

**The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn  
May23, 2024 – Regular Meeting  
Minutes**

The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn met on May 23, 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, Vice-Chairman  
Thomas Sparrow, Board Member  
Celeste Norris, Board Member

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

David Reaves, Secretary

**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  
Marla Smith, Watershed Division Manager  
Erika Sprouse, Principal Financial Analyst  
Heidi Lowery, Accounting and Finance Reporting Manager  
Alexander Massingill, Utilities Accountant  
Stephen Clay- Water Board Attorney

**III. BOARD COMMUNICATION**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Wilson asked for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 18, 2024.  
Dr. Hill made a motion for approval of the Regular Meeting minutes of April 18, 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. Financial Report-April 2024**

Ms. Lowery stated that the financial statements presented in the packets were for the month ending April 30, 2024, the seventh month of the fiscal year. Water sales were at 56.4 percent of the budget. Operating revenue was at 56.2 percent of budget and operating expenses and transfers were under budget at 51.9 percent. The net income for April was \$184,714. The year-to-date net income through April 30, 2024, was \$2,000,307. The Access Fee account balance was \$3,646,064 as of April 30, 2024.

**2. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Heatherly**

Mr. Carson presented a resolution authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Michael and Sara Heatherly for the construction of a water supply test well.



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

#### **- 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, installation of the flow control valve, and installation of the flow meter has been completed. The electrical service pole was set in early May. Electrical control conduit was installed earlier this month by the Board's staff. The SCADA integrator (Revere Control Systems) is nearing completion of the shop assembly and testing of the SCADA control panel. Installation of the panel is expected in the next two to three weeks. The project is expected to be complete in June 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 and installation was completed at the East Farmville Tank on April 19. Results from these sites have been strong. Initial results have been strong from this site. Currently, between the five collectors between 8,000 and 9,000 meters are being read automatically. Information from the five current sites is being used to evaluate additional sites. The project is expected to last through FY2024.

#### **- Byrd Street Water Main (Glenn Ave to Railroad Ave) (Project 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 have been received and construction commenced last week. The project is expected to be complete in early Summer 2024.

#### **-Ogletree RWPS Improvements-ATS replacement (Project. 24036)**

This project consists of the replacement of the automatic transfer switch (ATS) for the emergency backup generator at the Lake Ogletree Raw Water Pumping Station. Contract documents are currently being circulated. ATS equipment being procured has extensive (40+ week) lead time. Once equipment is procured, additional updates will be provided. The project is expected to be completed late this year or early 2025.

### **2. Rainfall Data**

Mr. Carson stated that this year has been unusually wet. So far, we have had three months with over 8 inches of rain. At the lake, we have received 8.39 inches of rain for the month and 35.78 inches of rain for the year, which is 9.39 inches above normal. At the plant, we have received 5.4 inches of rain for the month and 30.69 inches of rain for the year, which is 4.15 inches above normal at the plant.

### **3. Lake Level Chart**

Mr. Carson stated that the lake is full, and the current elevation is 486.3.

#### 4. Drought Map and Drought Discussion

Mr. Carson stated that the drought monitoring maps for April 9, 2024, and May 14, 2024, show that the map for Alabama is in good shape. The national map is similar to last month, with the Southeastern part of United States showing minimal drought conditions and Texas and New Mexico still showing some 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 April 2024 was 8.3 million gallons per day (mgd), which includes water produced and water purchased from Opelika Utilities. Water produced from the water plant was approximately 5.3 mgd, water produced from Well #3 was approximately 400,000 gallons per day (gpd), and water produced from Well #4 was approximately 700,000 gpd. Water purchased from Opelika Water was 1.9 mgd. Based on these production numbers, the Board produced 77% of the distributed water from its sources and purchased the remaining 23% from Opelika Water. We purchased more water from Opelika Water this month due to aquifer testing and monitoring. Well #3 and Well #4 should return to full production next month.

#### VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

##### 1. Next Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting will be June 20, 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 May 23, 2024, meeting adjourned at 4:27 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.

Brad Wilson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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



