

Water Committee  
Minutes  
November 9, 2022  
8:30 A.M.

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Committee Members Present: Bryan Keller, Chairman  
Vanessa Tigert, Vice-Chair  
Steve Rapson, County Administrator  
Jeff Hill, Fire Chief  
Bill Holland  
Jim Poff

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

Staff Present: Susan Lee, John Caldwell, Russell Ray, Lindsey Choisset

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Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bryan Keller at 8:30 a.m.

Acceptance of Agenda

Vanessa Tigert moved to accept the agenda as written. Jim Poff seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Approval of Minutes from the October 12, 2022 meeting  
Jeff Hill made the motion and Vanessa Tigert seconded to approve the minutes from the meeting on October 12, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.
  
2. Approval of the 2023 Water Committee Meeting Schedule  
Jeff Hill made the motion and Bill Holland seconded to approve the 2023 meeting schedule. The motion passed unanimously. Dennis Davenport noted the schedule as presented to the Committee reflects the June meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> which is the first Wednesday in June; Water Committee meetings are to take place on the second Wednesday of the month.  
Vanessa Tigert made the motion to amend the approved schedule to Wednesday, June 14. Jeff Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
  
3. System Updates  
Russell Ray presented our quarterly Drought Response report. Last month, parts of Georgia, including Fayette County, reflected as “abnormally dry.” As of November 1, a large area of “severe drought” has developed in the Northeastern part of the state and Fayette County conditions now reflect as “moderate.” We do expect rainfall this week, but likely not enough to overcome the gradually accumulating deficits that we’re seeing.  
Currently, Lakes Kedron and Peachtree levels are full. Lakes McIntosh and Horton are both running just less than two feet below full pool.  
Vanessa Tigert spoke more specifically on the 2019 vs 2022 elevations at Lake

Horton. In 2019, we applied for a drought response variance from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) because Lake Horton was at 775.5 ft. elevation, which is 4.5 ft. below full pool. A Level 1 drought response requires the implementation of a public information campaign. Ideally, we would apply for a variance prior to Lake Horton getting that low because it takes several weeks to send educational materials out to the public.

Compared to the 775.5 ft. elevation at this time of year in 2019, we are currently sitting at an elevation of 778.14 ft. This is due to a slight increase in precipitation but mostly because we are now pumping water from the Flint River into Lake Horton, which has been a major initiative for Ms. Tigert.

Even though Fayette County is sitting well drought-wise, we still need to determine when to start sending out drought educational materials because drought is expected to develop through January 2023. The whole point of EPD's tiered drought response system is to help citizens better understand drought, its impact on water supplies, and the need for water conservation.

Susan Lee advised that we are roughly 40% complete with the Hoseless Sludge Collector installation at both water plants.

The Revised Lead & Copper Rule sampling has been implemented. All samples have been collected for now and we're just waiting on a few more pieces of data to come in.

John Caldwell shared that the Veteran's Parkway waterline extension is getting close to wrapping up and should be in service soon.

4. Director's Report

We are steadily working with Badger Meter to negotiate the AMI contract. Purchasing is heavily involved with our review of the Statement of Work, Master Agreement, and Terms & Conditions.

Ms. Tigert recently attended the Georgia Association of Water Professional's (GAWP) President's Retreat to discuss how GAWP can help utilities. A large focus was how to attract and secure upcoming water professionals. Fayette County has been working with the Board of Education to bring in GED graduates for classes in field services, maintenance, and other trades.

5. Public Comment

Mr. Holland inquired about filling the newly vacant seat on the Water Committee. We are advertising the open position on the Fayette County website and applications are being accepted through Friday, December 2.

6. Adjournment

Bryan Keller made the motion and Vanessa Tigert seconded to adjourn the Water Committee meeting on November 9, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

The November 9, 2022 Water Committee meeting adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

  
Bryan D. Keller, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the  
11 day of NOV, 2022.

  
Lindsey Choisnet, Water Committee Clerk