

**The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn
November 21, 2019 – Regular Meeting
Minutes**

The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn met on November 21, 2019 at 4:00 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.

I. CALL TO ORDER

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

II. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Clary, Chairman
Butch Brock, Vice Chairman
Jennifer Chambliss, Secretary
Brad Wilson, Board Member
Bernard Hill, Board Member (arrived at 4:10, after roll call)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF/VISITORS PRESENT:

Eric Carson, Water Resource Management Director
Matt Dunn, Water Resource Management Assistant Director
Tim Johnson, Principal Utility Engineer
Elisabeth Ingram, Utility Engineer
Rick McCarty, Water Plant Manager
Kyle Hildreth, Water Distribution Manager
Marla Smith, Watershed Division Manager
Allison Edge, Finance Director/Treasurer
Erika Sprouse, Assistant Finance Director/Treasurer
Kathy James, Utility Billing Financial Manager
Amy Saylor, Accounting Specialist
Rick Davidson, Attorney

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Clary asked for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 21, 2019.
Mr. Brock made a motion for approval of the Regular Meeting minutes of September 21, 2019.
Mr. Wilson seconded the motion.
All voted aye; none opposed and Dr. Clary declared the motion approved.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Financial Report

Ms. Edge stated that the financial statements presented in the packets were for the month ending October 31, 2019, and 8.3 percent of the year has elapsed. Water sales were at 11.9 percent of budget. Operating revenues were at 11.7 percent of budget and operating expenses were under budget at 5.3 percent. The net income for the month of October was \$836,519. The Access Fee account balance is \$1,245,985 as of October 31, 2019.

Ms. Edge introduced Erika Sprouse, the new Finance Assistant Director.

2. Phillips Easement – Well No. 4 Transmission Main

Mr. Carson presented a resolution authorizing the Chairman to accept one permanent water easement from the Phillips Family Partnership LTD in the amount of \$25,000.

Dr. Clary asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the resolution.

Ms. Chambliss seconded the motion.

All voted aye; none opposed and Dr. Clary declared the motion approved.

Resolution No. 19-24

3. Holloway Easement – Well No. 4 Transmission Main

Mr. Carson presented a resolution authorizing the Chairman to accept one permanent water easement from Charlene Holloway in the amount of \$3,180.

Dr. Clary asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Ms. Chambliss made a motion to approve the resolution.

Mr. Brock seconded the motion.

All voted aye; none opposed and Dr. Clary declared the motion approved.

Resolution No. 19-25

4. State Park Easement – Well No. 4 Transmission Main

Mr. Carson presented a resolution authorizing the Chairman to accept one permanent water easement from the State of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in the amount of \$48,668, plus an addition ten percent (\$4,866.80) for unforeseen contingencies for a total approved amount of \$53,534.80.

Dr. Clary asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the resolution.

Mr. Brock seconded the motion.

All voted aye; none opposed and Dr. Clary declared the motion approved.

Resolution No. 19-26

5. Purchase of Non-Metallic Chain for WTP Clarifier Basin #3 Sludge Collection System

Mr. Carson presented a resolution authorizing the Chairman to approve the purchase of 680 LF of Non-Metallic Chain with attachment from Hunter Electric Motor and Supply Co., Inc. in the amount of \$19,557.48.

Dr. Clary asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Ms. Chambliss made a motion to approve the resolution.

Mr. Wilson seconded the motion.

All voted aye; none opposed and Dr. Clary declared the motion approved.

Resolution No. 19-27

6. Purchase of 2020 Toyota Tacoma Truck

Mr. Carson presented a resolution authorizing the Chairman to approve the purchase of one (1) 2020 Toyota Tacoma Pick-up Truck from National Auto Fleet Group at a cost of \$25,524.52. This vehicle is a replacement vehicle and will be used by the Water Distribution Meter Reader Division.

Dr. Clary asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Mr. Brock made a motion to approve the resolution.

Mr. Wilson seconded the motion.

All voted aye; none opposed and Dr. Clary declared the motion approved.

Resolution No. 19-28

At 4:15 PM, Dr. Clary stated he had a prior engagement and needed to excuse himself from the remainder of the meeting. Dr. Clary turned the chair over to Mr. Brock.

VI. STAFF REPORTS

1. Project Status Report

- Water Distribution System Master Plan

Mr. Dunn reported on the Water Distribution System Master Plan stating this project consists of hydraulic modeling and planning of the AWWB water distribution system. The prospect of a new water supply well in south Auburn has necessitated the implementation of this project. The location of the prospective well is in an area of the system that has high water pressure. Preliminary analysis indicates that connecting this well directly into the portion of the water distribution system closest to the site would negatively impact the system by further increasing water pressure in this area. The master plan will determine the most effective way to incorporate a new well source into the system. This project will also include an evaluation in order to determine how to optimize the distribution of water supply from existing sources taking into account anticipated areas of future growth/demand. The consultant used specialized modeling software, Optimatics, which runs hundreds of scenarios to evaluate the system. The hydraulic model results have been completed and staff has reviewed the draft report and delivered comments to the consultant. The consultant is now finalizing the report document.

