

WATER COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 11, 2019
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pete Frisina, Chairman
Frank Destadio, Vice Chairman
Steve Rapson, County Administrator
Vanessa Tigert, Water System Director
Charles Oddo, Commissioner
Jimmy Preau
Bill Holland

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Dennis Davenport, County Attorney
Jason Bodwell, CH2M/Jacobs

STAFF PRESENT:

Anita Godbee, Blaze Jeffrey, Matthew Powers
Casey Williamson, Natasha Duggan
Russell Ray, John Caldwell, Carrie Gibby
Lisa Speegle, Water Committee Clerk

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON NOVEMBER 13, 2019.

Vice Chairman Frank Destadio made the motion and Bill Holland seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on November 13, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

II. RECREATION REQUESTS AT LAKE HORTON AND LAKE MCINTOSH.

Blaze Jeffrey explained his requests, the Food Truck Frenzy at Lake McIntosh and Stargazing Nights at Lake Horton. The Food Truck Frenzy at Lake McIntosh dates and times are April 16, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM; July 16, 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM and October 15, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. He said they generally have about 450 to 500 folks out for each of those events. They have been great.

Mr. Jeffrey explained the Star Gazing Nights are at Lake Horton. There are six events, most of them between 6:00 PM and 11:00 PM, they would need special access to the park after dark. The dates are all on Friday nights, and the rain date is the following Saturday.

Mr. Jeffrey said both of these events are free to the public. The Star Gazing generally has about 50 to 60 folks in the park at any given time, registration is up to 300 folks throughout the entire night.

Mr. Jeffrey said the number of food trucks depends, night time they expect more folks; generally there are seven to eight trucks. Lunch time, usually there are four to six trucks.

Mr. Rapson made a motion to approve the dates and times for Star Gazing as well as the Food Truck Frenzy. Vanessa Tigert seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Matthew Powers, Athletics Coordinator presented information on the Leap Into Spring – Community 5K and Fun Run at Lake Horton. He said he is proposing this for February 29, 2020 at Lake Horton Park. He distributed a detailed layout of the event plan. He said they will begin set up around sunrise and they will go to about noon. He proposed that we shut the park down for the morning, just so there is no traffic coming in and out, interfering with the foot traffic through the trails. Different personnel will be there, such as Recreation Staff, volunteers, and EMS. He added the projected numbers for attendance for this event is 50 to 150 which includes pre-registration as well as day of registration. This is a 5K as well as a Fun Run to follow the 5K. The cost is around \$17.00 for adults and \$12.00 for children. The rain date is the weekend after.

Mr. Rapson made a motion to approve the 5K and Fun Run as presented at Lake Horton. Vice Chairman Destadio seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. DROUGHT UPDATE.

Ms. Tigert reported EPD officially approved our Level II drought variance on November 27. We are now in Level II. She said she has not received the official letter yet, it has been mailed. Ms. Tigert explained that now under Level II, we can enforce the odd/even watering restrictions. She said they only granted the variance until the end of the year, which is December 31. She went on to say we are going to request EPD to extend it.

Ms. Tigert discussed the latest drought map, we are still in the moderate to normally dry area. The long term drought prediction map shows that we are in the drought removal, likely, which is pretty vague. This map is valid until the end of February.

Russell Ray discussed the lake level status. He said we just established a new USGS gauge station for the height of Lake McIntosh. It is already on line, it was put in last week. He showed the data showing we are 3/10 from 780, which is full pool at Lake McIntosh.

Mr. Ray discussed Lake Kedron's data; 835 is full and now we are at 834. Our low was back in October. Mr. Ray showed a new chart that has been put out by USGS for Lake Kedron. This chart allows us to scroll across the data and it will show the actual amount. Ms. Tigert clarified this is new data at our old gauge, one we have always had. Mr. Ray said we will soon have this new data at all our gauges.

Vice Chairman Destadio mentioned the old radio control gauge at Lake Kedron. Mr. Ray said we have not used that one in a while and we are having to make some repairs on the SCADA system. The actuator and shaft are being repaired.

Next Mr. Ray referred to the 2007/2008 data which is our driest on record. It got down to 769. He showed a comparison of the 2007/2008 data to the 2019 data and discussed where we are now. Since October we have been able to make adjustments on the outflow; with the rain events it has finally started to level off. Lake Horton is still five foot down.

