

**The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn
April 18, 2024 – Regular Meeting
Minutes**

The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn met on April 18, 2024, at 4:00 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brad Wilson, Chairman
Bernard Hill, Secretary
David Reaves, Board Member
Thomas Sparrow, Board Member
Celeste Norris, Board Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF/VISITORS PRESENT:

Eric Carson, Water Resource Management Director
Matt Dunn, Water Resource Management Assistant Director
Tim Johnson, Water Resource Management Principal Utility Engineer
Kyle Hildreth, Water Distribution Manager
Rick McCarty, Water Plant Manager
Allison Edge, Finance Director
Heidi Lowery, Accounting and Finance Reporting Manager
LaTrice Mose Revenue Manager
Alexander Massingill, Utilities Accountant
Kris Berry, Utility Engineer
McCarthy Autry, Risk Manager
Rick Davidson- City Attorney

III. BOARD COMMUNICATION

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wilson asked for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 21, 2024.
Mr. Reaves made a motion for approval of the Regular Meeting minutes of March 21, 2024.
Mr. Sparrow seconded the motion.
All voted aye; none opposed, and Mr. Wilson declared the motion approved.

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction of New Board Member

Mr. Wilson introduced Celeste Norris as the newest board member, filling the vacant position left by Jennifer Chambliss.

2. Election of Board Officer(s)

Mr. Wilson requested nominations for Vice Chairman.

Mr. Reaves nominated Dr. Hill for Vice-Chairman.
Mr. Sparrow seconded the motion.
All voted aye; none opposed, and Mr. Wilson declared the motion approved.

Mr. Wilson requested nominations for Secretary.

Mr. Wilson nominated Mr. Reaves for Secretary.

Dr. Hill seconded the motion.
All voted aye; none opposed, and Mr. Wilson declared the motion approved.

3. AMIC Award

McCarthy Autry from HR presented the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn with the Gold Risk Management Award by the insurance divisions of the Alabama League of Municipalities.

4. Financial Report-March 2024

Ms. Edge stated that the financial statements presented in the packets were for the month ending March 31, 2024, the sixth month of the fiscal year. Water sales were at 49.2 percent of the budget. Operating revenue was at 48.8 percent of budget and operating expenses and transfers were under budget at 43.5 percent. The net income for March was \$319,829. The year-to-date net income through March 31, 2024, was \$1,838,608. The Access Fee account balance was \$3,478,583 as of March 31, 2024.

5. Annual Financial Report FY 2023

Ms. Edge presented the Annual Financial Report for FY 23 and findings from the audit performed by Machen McChesney. Auditors communicated in this report that there were no deficiencies in internal control.

6. Hach Agreement

Mr. Johnson requested authorization for the Board Chairman to execute a contract with Hach in the amount of \$58,618.87 for a three-year renewal of services. These services cover field service, maintenance and calibration services to various laboratory and water quality instruments at the James E. Ester Water Treatment Plant and Lake Ogletree.

Mr. Wilson asked for a motion to approve this agreement.

Mr. Sparrow made a motion to approve.
Mr. Reaves seconded the motion.
All voted aye; none opposed, and Mr. Wilson declared the motion approved.

7. Thompson Cat Transfer Switch

Mr. Johnson requested authorization to replace the automatic transfer switch on the standby, emergency generator at the Lake Ogletree raw water pumping station for the quoted amount of \$72,049.75.

Mr. Wilson asked for a motion to approve this purchase.

Mr. Reaves made a motion to approve.
Dr. Hill seconded the motion.
All voted aye; none opposed, and Mr. Wilson declared the motion approved.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

1. Project Status Report

- Martin Luther King Drive Water Main Improvements - Donahue Drive to Richland Road (Project 21075)

Construction of this project is complete. This project extended a new 8" ductile iron water main along the north side of Martin Luther King (MLK) Drive from Donahue Drive to Richland Road; a 14" HDPE water main directional bore under MLK near the Byrd Street intersection; and a 12" ductile iron water main jack and bore under the CSX Railroad near Byrd Street. The construction of the new main was included with the streetscape construction project implemented by the City's Engineering Services Department.

