

WATER COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 18, 2015
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete Frisina, Chairman
James K “Chip” Conner, Vice Chairman
Steve Rapson
Lee Pope
Commissioner Charles Oddo
Jimmy Preau

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: Dennis Davenport

ABSENT: Alan Bowling

GUEST: Tony Parrott

STAFF PRESENT: Russell Ray

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON OCTOBER 28, 2015.

Lee Pope made the motion and Steve Rapson seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on October 28, 2015. There was no opposition.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING ON NOVEMBER 10, 2015.

Vice Chairman Conner made the motion and Lee Pope seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on November 10, 2015. There was no opposition.

III. APPROVAL OF 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE.

Steve Rapson made the motion and Jimmy Preau seconded to approve the 2016 meeting schedule as presented. There was no opposition.

IV. LAKE PEACHTREE UPDATE.

Mr. Pope reported the lake has filled up with the drain wide open, which lets us know the drain is not big enough to incorporate any flooding that might be around the lake. For those who were concerned about us being able to fill the lake, you can obviously fill it. If we can fill it with the drain open, we can definitely fill it with the drain closed. He went on to say we put a syphon over the spillway to allow us to drain the lake a lot faster than what we originally thought.

Mr. Rapson mentioned that we talked about putting in some pumps, but that probably would not be good for that neighborhood, so they came up with the syphon that worked really well. That probably saved us about three days; just enough time for the new rain.

Mr. Pope said the roads the dredgers put in place are passable now; they are able to go out there. They took some equipment in and out yesterday. Hopefully, we will get them dried out; with the rain coming in today, we will just have to see what the impact is. Mr. Rapson said the area that is left is the field behind Drake Field, they have a trough they dug across there and they have a pump. Hopefully, as long as it is less than that, they can continue to work. It will still require another week for it to dry out. Now, it has to dry out even more because they are concerned the roads need to be completely dry before they can get all their equipment out.

Mr. Pope stated we have about three piles of sediment left to remove. It has already been piled up and needs to dewater before we can remove it; about 8,000 cubic yards. There was also a dumpster out there they were putting silt fence in. A lot of people asked why we didn't just let the lake stay full. We did visit that and think about it, but because of the three piles of sediment; we definitely had to get that out of there as well as the dumpster and some other small equipment. We are going to have to take the lake back down, but he thinks everybody can have confidence in that we won't have any problems refilling it this time.

Mr. Pope explained we have a few more items to take care of on the spillway. Southeastern Pressure Grout will be coming to work Monday, they will try to mobilize Monday depending on weather to finish topping off those voids. We did inject grout in the voids, but as it settled, there are just a few air pockets. They want to take care of all of that 100%. They should still be ahead of the dredging. He said he is really excited, it is coming along and he thinks we will have a good structure there once they are finished.

Mr. Rapson said they met with the Mayor, the Chairman, the City Manager and their Public Works consultant out there and looked at it. There would have been three areas that would have created, in essence, three small islands. The six or eight property owners around that cove completely understand why we have to drain the lake. Everybody else around the lake is wondering what we are doing. Peachtree City has done a pretty good job of getting ahead of that and communicating to the Lake Association and everybody that has an interest on why that is. He said he thinks there is one small area in the triangle left in Zone 1, adjacent to Drake Field; they are going to dredge. If you go by there now, you can see the pools and the bowls they have created, except for one little area. That area, and the 8,000 cubic yards is left. He said the contractor estimated 8,000 to 10,000 cubic yards of dirt already on Drake Field. Ultimately, they will pull the 8,000 out of the lake, finish that little area in Zone 1, pull the roads up and then take the road out of Drake Field, take the dirt off Drake Field and then go back and re-sod and restore Drake Field to what it was.

Mr. Rapson said he thinks there is some discussion on the Peachtree City side of the ledger to do additional things around the area of Drake Field, so they are talking to us about maybe we don't do everything we are supposed to do to Drake Field so we could share in some of that savings so Peachtree City can use that to jump start

their project. He said he thinks that is a decision their Mayor and Council have not made a full decision on, but we are pulling numbers so we can have that discussion.

Commission Chairman Oddo made a comment about a nice blog he got this morning. He read "Mr. Chairman I am seriously impressed with yours and they Mayors letter today." Commissioner Oddo said this is the letter in the Citizen. "Nice work, it seems like mature reason and thoughtful actions by local politicians. I appreciate your efforts. Thank you." Commissioner Oddo said this is in regards to the work we all did for sixteen months.

