pretty big change out, but he thinks it is going to make us more efficient and help us with our water quality.

Mr. Bodwell commented he has been working with Matt Bergen on waterline design to get a variety of little waterlines designed – Dogwood Trail, Veterans Parkway, Bridger Point and Kite Lake Road, a variety of small waterlines, hooking on new customers. These are six and eight inch lines; small in the length of the line, Veterans Parkway is much larger; around the hospital, size wise; 16” over there.

Vice Chairman Preau asked about the carbon feed issue. Mr. Pope said right now we are putting single bags in. They are still having problems and they want to change out the puffer that actually blows back into the bag because they are having problems with moisture still getting into those big bags.

Russell Ray explained we modified the blow off on the compressor that is blowing off more often to make sure that any water build up in the compressor tank is being flushed away. The vendor did that with us. He has also provided a device that will

allow us to add another puffer inside where the powder activated carbon comes down from the bag. He said he does not think that has been installed yet. He said they had a couple of projects to finish up. He said they will put that in and see if that helps keep that material, mainly keep it fluffed up enough that it will continue to fall properly; to keep it moving down towards the auger system. He went on to say we are going to evaluate the carbon, make some phone calls and see if it possibly could be carbon.

Mr. Pope said he thinks it is important to bring everybody up to speed with the Water Selectors going in at the two reservoirs; we will not need to feed the volume of carbon that we thought we were going to feed. We probably are going to get a much smaller system at South Fayette anyway. The Water Selectors are going to be going in within the next month or two; they are being fabricated right now. He explained a Water Selector basically gives us the ability to pull water at one foot increments to make sure we are pulling the best quality of water to the plant to minimize the amount of treatment we have to spend as far as chemicals. Most traditional water system intakes have two to three gates at various levels and that are the choices you have. What this does is it has one foot elevator doors, basically all the way down and it monitors the water quality at all of them through algorithms it decides which quality of water to pull. What do you have a problem with? Do you want to look at turbidity, do you want to look at algae growth, whatever it is you are looking at is an issue in your reservoir, you can come up with an algorithm so it will pull the best quality of all those parameters so you minimize the amount of treatment. Those things are going in which will minimize the amount of permanganate and carbon we are going to need in the treatment process. That is why Jason is talking about chlorine dioxide and those things at South Fayette that is critical. We are going to have to upgrade there, but carbon and permanganate, we put those on the back burner for a minute because we really think we are going to see a significant chemical savings with these Water Selectors.

Commissioner Brown suggested that once the Water Selectors are installed and Mr. Pope sees the reduction in chemical usage (dollar savings) it is probably not a bad thing to bring back to the Board at some meeting in the future and show them. Mr. Pope said we definitely will. Commissioner Brown commented it builds their faith in trusting the system that they are doing the right things. Mr. Pope said there are several counties right now that are planning to put these in place, some of them are designing new reservoirs so they are going to put it in with their new intake system and they are interested in the data, too.

Mr. Pope stated LaGrange has installed one of these and but theirs is manual and the problem there is they can see the better water quality at gate number so and so, but the operators keep pulling and they just keep an eye on it. They are not benefiting, but ours will be totally automated. It will constantly give the operators information and let the operator know that we are using this gate now instead of them having to go manually make an adjustment. He said that was Mr. Rapson's call. He said he could see the thing not working and we would have operators

having to run down there every hour or every two hours to make a gate change. Why not get it automated so it will do it for us. This will be the first automated one in the world.

Russell Ray updated the Committee on the Lake Peachtree pump station painting. The City asked us to look at painting it since it was due again, and everything is being spruced up down there. They are working on the back side this week. They are using a pontoon with ladders to do it. Mr. Ray showed some pictures of the building, the color is different. He showed some work we did in 2013, damaged siding was removed in some areas, and some siding was lost and was then replaced. We had a contractor come in to complete this work. The contractor working now has rented a 125 foot boom nearly identical to the one used in 2013. These booms can work in a horizontal and below horizontal position and not have an issue with stability. Mr. Destadio commented this pump station was designed by Historical Designs and they designed it to look like an old log cabin. Mr. Ray commented it won an award for design.