Ms. Tigert stated that this demonstrates the difference in two different watersheds; how completely different they can be. Mr. Ray said October was the worst and it has eased some; but as Ms. Tigert said we are still in drought conditions. The next map Mr. Ray showed was of the December drought conditions for the entire United States.

Mr. Rapson asked about the dock at Lake Horton since we are five feet down. Mr. Ray said the dock is out of the water. Ms. Tigert commented we are going to be experiencing more and more of these flash droughts.

Vice Chairman Destadio asked if we are still pumping water out of Lake Peachtree. Mr. Ray replied, under these lower demands we are not pumping right now, so that is one reason we have been able to recover in Lake Kedron, since we are not utilizing Lake Peachtree right now as a source. We haven't had to release as much out of Lake Kedron. That is another reason we have been able to gain in Lake Kedron; with the demand down as far as what the Crosstown Plant is producing.

IV. WATER PLANT UPDATE.

Jason Bodwell reported the valves are being replaced in January, the contract is signed for the valves at South Fayette. They are on order, so they will be in here in January, toward the end of January or February after the valves have been replaced, then they will get started on the media. He said everything is going well and everything is moving forward; it just takes a little while to get things ordered and get them delivered.

Mr. Bodwell reported the South Fayette Chlorine Dioxide contract for Lakeshore and the task order for management of the contract are on the Board of Commissioners agenda for approval tomorrow.

Mr. Bodwell went on to say that yesterday they met with Vanessa, John and others and they have several new task orders that they were tasked with.

Ms. Tigert announced that Susan Lee starts today as our Water Operations Manager, she comes to us from Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority; she was the Interim Director there, she was also the Lab Director and had various roles. Ms. Tigert said Susan Lee has a lot of experience and she is really looking forward to having her there. It will bring a lot of cohesiveness to the two plants. They operate really well together, but now under her direction it is going to be a moving force that she hopes really moves in tandem. Ms. Tigert said she expects to see greater things; and she is excited about that. That position has been open for several years and she thinks we now have it filled with the right person.

Ms. Tigert explained Ms. Lee's office will be at the Crosstown Plant, she will be over both Joe and Tom Henninger, over both of the plants, as well as our Lab. She has so much lab experience, she expects we are going to see a lot of cost savings in our lab. We are going to be able to upgrade some things and get Pam, our Lab Manager some help. Ms. Tigert commented that she thinks this is an exciting time and she is really looking forward to her help.

Bill Holland commented that he was on the Board when she was at the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority.

Mr. Rapson explained there are four task orders that Mr. Bodwell is talking about. He said he is not going to get into the details of them, but he thinks it is important the Board at least know they are in the background percolating up. One is the Interconnectivity of the piping system. That gives all the operators the ability to pull from all of our sources of water. Right now, they are limited.

The Solids Handling, which is one of the consent order items that we are still addressing, we are actually looking at that at both plants. The Private Water System Analysis, we talked about we are still funneling through those, but we actually have a letter from Brooks asking us at the County to take over their system. Now, we are evaluating that system to totally take it over. The last one is having Jacobs's assistance in regards to our AMI metering solution. All four of those are pretty hefty projects that will help guide this Water System over the next five to ten years. They are all in the hopper, they are not all funded, but the Interconnectivity is funded, Brooks is one we will have to talk about and the meters and the Solids Handling are bigger issues; we will have to look at multi-year funding.

Mr. Holland asked how we handle the solids? Mr. Rapson said the evaluation is do we do anything, what do we do, what are our options. Ms. Tigert commented we have to do something. Mr. Rapson said there are different options to look at, the question is which one do we get.

Mr. Bodwell commented the memo is written and he will deliver it this week; we have some options on the solids handling. The actual mechanical devices, the screw press or the belt filter press, what not. The upfront thing they are suggesting is at Crosstown, the thickener, the second step in the thickening process before it gets to a potential screw press, if you were to purchase that, essentially the circular basin that thickens the solids is too small. The potential to high rate Crosstown and put more water through that, they are suggesting another thickener, another forty foot concrete basin to do thickening, so one of these task orders is to design that.

