

**The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn  
February 20, 2020 – Regular Meeting  
Minutes**

The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn met on February 20, 2020 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  
Bernard Hill, Board Member

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Brad Wilson, Board Member

**STAFF/VISITORS PRESENT:**

Eric Carson, Water Resource Management Director  
Matt Dunn, Water Resource Management Assistant Director  
Tim Johnson, Principal Utility Engineer  
Rick McCarty, Water Plant Manager  
Kyle Hildreth, Water Distribution Manager  
Marla Smith, Watershed Division Manager  
Allison Edge, Finance Director/Treasurer  
LaTrice Mose, Revenue Manager  
Rick Davidson, Attorney

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. Clary asked for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 23, 2020.  
Dr. Hill made a motion for approval of the Regular Meeting minutes of January 23, 2020.  
Mr. Brock 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 January 31, 2020, and 33.3 percent of the year has elapsed. Water sales were at 36.8 percent of budget. Operating revenues were at 36.8 percent of budget and operating expenses were under budget at 29.8 percent. The net income for the month of January was \$40,400. The Access Fee account balance is \$993,477 as of January 31, 2020.

**VI. STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Project Status Report**



#### **- Water Distribution System Master Plan**

Mr. Dunn reported on the Water Distribution System Master Plan stating that this project is complete and the final draft has been received from the consultant. 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 and will include an evaluation on how to optimize the distribution of water supply from existing sources taking into account anticipated areas of future growth/demand. The results of the study included a list of water transmission/distribution projects to be implemented over the next 5 to 20 years, with the most significant project being a large diameter transmission main along the southwest quadrant of the system. This project, recommended to be implemented by 2038, will bolster the east-to-west movement of water through the system.

#### **- 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. Solicitation of quotes and project implementation is expected in the next two months.

#### **- 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 completed and bids were received for the project on December 12, 2019. The AWWB approved award of the construction contract to the low bidder, Crawford Grading and Pipeline, Inc., in the amount of \$204,489 at the December 19, 2019 Board meeting. The project is currently on hold as the ALDOT has been unable to finalize right of way acquisition with a property owner. Once authorization is received from ALDOT, water main construction is expected to last approximately two months.

#### **- 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 has been completed. The pipe, valves, fittings, and appurtenances for the project were bid on January 14, 2020. The lowest responsible bidder was Empire Pipe and Supply in the amount of \$125,575.77. The ductile iron pipe is scheduled to be delivered over the next two weeks. The main will be installed by Water Board personnel and is scheduled to be in service by August 2020.

#### **- South College Street Water Main Improvements Project**

Mr. Dunn reported on the South College Street Water Main Improvements project stating that this project consists of the installation of a new 8" ductile iron water main along South College Street from Thatch Avenue to 129 South College Street (near the Whatley Building). The new main will replace and abandon an old 6" cast iron water main from Miller Avenue to Toomer's Corner. Construction of this project is underway and is being coordinated with the Auburn University Rane Culinary Science Center and the Whatley Building redevelopment projects. The majority of the main has been installed and testing is underway. The northern connection and the abandonment of the old 6" main is expected to be completed in the next four to six weeks.



#### **- 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 substantially complete. Yard piping and well building foundation construction is underway. The contractor anticipates pouring the building slab in the next two weeks, if weather permits. 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. The easement agreements with affected property owners are nearly finalized. Final permitting with various agencies (ADEM, US Corps of Engineers, etc.) is complete. The project bid on January 9, 2020. The lowest responsive bidder was Rast Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$4,424,994. The contract was awarded to Rast Construction, Inc. at the January 23, 2020 Board meeting. A preconstruction meeting with Rast was held on February 5, 2020. The Notice to Proceed is being issued effective February 26, 2020. A public meeting to discuss the project has been scheduled for February 20, 2020. The construction of this project is anticipated to extend into the fall of 2020.

#### **- James E. Estes Water Treatment Plant Structural Rehabilitation**

Mr. Dunn reported on the James E. Estes Water Treatment Plant (Estes WTP) Structural Rehabilitation project stating that this project consists of miscellaneous structural rehabilitation of various features at the Estes WTP such as joint repair, masonry wall demolition and repair, and distressed concrete rehabilitation. The design of the project is substantially complete. However, the contractor for the Well #4 water transmission main project is expected to start work at the Estes WTP in the coming weeks. Like the rehabilitation project, the water transmission main project will require portions of the plant to be taken offline. Given the current schedule of the projects, and in order to limit the number of tanks/basins that would be taken off-line to facilitate construction, the Estes WTP rehabilitation project has been postponed until completion of the Well #4 project. It is possible that the project will be included in the larger Estes WTP upgrade project expected to begin design this year.

### **2. Rainfall Data**

Mr. Carson presented the rainfall report for the month of February, stating that as of the 19<sup>th</sup>, we have received 7.77 inches of rain at the lake and 8.63 inches of rain at the plant. For the year to date, we are 4.35 inches above normal at the lake and 6.19 inches above 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 487.2 feet and is currently flowing over the spillway. According to the drought management tool, the lake is above the Optimal Pool Cycle Stage.

### **4. Drought Map and Drought Discussion**

Mr. Carson presented the drought monitoring maps for January 14, 2020 and February 11, 2020 and stated that the map for Alabama indicates that the state (with the exception of the southwest corner) is now out of all drought stages. The national map shows Washington, Oregon, and parts of Idaho are now in the moderate drought stage. Mr. Carson also stated that parts of Texas, and areas of the southwest (particularly in the four corners area of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado), remain in the moderate drought stage.

### **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 January 2020 was 5.8 million gallons per day (mgd), which includes

water produced and water purchased from Opelika Utilities. Water produced from the water plant was approximately 4.2 mgd and water produced from the well was approximately 1.2 mgd. An average of .4 mgd was purchased from Opelika Utilities.

## **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. Alternate Fireworks Display Site**

Mr. Carson stated the City of Auburn annually holds the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display at Duck Samford Park. Due to possible construction this year, alternate sites are being considered. The City would like permission from the Water Board to use the previous site of the East University Drive (EUD) Water Tank as a possible alternative.

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

Ms. Chambliss made a motion to approve the request.

Mr. Brock seconded the motion.

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

### **2. Next Regular Meeting**

The next regular meeting will be March 19, 2020 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, Dr. Clary declared the February 20, 2020 meeting adjourned at 4:19 PM.

  
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Dr. Jeff Clary, Chairman

ATTEST:   
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Ms. Jennifer Chambliss, Secretary