Mr. Ray went on to say that five years later the paint was starting to fade and there was an interest in looking at the color scheme. He then showed photos of the current project with the new paint color, they are painting the walkway and the pipe underneath. He pointed out the old intake structure; the pipe has been grouted in to just a foot above the top of the pipe. Mr. Pope said the pipe going down into the dam for the original release and drain has been grouted in, too. It is filled. They have painted the roof, replaced the vent, put new intake screens over the pump, and replaced one of the shafts that were bad from the intake gates. Mr. Ray commented our staff did all the work Mr. Pope referred to; covered up the intake screens, and replaced them with fiberglass; the others had basically corroded away. We want to keep large debris from getting into the pump station and the wet well.

Mr. Ray said that is where we are as of last week. They have continued to finish painting all these sides. The boom is gone, the lake is coming up little by little, we are letting water in from Lake Kedron. The contractor is going to work off of a pontoon to do the back, as the water goes up, it makes it a little easier to work off ladders.

Mr. Pope said kudos to the City because they put up a protective wall, next time maybe we can have some photos of the new spillway. We are going to have one of the first piano key spillways that has ever existed where it has various releases. As the water becomes higher more keys come in place to allow overflow which allows for more cfs to flow through the lake if it is during flood times. Those piano keys are set up like this; they have built a wall on this side of the dam coming down where our pump station is just to kind of protect the dam itself which was going to prohibit us from having access to the pump station, but what they have done is altered their design and they are putting in a complete concrete pad for us that will tie into their cart path so it will look nice, but the pad is going to be set up to support if we have to have a crane there to get a pump or motor out of there for servicing.

**Mr. Pope stated they communicated with us regularly, he communicated with David with the City, with ISE who did the design and some of the work and Schnable who did the dam itself, there was a lot of communication that went on. They did think about us. They are going to put a service pad for us there at the pump station. Nobody will know what it is, but it is going to be set up to support a crane or our service trucks there for servicing the pumps. Mr. Pope said he really appreciates their alteration on that.**

**Mr. Pope said the cost of the project was around \$30,000.00. We knew this was going to happen, so we just amended the contract for that and we bought the vinyl louvers and the new intake for the fans. There were some things we covered the cost in house that were not part of the project, but they said while we are here, we will do that for you. It is probably going to be around \$30,000.00.**

**Mr. Ray pointed out boards that had been replaced. The ones on the back side are so hard to get to; they had not been replaced in any of the previous repair work. Mr. Pope said we included the City on the shade of the paint, but as far as the paint itself, Mr. Ray made sure we put in a really good quality of paint so it should hold for a while. It is a good industrial coating. It is not the least expensive paint; they put a really good industrial paint on there. Mr. Ray said he met with the paint rep and asked to bump up at least one grade of paint.**

**The question came up about how often we power up the pumps to make sure they are still operational. Mr. Pope said there is no power to the building right now, but once we get the power hooked back up and these guys are done, we will go in and look at maintaining those pumps. He said Mr. Ray is pretty sure we will probably need to rewind one of the motors. That is why we have some maintenance coming, but we will get those pumps back operational. Mr. Ray said there are three pumps in there, but two of them definitely need some service.**

**Mr. Pope stated he plans to do some alterations at the water plant where currently when we have this pump station on, the water goes directly into the treatment process at the plant, so we will get the full benefit of the chemical treatment process there with the carbon and the permanganate, so we are going to actually bring that line down to the Horton line, so that we can valve it so that this water can go into the pre-treatment pond instead of coming right into the plant. That could have some significant impact on treatment if we don't have that buffering pond out there first. That is another line change that we will probably have CH look at designing. It is a very simple design and we will look at having our contractor put that in, just so that we have that flexibility in operations.**

**Mr. Ray point out the stains on the concrete underneath the building (between the bottom of the building and the waterline.); he explained the contractor pressure washed it, but it is just not going to take all that stain off. The committee discussed the best stain color for the concrete since it will continue to stain. They agreed a darker color stain would be better.**

Mr. Pope commented our other pump stations need some attention as well. This location is a little high profile, but we also plan to do some work on the others. He also said there will be a buoy line located in the operational area around the pump station at the new dam.

