

# Water Committee Minutes May 14, 2025 8:30 A.M.

**Committee Members Present:** 

Bryan Keller, Chair; Environmental Management Director

Jeff Hill, Vice-Chair; Chief of Fire & Emergency Services

Steve Rapson, County Administrator Vanessa Tigert, Water System Director Bill Holland, Citizen Representative William Yarde, Citizen Representative

Jim Poff, Citizen Representative

**Committee Non-Voting Members:** 

Ali Cox, County Attorney Aaron Capelouto, Arcadis

Staff Present:

Susan Lee, Water Production & Operations Manager

Dave Schreiber, Field Operations Manager Ben Martin, Plant Maintenance Manager Russell Ray, Facilities & Projects Specialist

Emily Larrimore, Laboratory & Compliance Specialist

Lindsey Choisnet, Engineering Technician Colette Cobb, Contract Administrator

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bryan Keller at 8:32 A.M.

### Acceptance of Agenda

Jeff Hill moved to accept the agenda as written. Vanessa Tigert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 1. Approval of Minutes from the March 12, 2025 meeting

Vanessa Tigert moved to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2025 meeting. Bill Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 2. **System Updates**

**Business Operations** 

Aaron Capelouto touched on Arcadis projects. Bid documents are out for the Trilith Pump Station project and the request for proposals is now open. Chemical system upgrades are underway at both water treatment plants and the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project is nearing 97% completion.

To address limitations in the Beacon software's ability to report conservation data, Arcadis developed a custom dashboard to analyze AMI data. The tool tracks leaks by rate, duration, and severity, and distinguishes between customer-side and system-side losses. This data refreshes weekly and enables staff to prioritize the most significant and longstanding leaks. The Committee discussed tracking total system loss as a percentage of daily production going forward.

## Field Operations

Dave Schrieber reported that the Highway 54/74 project is moving forward, with insertion valve installation expected the following week. The team is also preparing for year-end inventory, noting that the absence of a Warehouse Manager has added strain, but operations remain steady.

### **Plant Operations**

Emily Larrimore introduced Jason Sears as the new Laboratory Analyst. Mr. Sears previously served as a Water Operator at the South Fayette Water Treatment Plant.

Ben Martin reported that all finished water production pumps are operational, restoring system redundancy ahead of high-demand season. Control valves are being adjusted to reduce pressure surges and minimize main breaks. The focus for the next fiscal year will shift to restoring raw water pump redundancy.

Susan Lee noted that the triannual sanitary survey is scheduled for July 1-2, and preparations are underway. Both treatment plants received the 2024 Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) Gold Award, recognizing full compliance and zero permit violations.

## 3. <u>Director's Report</u>

Chair Keller shared that the Water System and Environmental Management Departments are collaborating on a Starrs Mill Environmental Education Facility, funded through the 2023 SPLOST. A nearby parcel adjacent to Starrs Mill is under contract, with closing anticipated in the coming months. Concept plans include expanded parking, restrooms, building renovations, and a potential outdoor amphitheater. A path connecting Starrs Mill to the Starrs Mill Complex is also planned, enabling use by local schools.

Jim Poff inquired about facility ownership. Vanessa Tigert clarified that the project will fall under the Water System, as Starrs Mill and the Pump House are on Water System property.

Ms. Tigert also noted that bids for the on-call stormwater and waterline contractor services are due by Friday, May 16. Mr. Keller added that bid packages include unit pricing and conform to Georgia Department of Transportation specifications where possible.

- 4. <u>Public Comment</u> No public comment.
- 5. <u>Committee's Comments</u>
  No committee comments.

# **Adjournment**

Bryan Keller moved to adjourn the May 14, 2025 Water Committee meeting. Vanessa Tigert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The May 14, 2025 Water Committee meeting adjourned at 9:09 A.M.

Bryan D. Keller, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

Lindsey Choisnet, Water Committee Clerk