V. UPDATE ON WATER TREATMENT PLANTS.

Russell Ray presented photos of the Chemical System and the Actuator Improvements. This is the lime project. He showed the chemical injection vault, as of yesterday the amendment documents have gone to the contractor, AllSouth for signature. That additional project will get started soon. He explained right now in the pipe gallery, he showed how close the injection points are; we have lime with phosphate at this time, chlorine and fluoride, three different injection points. What we are going to do is put phosphate by itself and move the lime, chlorine and fluoride out into the new vault. That will give the phosphate time to react; the vendor recommends six pipe diameters upstream of the other injection chemicals; we will have plenty of space to get that chemical in and let it react before we add chlorine. He explained what happens if you still have any iron and manganese in your water, you want to sequester that using the phosphates. You get that done before you add the chlorine; chlorine is a strong oxidant and it will start precipitating out iron and manganese.

Mr. Pope commented you would be generating stained water right there at that point of entry. Mr. Ray stated we are doing a great job removing iron and manganese, but there is still always a trace amount and we want to go ahead and take care of that. That is what the phosphate does for us; also the phosphate helps with corrosion issues. We have done very well over the years with our lead and copper rule results. That is another way phosphate helps us; corrosion control.

Mr. Pope stated you generally want two or three feet between each chemical, you can see in the photo, there is clearly a foot between each. Mr. Ray explained the new vault, which is six foot long will separate the chlorine, the lime and the fluoride.

Mr. Ray went on to report we are processing Pay Request #8 right now. The amendment was approved for the injection vault. He then showed photos of the Lake Horton pump house work. We are removing the hydraulic actuators and will install electric actuators on these valves. At South Fayette the lime building structure for the pad and the containment walls has begun. Sidewalk has been poured, the waterline installation has begun. Mr. Ray then showed a photo of the chemical feed vault and the chemical feed line.

Mr. Ray discussed the Lakeshore Project, the Water Treatment Plant Improvements, we are processing Pay Estimate #3, and we are just over one million dollars on that project already. They are moving along very quickly. The consoles for Filter Magic have been delivered. Mr. Pope stated the pneumatic valves are at ICS Corporate office in Virginia. They are setting them up and operating them before they bring them down and install them. What will happen is they took the valves and the actuators and put them together. Now they are operating with our new control system to make sure it works. They are now at the point they are about ready to ship them according to the text he received yesterday. They will ship them down for the contractor to install and then all they will have to do is hook their equipment back up again. They know it works; they tested them right in the factory. We have already done the factory acceptance test; they are moving along pretty quick.

Mr. Ray then showed the chemical building where the septic drain had to be extended and rerouted. The next photos were of the demo of the Leopold filters. He showed the channel where the water and the air will come into the bottom of the filter. The wheeler bottoms have been difficult to get those out, however, they are making progress.

Mr. Ray mentioned the Lake Peachtree intake structure. We are looking at Lakeshore helping us by doing some improvements to the structure. He pointed out the old existing pipe columns from the old pumps. We are looking at having those removed and having a sluice gate installed where the weir box is in the intake structure. That sluice gate will give us an opportunity to control the lake level at that location. If we needed to close off this structure to do some work in that structure we will be able to raise those sluice gates and let the water go over the spillway. Or, if we don't want water going over the spillway we will still be able to control it up to a degree. There is only so much we can do, as we already know with the heavy rain. We will be able to control that water level; six inches gives us a lot of flexibility at the intake structure.

Mr. Pope commented that the anticipation with the new agreement requires us to do an inspection regularly on the spillway. We can lower the sluice gate and allow the water to pass through here, and pour water off the top of the spillway so we can go out there and do a proper inspection every year. We don't have that ability right now. Removal of all this will take care of the deficiencies, too. The State has asked us to remove that piping. We redid the walkway. The walkway going out to that structure was pretty much about rotted away, so we replaced those boards as we were requested by the State. We will be adding some rails, that is the next step.

Mr. Ray mentioned that Michael Diaz, the CH2M engineer, was at the Athens GAWP Conference this week. One of their employees talked about taste and odor and those issues. They said it went real well. Mr. Pope commented that we are definitely getting some publicity.

VI. TOILET REBATE PROGRAM UPDATE.

Mr. Pope explained this is an ongoing program the county has participated in for many years. We allocate funds as needed, \$50,000.00 at a time and make that available for customers to apply for toilet rebates. He stated we are down to \$1600.00 remaining; we are asking to fund this program with an additional \$50,000.00. We will see how long that takes us. Generally it lasts several years.