Mr. Rapson said he will be helping to prioritize which ones we do first, because some of those could drive the other ones, some of those are associated with the high rating, some of those are consulting with the Interconnectivity, and some will affect every tax payer which is the metering. Those are all big projects, the question is which order you are going to do them in. He said we are working on the background, eventually you will see all that.

V. TANK MAINTENANCE UPDATE.

Mr. Bodwell reported the Peachtree City tank is finished. We only put the Water System logo on this tank. Peachtree City did not opt to put their logo on this tank. The contractor has now moved on to Crabapple and just started. He said he sent Mr. Ray some pictures of the Peachtree City tank.

Mr. Ray showed the photos starting with the inside of the tank where it has been cleaned and painted. He explained this was not a full tank exterior paint, this was repair areas and painting in different locations. From a distance it looks good. He pointed out a new ladder guard, which is located so nobody can climb this tank easily. Mr. Ray then showed a picture he took prior to the new logo going on, you can see where they went over the old logo. He showed the new logo, facing south from Huddleston Road and from the Avenue.

Vice Chairman Destadio asked if it was sprayed or rolled on. Mr. Bodwell and Mr. Ray both said they think they rolled it. Vice Chairman Destadio commented when he sprayed tanks in the military, they had overspray on lots of cars. Mr. Rapson stated the last time they painted this tank in Peachtree City, he was the CFO and heard about it because all the cars got doused.

Dennis Davenport commented there is a body shop right below that tank and there were a lot of cars on that back parking lot, almost all of them had overspray on them. Mr. Bodwell said they talked about that with this contractor. Mr. Ray said it was all rolled, the template had small dots and they spray painted from a small can to spray through the dots to lay out the design, then they rolled the paint on.

Mr. Ray explained the new logo is much wider than the old logo and he wanted to bring this up for review. He showed an aerial of the side view of the Crabapple tank. You can see the existing logo. He showed his recommendation for the

placement of the new logo. There is not a lot of view from 74 north or south. He showed several different views from various locations in the area of the Crabapple tank, including Georgian Parkway, the Kedron shopping center parking lot, Highway 74 and the subdivision behind the tank. You can only see the existing logo from the Kedron parking lot and the logo needs to be turned a little to be able to see it well.

Mr. Rapson commented if we can better position the logo on the tank, then we should do that. Mr. Ray explained you don't have much view to the north. There is view towards Crabapple Lane. The question is do we want to put both logos on, there is limited sight from the other direction. Ms. Tigert asked if we will save money. Mr. Ray said the cost of one logo, which is \$6,000.00. If you drive down in the commercial area off of Dogwood Trail, you can see it. If you put the logo on the north side, you would be able to see it in the subdivision, Maple Shade across the street from Crabapple Elementary School. Ms. Tigert commented she is for not putting it on. She went on to say she does not want to throw a monkey wrench, but what she is noticing is "System" just isn't very dark; it is hard to read. Without making it black, can we make it just a little darker, so that it is not just Fayette County Water, it is very light. Mr. Rapson said he thought the same thing, it almost looks like a watermark. Ms. Tigert said without making it black, let's make it darker, just on the Crabapple tank.

Mr. Ray showed a photo of the Ellis Road tank with the white background. Ms. Tigert said in her opinion, it is still not dark enough. Mr. Rapson said he agreed, it almost looks like a watermark and it just needs to be a shade darker. Ms. Tigert said if we can adjust that with Crabapple nobody is going to notice, they are just going to read it better. Ms. Tigert clarified we are going to work on the coloring of the word System and we are only going to do one logo.

Mr. Rapson said he does not think we need a motion for any of that, everybody has been briefed, he agrees one logo is the way to go and he agrees to make it a little darker. The Committee members agreed. Mr. Holland asked if we are required to have a logo. Mr. Rapson said we are not, there is nothing in the Sanitary Survey report that says you need to have a logo on your tower. Oddly enough, the towers have to be numbered, you have to be able to identify them. The logo is purely a marketing, PR kind of thing.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public comment.

Lisa Speegle reminded everyone the next meeting is on January 8, 2020.

VII. ADJOURNMENT.

Vice Chairman Destadio made a motion to adjourn the Water Committee December 11, 2019 meeting. Bill Holland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:45 A.M.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 8th day of January, 2020.

Lisa Speegle

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: January 8, 2020