

Water Committee Minutes October 16, 2024 8:30 A.M.

Committee Members Present:

Bryan Keller, Chair; Environmental Management Director

Vanessa Tigert, Vice-Chair; Water System Director

Steve Rapson, County Administrator

Jeff Hill, Fire Chief

Bill Holland, Citizen Representative Jim Poff, Citizen Representative William Yarde, Citizen Representative

Committee Non-Voting Members:

Dennis Davenport, County Attorney

Aaron Capelouto, Arcadis

Staff Present:

James Munster, Field Operations Director

Susan Lee, Water Production & Operations Manager

Carrie Gibby, Business Operations Manager Russell Ray, Facilities & Projects Specialist

Emily Larrimore, Laboratory & Compliance Specialist Tenorazel Washington, Training & Safety Coordinator

Lindsey Choisnet, Engineering Technician

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 amend the agenda so that System Updates immediately follow the Approval of the Minutes from the August 14, 2024 Meeting. Steve Rapson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from the August 14, 2024 Meeting
 Jeff Hill made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2024 meeting.
 Jim Poff seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

System Updates

Business Operations

Carrie Gibby reminded the Committee that the Board of Commissioners (BOC) approved an interconnectivity initiative back in January 2020, which included development of a hydraulic model, a safe-yield analysis for long-term water supply

demand, and a service delivery rate for wholesale water sales. This initiative is a compliance requirement of the Interconnection, Redundancy, and Reliability Act that ensures water systems can accept and share water with surrounding utilities. In October 2021, a wholesale rate analysis was conducted based on American Water and Wastewater Association (AWWA) standards and in May 2022, the BOC approved the recommended wholesale rate of \$2.67. This rate reflected a 10% increase from the previous rate of \$2.43 established in 2009.

The hydraulic model was used to perform a wholesale rate analysis based on 2024 data, which consisted of operating costs at \$1.94 and capital costs at \$1.21, totaling a rate of \$3.15 per 1,000 gallons of water. The Water System is recommending the wholesale rate of \$3.15, reflecting an 18% increase from the previous rate of \$2.67 established in 2022. The wholesale rate will impact City of Fayetteville, Coweta County Water and Sewerage Authority, City of Peachtree City municipal accounts, and future wholesale customers.

Mr. Rapson noted that this is not a full cost recovery, as we could justify a wholesale rate that is higher than our current retail rate. The hydraulic analysis is much more reflective of our true operating costs thanks to the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) data.

Jim Poff made a motion to make the recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to adopt the wholesale rate of \$3.15. Jeff Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Aaron Capelouto discussed the Lead & Copper Rules Revision (LCRR) with regard to the service-line inventory completion. As part of the AMI meter replacement program, over 5,200 service lines were field-investigated to determine the service-line type; the remaining 27,000+ service lines were installed after the National Lead Ban in 1990. Lead service-line inventories for both unincorporated Fayette County and the Town of Brooks were found to have no unknowns, and no instances of lead nor galvanized pipes requiring replacement.

Arcadis is working with 120Water to set up the public-facing portion of the "public transparency" dashboard; customers will be able to identify the service line material upstream and downstream of their meter in a searchable database.

Plant Operations

Susan Lee shared that the semi-annual basin cleaning is wrapping up. This is also an opportunity to look at the equipment in the basins to ensure they're operating efficiently.

Ms. Lee reintroduced Tenorazel Washington to the Committee. She came in as an Operator trainee two years ago and now has Drinking Water Class II and Water Analyst certifications. She was promoted to our Training & Safety Coordinator position this past April.

Field Operations

James Munster advised we're about 80% complete with relocating the nearly 3,000 feet of waterline for the Georgia Department of Transportation's (DOT) Highway 54/74 intersection project. Those lines should be in service by the end of

November.

A total of about 1,000 feet of pipe will be relocated as a result of the DOT's Highway 85 N widening project, which is nearly 50% complete.

3. Approval of the 2025 Water Committee Meeting Schedule

Jim Poff made a motion to approve the 2025 Water Committee meeting schedule. Jeff Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. <u>Director's Report</u>

The Water Committee's citizen representatives serve four-year terms and are not limited in the number of terms they can serve. The terms are staggered to eliminate the possibility that all three positions be replaced at the same time. Dr. William Yarde filled an unexpired term in April 2023 that will be expiring on December 31, 2024. An announcement and application for this position will be posted to our website and we invite any Fayette County Water System customer to apply or reapply.

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. <u>Committee's Comments</u>

Jim Poff requested clarification on the August and September 2024 Top Users reports. The reports reflect data captured thanks to the new AMI meters. Some outliers are due to circumstances such as leaks, while other outliers are indicators of how badly the old meters were under-registering.

Adjournment

Bryan Keller made the motion and Steve Rapson seconded to adjourn the Water Committee meeting on October 16, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

The October 16, 2024 Water Committee meeting adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

Bryan D. Keller, Chair

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the day of <u>January</u>, 2025.

Lindsey Choisnet, Water Committee Clerk