## **VI. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Commissioner Brown commented we have been having a lot of subdivisions, especially in the northern part of the county that have their own private water systems. Some of them have been experiencing some difficulties with water pressure, water quality and various other things. They were trying to get us to try to do something. Obviously we don't own that facility, so we are limited as to what we can do. They had made several complaints about different issues to EPD and to the Board. Commissioner Rousseau and he had met with EPD and some of the residents in the Newton Plantation subdivision and they went over there. He stated the guy that owned the private water system was there and he walked out of the meeting the moment they started talking about problems and EPD assured him and Commissioner Rousseau that they were going to seriously look at that system when it came time for the Sanitary Survey which was due just a month after that meeting. He went on to say we got the results back and pretty much what the residents had been complaining about is right on the money, according to the EPD survey results.

Commissioner Brown said they have been cited on several things, including water pressure. He said he is hoping we are going to see a drastic improvement there. It could be possibly, this is just speculation, but it could possibly in the future, if they know EPD is going to be sitting on top of these things and really scouring and looking at what is going on in these systems and keeping them up to the proper code, it may give the owners a willingness to sell us the system at a price that is reasonable and something that we could afford and we tie them all into our system and those problems go away completely. It is absolute speculation, but he thinks he knows now that we are seriously paying attention at the elected official level and personally going to EPD and talking to the top officials there, you are not going to get any more skimpy Sanitary Surveys on these systems. He said he doubts that seriously. That is a good thing from what the Board has done and because of what they have done, too, we actually came up with some emergency procedures to handle some of these subdivisions in the event of a catastrophic situation. If they have lost water for whatever reason, we now have a plan in place that we can reestablish the water if need be. He mentioned to the new committee members that came out of that as well, and you may end up having some citizens that approach you about this, so that it is a little background about what they will be approaching you and talking to you about. Sometimes, they come to our meetings here in the mornings as well. He asked Mr. Pope to get the Committee members a copy of the Sanitary Survey. Commissioner Brown said he had received an advance copy in the mail so he would know what was going on. It does indicate exactly what the residents have been saying. For the most part and a lot of the things that were neglected on the system,

things that they should have done...they should have capped off a couple of wells, they should have done some of it... they never did that and the citizens had brought that up on several occasions. They started researching the rules and regulations and they know what needed to be done and it wasn't getting done. The owner of the system just happened to be a state senator. That was one thing Commissioner Rousseau and he played and they flat out asked them is this clouding your judgement when you are looking at this system? He said they put them on the spot with that. He said he thinks that helped in terms of getting a factual survey. He said it would be great to get it to the new committee members, too.

Commissioner Brown stated Flint River Keeper is going to be having their annual meeting in October. He said he is a member and they recognized our Water Guardians Program and some other stuff over the years. They handle a lot of things in the Flint River System and it occurred to him as he was talking to some of the staff there it may be worthwhile for this Committee to have them do a presentation on concerns that they have about the Flint System, some active things they are working on. They just had an illegal plant, illegal spillage or they were doing it intentionally or whatever you want to say, there was some bad stuff getting into the water from a plant on the Flint System and they actually took it up legally with the state and the feds. They got corrective action and that kind of stuff. They are very aware of what is going on out there in our system and they work as an advocate for the river and the people living along the rivers that feed into the Flint system, so that might be well worth having them on an agenda one day and just say what are your hot topics and what are things that we should be paying attention to. They are up to their eye balls in it.

Mr. Pope commented there is a copy of the Brooks permit in the packets. We operate the Brooks water system. We had their permit renewed as is because there are a lot of items that we may want to address with that water system and if there is any effect to the permit we can do that as we move forward. The state recommended we renew it as it is for now. He said he sent the Town of Brooks a letter that we are renewing their permit. Mr. Destadio commented that back when Lee came, there were problems where we didn't receive the requirement that we take samples. He asked if we have done that properly. Has that been resolved, they are supposed to send it to you guys and you do it. Mr. Pope said we are doing all that for them now. Mr. Destadio asked if they have kept up with it. Mr. Pope said we are doing all their samples. Mr. Destadio asked if we are having any problems any more. Mr. Pope said no, we take care of the Drinking Water fees for the State Lab to make sure that things are properly processed. We pull the samples and deliver them to the state lab for them.

Commissioner Brown commented there is a lot more accountability than what we had before.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT.**

Commissioner Steve Brown made a motion to adjourn the Water Committee September 26, 2018 meeting. Vice Chairman Jimmy Preau seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 24th day of October, 2018.

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Lisa Speegle