- Gold Hill Booster Pumping Station HVAC Improvements

Mr. Dunn reported on the Gold Hill Booster Pumping Station HVAC Improvements Project stating this project consists of the installation of new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment at the Gold Hill water booster pumping station along with the replacement of environmentally damaged interior surfaces. This facility is equipped with variable speed motor drives. These types of drives emit heat and are susceptible to overheating resulting in equipment malfunction. These improvements will help maintain a more suitable environment for the drives and reduce interior environmental damage from moisture buildup and less than desirable ventilation. Following the final site meeting held in late July, the consultant has finalized the final design drawings. Staff has started preparing request for quote/bidding documents. Solicitation of quotes and project implementation is expected in the last quarter of 2019.

- AL HWY 147 (College St.) and Farmville Road Utility Relocation

Mr. Dunn reported on the AL HWY 147 (College St.) and Farmville Road Utility Relocation project stating that the relocation of these facilities is necessary due to the reconfiguration of the intersection by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). Design has been finalized and the consultant is awaiting authorization from ALDOT to proceed with bidding. Construction is expected to commence in early 2020.

- Farmville Road Electric Flow Control Valve Replacement

Mr. Dunn reported on the Farmville Road Electric Flow Control Valve Replacement project stating this project consists of the installation of a new flow control valve near the intersection of East Farmville Road and U.S. Highway 280. The project will replace an existing valve, originally installed in 2000, which regulates flow through the Board's connection with Opelika Utilities on Farmville Road. The new valve will provide system operators with better control of water over a wider range of flows. The replacement valve has been selected and procured. The Board's SCADA integrator has made a site visit in order to prepare for final valve controller programming and wiring. Fittings to accommodate the installation of the new valve in the vault have been ordered. Once received, the Board staff will schedule the installation, SCADA integration, and testing which is expected in late 2019.

- West Farmville Road Water Main Extension – Pepperwood Trail to Miracle Road

Mr. Dunn reported on the West Farmville Road Water Main Extension project stating this project consists of installation of a 12" ductile iron water main along West Farmville Road from North Donahue Drive to Miracle Road (Auburn Lakes Road). This main will serve a new fire station planned near the intersection of Farmville Road and Miracle Road. This main will at some point in the future provide a looped water feed to this area by ultimately connecting to the water main being installed along Miracle Road through the Woodward Oaks development. Minor clearing along the route to facilitate surveying and design for the new main is near completion. Once design is complete, construction by AWWB staff will commence. The new main is scheduled to be in service by August 2020.

- Water Supply Well #4 Production Facilities

Mr. Dunn reported on the Water Supply Well #4 Production Facilities project stating that this project consists of the development of a new water supply well in south Auburn. Final design was completed and the bid opening was held on June 6. The low bidder, Schmidt Environmental Construction, Inc., was awarded the construction contract at the June 2019 AWWB meeting. The contractor has mobilized, and initial site/grading and grading is nearing completion. Yard piping and building excavation work is expected to begin this month. The project is anticipated to extend into mid-2020.

- Water Supply Well #4 Transmission Main

Mr. Dunn reported on the Water Supply Well #4 Transmission Main project stating that this project consists of the design and construction of a new large diameter transmission main from Well #4. Design is underway along the proposed transmission main route. Staff and legal counsel are finalizing easement agreements with the remaining affected property owners. The construction of this project is anticipated to extend into the late summer of 2020.

- WRM Complex Renovations

Mr. Dunn reported on the WRM Complex Renovations Project stating Phase 1 of this project, Roofing Improvements, was completed in October 2018. Installation of the new security cameras began in January in the warehouse building of the WRM Complex and is now nearing completion. Wiring and additional cameras will be installed in conjunction with phase 2 of the administrative building renovations.

The renovation of the administrative building (phase 2), which consists of ADA improvements, new interior finishes, and audio/visual upgrades began on March 4. The Utility Billing Office and Engineering Administration Offices were temporarily relocated to 1500 Pumphery Avenue while construction was completed in the respective portions of the building. All personnel have now been moved back and are operating out of the WRM Complex. The project is nearing substantial completion and project closeout is expected in the coming weeks.

2. Rainfall Data

Mr. Carson presented the rainfall report stating that for the month of November, as of the 18th, we have received 2.77 inches of rain at the lake and 2.34 inches of rain at the plant. For the year to date, we are 0.58 inches above normal at the lake and -8.20 inches below normal at the plant.

3. Lake Level Chart

Mr. Carson presented the lake level chart stating that the lake level is currently at an elevation of 474.2 feet. According to the drought management tool, the lake is in the Phase I/II Drought Watch Stage. A Phase I/II Drought Watch press release was released to the Public on September 20, reminding citizens to conserve water. No restrictions have been enforced at this time.

4. Drought Map and Drought Discussion

Mr. Carson presented the drought monitoring maps for October 8, 2019 and November 12, 2019 and stated that the map for Lee County is in the abnormally dry/moderate stage. The national map shows drought conditions in Texas and Arizona have improved, but California is showing abnormally dry conditions.

5. Statistical Usage and Revenue Analysis Recap

Mr. Carson reported on the Statistical Usage and Revenue Analysis Recap. Average water demand for the month of October 2019 was 8.5 million gallons per day (mgd), which includes water produced and water purchased from Opelika Utilities. Water produced from the water plant was approximately 3.6 mgd and water produced from the well was approximately 1.3 mgd. An average of 3.6 mgd was purchased from Opelika Utilities.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Next Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting will be December 19, 2019 at 4:00 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Brock declared the November 21, 2019 meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.



Dr. Jeff Clary, Chairman

ATTEST: 

~~Ms. Jennifer Chambliss, Secretary~~
Mr. Butch Brock, Vice Chairman