- West Farmville Road Water Main Extension; Hwy 147 (North College Street) to Miracle Road (Project 20078)

Mr. Dunn reported on the West Farmville Road Water Main Project (Hwy 147 (North College Street) to Miracle Road. This project will extend a new 12" ductile iron water main along the south side of West Farmville Road from Alabama Highway 147 (North College Street) to Miracle Road. This main will be principally a transmission main to provide auxiliary feed to the W. Farmville Rd/Mrs. James Rd/N. Donahue Dr. area. Pipeline installation has been completed. In January 2024, the flow control valve and flow meter were installed. The SCADA integrator is assembling the control panel components and expects to install the panel in May. Electrical service is expected to be established later this month. The project is expected to be complete in May 2024.

- Fixed network (AMI) Meter Reading System (Project 21061)

Wireless gateway communication equipment has been installed and is in operation on the Summerhill Road water storage tank, the Shug Jordan Parkway water storage tank, and on a pole-mounted, standalone unit along Runningvine Lane (near the Village Mall and movie theatre). A collector was installed on the West Farmville Tank the week of April 8. Initial results have been very strong from this site. Currently, between the four collectors approximately 8,000 meters are being read. The installation of the collector on the East Farmville water storage tank is expected to be complete on April 19, 2024. All sites are being used to assist in the evaluation of the AMI system capabilities. The project is expected to last through FY2024.

- Byrd Street Water Main (Glenn Ave to Railroad Ave) (Project no. 24033)

This project will extend a new 12" ductile iron water main along the east side of Byrd Street from West Glenn Avenue to Railroad Avenue. This project connects previous projects performed by the Board along Byrd Street and West Glenn Avenue to the new main installed under the CSX railroad as a part of the MLK Streetscape/Water Main Improvement Project. Construction materials are being procured and construction is expected to commence in early May 2024.

2. Rainfall Data

Mr. Carson stated that this month has been drier than the past months but there is rain in the forecast. For the month of April, we have received 1.83 inches of rain at the lake and 25.78 inches of rain for the year which is 3.76 inches above normal. At the plant, we have received 1.96 inches of rain for the month and 24.29 inches of rain for the year, which is 1.97 inches above normal at the plant.

3. Lake Level Chart

Mr. Carson stated that the lake is full, and the current elevation is 486.1.

4. Drought Map and Drought Discussion

Mr. Carson stated that the drought monitoring maps for March 12, 2024, and April 9, 2024, show that the map for Alabama indicates that most of the state is out of a drought situation. The Southeastern part of United States also looks good with Texas and New Mexico still showing problems with drought.

5. Statistical Usage and Revenue Analysis Recap

Mr. Carson stated that the Statistical Usage and Revenue Analysis Recap showed the average water demand for March 2024 was 6.8 million gallons per day (mgd), which includes water produced and water purchased from Opelika Utilities. Water produced from the water plant was approximately 3.1 mgd, water produced from Well #3 was approximately 1.1 mgd, and water produced from Well #4 was approximately 1.9 mgd. Water purchased from Opelika Water was

700,000 gallons. Based on these production numbers, the Board produced 90% of the distributed water from its sources and purchased the remaining 10% from Opelika Water.

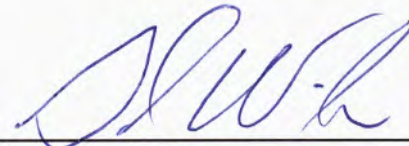
VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Next Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting will be May 23, 2024, at 4:00 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.

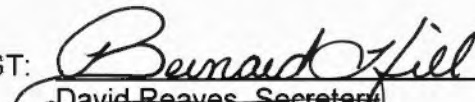
IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Wilson declared the April 18, 2024, meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.



Brad Wilson, Chairman

ATTEST:


~~David Reaves, Secretary~~
Bernard Hill, Vice Chairman