

Water Committee  
Minutes  
February 10, 2021  
8:30 A.M.

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Committee Members Present: Pete Frisina, Chairman  
Frank Destadio, Vice Chairman  
Steve Rapson, County Administrator  
Lee Hearn, Commissioner  
Vanessa Tigert  
James Poff

Absent: Jimmy Preau

Committee Non-Voting Members: Dennis Davenport, County Attorney  
Michael Diaz, Arcadis

Other Staff: Jeff Hill, Ben Moss, Natasha Duggan, John Caldwell,  
Susan Lee, Capri Reeves, Lindsey Choisnet

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Frisina at 8:31 A.M.

1. Approval of Minutes from the January 20, 2021 meeting  
Vanessa Tigert made the motion and Frank Destadio seconded to approve the minutes from the meeting on January 20, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Environmental Compliance  
Ms. Tigert made the motion to table this item until the meeting on March 10, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.
3. System Updates  
Mr. Rapson suggested everyone introduce themselves, as we have a few new faces in the room. Pete Frisina works in the Planning and Zoning Department, and has been on the Water Committee about seven or more years. Planning and Zoning was originally brought onboard with the Water Committee because there was discussion about where to run water and how it would affect land use. Frank Destadio was previously a Committee member as the CH2M Engineer of Record. Now that he is retired, he is in his second term as a volunteer citizen representative. New Committee member, Jim Poff, is also a volunteer citizen representative. He has a good bit of experience in the water business, having worked for Clayton County Water for over 30 years and currently works for Georgia Association of Water Professionals. Steve Rapson is our County Administrator. Michael Diaz previously attended this Water Committee as part of CH2M with Mr. Destadio and is now the Arcadis Engineer of Record. Dennis Davenport is the County Attorney, providing whatever support is necessary. Lee Hearn is the newly elected Commission Chair for Fayette County. He is a registered Professional Engineer, has worked 23 years for local governments, and was responsible for the water system in the City of McDonough. Vanessa Tigert has been with the County since 2007. She started in the Engineering group, which morphed into Storm Water, then changed into Environmental Management, and 18 months ago took the position as Director of the

## Water System.

We're in the midst of Pump Testing; volume, vibration, and amperage testing is being done on most all of our pumps. Some of our pumps are not working so we can't test them. We're getting a really good idea of where we need to focus our resources on our CIP that's funded for pump replacements. Another reason we're doing that is for our pressure model, which is part of the interconnectivity; we're doing a map of the entire system. We're doing a demand and a safe yield, which is part of the requirements for Surface Water Withdrawal Permits. Our renewal is contingent upon sending that data. We're also testing all the pumps at the booster stations. Peachtree City pumps are still out for repairs.

Zero2Waste at South Fayette is proceeding on schedule. Install should begin next Monday, starting with filters one and six. Filter one is like the main mastermind of the whole thing, so it's important to get it in and get it right. The install and startup of the new filter control system should be up and running by early April.

Zero2Waste and filter modifications are unique and major initiatives at both plants. The backwash process uses a lot of water. This is a controlled system that is closely monitoring turbidity during the backwash cycle. There's a prescribed curve that the algorithm is written to follow, so once the turbidity reaches a certain level during that process, you can start putting the filter back in service much quicker than doing it manually. We're able to reduce the amount of water that's consumed during that part of the process by 40%. The payoff for this technology is three years. When we do the backwash, we've already processed that water. It really helps with our water conservation plan, which is a new requirement in our water withdrawal permits. It saves energy, saves water, and allows the filters to be run longer.

We've gotten our 90% bid specs back on replacing the TracVac system at both water plants. We're experiencing constant breakage with the TracVac system, so we're planning on putting the bid specs together that will help with our residuals that we have to deposit in the system.

Veterans Parkway line extension is on the February 11, 2021 BOC agenda. That extension will take us up from the college and connect with 54, it provides the connection of the two major systems so we have better connectivity between the systems that are out there. It also provides a backup to the hospital on 54.

#### 4. Director's Report

Staff recently participated in a two-day Effective Utility Management workshop. The goal is to build a deep bench and get everyone on the same page. All 13 of the Water System managers evaluated and ranked 10 attributes based on both achievement and importance. The areas of opportunity identified through this training are leadership development, operational optimization, financial viability, and infrastructure strategy and performance. We will use our upcoming evaluations to set goals by picking the attributes that they want to work on personally. This is an excellent tool for our managers for setting goals.

Fayette County's Hannah Cooke was named the districtwide runner-up for the Annual Metro North Georgia Water Planning District middle school essay contest. Her essay described the job of spatial analyst, which is a person who works with GIS. Ms. Tigert commented that she would love for Ms. Cooke to be the Water System's GIS intern.

The Water System Flow Chart was updated to include the total permitted withdraw amount, the permitted processing capacity, and the acreage of our reservoirs. Mr. Poff suggested that we add the maximum capacity for each of the interconnections, even though those connections are for an emergency-basis, because that is extra water we've got.

The Year-Over-Year Water Consumption Report reflected December 2020 was a good month. The City of Fayetteville's consumption was up, which had a big impact on Fayette County's consumption. Part of the interoperability program we're mapping the system through GIS will all come to conclusion where we'll be able to definitively say how much capacity we have currently today and also what it looks like in a drought. At that point we'll start talking about interoperability between the systems, which is one of the things that EPD and the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District are, at some point, going to mandate. One of the things they like is, if you've got water, then you share water within systems. We've been approached by Coweta County to evaluate that. It's not so much that Coweta doesn't have water, it's more of the agreements that they have with the cities and municipalities that they import water from; we can provide that at a much cheaper rate. It's water capacity that we have that's already treated, so it's money to us. We can leverage that money in the future to acquire private water systems, or to step into an AMI-type program for automatic meters.

Our safe-yield analysis is based on the new drought of record. The drought of record was last updated in '59, which is what all our withdrawal permits were based on. We have now updated that. We feel confident that when we submit our new data that they'll renew our permits as they are. While we're permitted for 22 MGD, we have systems in place with the filters to actually push water across those filters expeditiously more. We had to do that when we took the one plant offline, so we've already proved we can do it. Now we have to prove it so EPD agrees with us. So at some point we'll be able to take the permit we currently have at Crosstown and significantly increase it without having to add staff.

Mr. Davenport asked if we learned anything from our experience with a Padgett Road private water system going offline for three days, with respect to us having to address anything in our emergency connection ordinance. In this particular case, they didn't request emergency connections, but it would be smart for us to have a plan together for all the private water systems, in the event an emergency connection is needed. Of the private water systems we have, we've got a policy for how we do an emergency connection if it's warranted. We've done a complete analysis of the private water systems that have let us go on their property. We don't have an analysis for the ones who have said they're not really interested in selling. The private water system in this particular case is listed in our emergency ordinance. We already calculated the cost of providing water in the event it is

needed. It's important to ensure the way we handled that situation was effective and if not, how we can improve it.

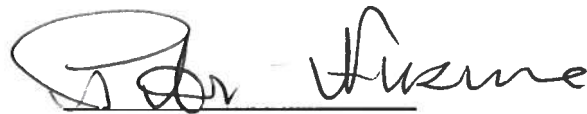
5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Adjournment

Ms. Tigert made the motion and Mr. Rapson seconded to adjourn the Water Committee meeting on February 10, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the Water Committee was adjourned at 9:10a.m.



Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.



Lindsey Choisnet  
Water Committee Clerk