Mrs. Speegle commented we last added funds in 2013. Mr. Pope went on to say this is a program we are required to participate in from the Metropolitan Planning District. You can set up your own program and manage it, but they do this for \$10.00 each. They do a great job and most of the counties in the Metropolitan District just let them run it for them.

Chairman Frisina asked if there are any matching monies. Mrs. Speegle said we give the customer credit on their water bill. Mr. Pope said it is time to fund this again. He and Mrs. Speegle think the smart thing to do is go ahead and put \$50,000.00 in again and see how far that carries us. He said we are planning to ramp up our conservation program and our efforts to educate people in these things. He said he does not know how long this will last.

Mr. Rapson asked how much money we have left. Mrs. Speegle replied \$1600.00, which would last about four weeks. It would cover sixteen \$100.00 rebates or eight \$200.00 rebates. Mr. Rapson suggested getting with Mary and do a mid-year budget adjustment for it.

Mr. Rapson made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the rebate program for another \$50,000.00 with the appropriate mid-year budget adjustment. Mr. Pope seconded and there was no opposition.

VII. UPDATE ON FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN FAYETTE COUNTY AND CITY OF PEACHTREE CITY.

Mr. Rapson reported this passed; the contract has been executed and given to Peachtree City. We are in the process of implementing all those things that we discussed at our last meeting. He said a joint press release was done today between the Chairman and Mayor Fleisch of Peachtree City.

Mr. Pope added that he will step outside of his box and be working with the City in regards to the well permitting. We have a well permit right now that encompasses all of our wells. This is the last one that was operational. We will be getting rid of our well permit, but the City may need some assistance in getting one for what they want to do. He said he will be glad to assist them. The original plan would have been to take the well out of service and then cap it. Obviously we won't cap this one because it is the City's and they want to use it. They may be required to get some irrigation permitting and if so, he will be glad to assist.

Mr. Rapson commented they will need some help walking through EPD and we are more than willing to help them do that. He said he thinks the only issue that seems to be lingering out there is Lake Kedron. We have set up through USGS, the monitoring sites between Kedron and Peachtree City. It is the County's intent not to do anything to harm the residents on Kedron at the impact of Lake Peachtree. There is a cfs that we have to manage, used to be we would run 10 cfs and we have already lowered that to 1, a tenth of the volume that used to go is now what is going. We don't really see that as an issue in regards to; when you look at the old contract, there is some language in there that said; basically we were to keep Lake Peachtree at full pool at the impact of Kedron. That is not going to be the County's approach in this regard. We are going to manage the relationships between both of those lakes working with EPD.

Mr. Rapson commented we kind of hydro planed over that during the discussion. That was something he thinks for a county was important for us, because we understand the benefit of Lake Peachtree is the same benefit of Lake Kedron. Lake Kedron being our drinking water reservoir, we don't want to do anything that is going to impact either Kedron or Lake Peachtree. We want them both to be healthy reservoirs for us, so we intend to manage that relationship going forward.

Mr. Pope said for all intents and purposes we can pull 4 1/2 million with those two permits together. Right now we are pulling most of our water out of McIntosh. We can't really pull out of Horton right now because of the actuator program; once the actuator is installed we will have a couple of places we can pull from for the Crosstown Plant, three with Lake Peachtree back in service. We won't need to lean as heavily on Lake Peachtree as the system used to. Again, that makes it a little easier to manage that, we have some flexibility in operations, so we certainly don't want to impact those residents unless necessary. We have some flexibility in place and we also have some monitoring in place where we can better manage. He said he feels comfortable moving forward that we won't impact Lake Kedron like we have in the past.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public comment.

LOW CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE WATER USE.

Dennis Davenport mentioned the City of Fayetteville usage has dropped. He wondered why. Mr. Pope said it is related to the rain. Mr. Rapson commented Fayetteville has been trying to use more of their water out of their wells; they are trying to treat the hard water. Between both of those is probably the answer. Mr. Pope commented he thinks their well yield is pretty low and the main thing is the rain, and it is system wide. Mr. Rapson said he agrees. Mr. Pope said that is why we are trying to keep a close eye on expenses.

Vice Chairman Conner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Preau seconded and there being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:35 A.M.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 9th day of December, 2015.

Lisa Speegle