

# **JACKSON COUNTY WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**October 8, 2009**

Chairman Pugh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members present included Chairman Randall Pugh, Vice Chairman Dave Ehrhardt, Board Member Shade Storey, Board Member Andy Goodman and Board Member Dr. Neelagaru. Also present: Manager Eric Klerk, Attorney Paul Smart, Chief Engineer Fred Alke, Wastewater Manager Mark Dudziak, Water Services Manager Stacy Jenkins, Finance Director Judy Davis, Board Secretary Karen Johnson and Consulting Engineer Rob McPherson. Visitors included Mark Beardsley with The Main Street News, Mr. and Mrs. Jones and Trevor Jones.

Chairman Pugh made an amendment to the agenda. The Declaration of Surplus Property was added to the agenda under New Business.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Storey made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2009 board meeting as presented.

Member Neelagaru seconded the motion. The motion carried with no objection with all board members present voting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### *Chris Jones Billing Dispute*

Chairman Pugh welcomed Mr. Chris Jones. Mr. Jones was attending to discuss his hydrant meter bill. Chairman Pugh asked Mr. Jones to state his case. Mr. Jones explained how he used the meter, for what purpose, how it was stored and how long it was in his possession. He stated there was no way he used the amount of water that he is being billed for. Mr. Jones said he did not have that much land to spray. He said he used maybe 6,000 gallons. Member Goodman asked Engineer Alke what was the likelihood that air went through the meter. Engineer Alke said he felt it was possible but not likely. Chairman Pugh said that we are not taking this lightly; that we have a process we go through that includes testing the meter for accuracy. Chairman Pugh explained we have to follow the policy of the contract and fall back on the facts that we know. Vice Chairman Ehrhardt calculated the average daily usage at 2,800 gallons a day. Member Storey asked Mr. Jones if the meter was stored in his truck the entire time it was in his possession. Mr. Jones said it was in his truck or his son's truck when it was not in use. Chairman Pugh said he feels that everyone is in agreement that the meter is accurate but the amount of water used is a tremendous amount of volume.

Chairman Pugh said the board would like to review his case further and we would get back to him. Water Services Manager Jenkins said he offered to settle with Mr. Jones. This offer was for the Authority to keep the \$1,000 deposit check and we would forgive the remaining amount he owes. Mr. Jones did not accept the offer. Engineer Alke said a series of tests would be performed on the meter. Chairman Pugh said this matter will be tabled until the November work session.

#### *Declaration of Surplus Property*

Manager Klerk explained that we have four pump stations that have pumps, motors and equipment that is not in use. He said this equipment has not been used in years and is obsolete. Due to the changed hydraulics of the system he said he does not see any use for this equipment in the foreseeable future. Manager Klerk made a request to the board to declare the equipment at the stations as surplus property. He stated the equipment could be listed on govdeals.com. Vice Chairman Ehrhardt asked when the last time was the equipment had been in operation. Manager Klerk said not in the four years that he has been with the Authority and system operation changed when they switched over to the Bear Creek supply in 2002; that made most of it obsolete. Some of the equipment is twenty years old. Chairman Pugh asked if the purchaser would be responsible for dismantling the equipment. Water Services Manager Jenkins said "yes". Chairman Pugh asked if we had an estimated value of what the Authority has in the equipment and what it could be sold for. Water Services Manager Jenkins was not sure but he said he would list the items separately and would not take under a certain dollar amount. Manager Klerk said we have had pretty good success with selling items on govdeals.com.

Vice Chairman Ehrhardt made a motion to approve declaring listed equipment surplus and directing staff to dispose of said equipment in the most efficient and cost effective manner.

Member Storey seconded the motion. The motion carried with no objection with all board members present voting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### *Office Building Roof Repair*

Chairman Pugh asked Manager Klerk to report on the roof repair. Manager Klerk said in lieu of spending \$30,000 to \$40,000 on having the roof repaired by an outside company, it was decided to make the repairs in-house. Engineer Alke researched the tools and supplies needed then directed Water Services Manager Jenkins and Employee Mitchell Redmon to make those repairs. They spent several days replacing 500 screws. Manager Klerk said after the last rain we only had one leak versus the eight leaks previously. That leak is over a doorway and will be addressed. Chairman Pugh asked what the cost of the repairs was. Engineer Alke said around \$500.00.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Klerk said the open house at the wastewater treatment plant was a success.

All construction at the wastewater treatment plant is complete. These projects are complete and will be closed out by the end of the week. The work on both the clarifier and the pump station came in at almost \$50,000 less than projected. Engineer Alke is finishing up the plant's operation manual, reflecting all the changes. Once the manual is complete, the E.P.D. will be invited to the facility in order to seek their approval from going to a permitted capacity of 300,000 gallons a day to 500,000 gallons a day.

Work is continuing on the installation of the standby diesel pump at Galilee Pump Station, which moves water to the northern reaches of the county. This is necessary to provide Braselton their additional water needs. We hope to have the work completed by October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Engineer Alke was appointed by the Board of Commissioners to sit on the county's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. A draft document has been produced and a copy has been sent to the Authority for our review. Engineer Alke and Manager Klerk are in the process of reviewing and, as necessary, correcting and changing information as it relates to the Authority and water and sewer needs county-wide. A big benefit we saw to Engineer Alke serving on the steering committee is that he represented the Authority at all four public meetings and a lot of questions pertaining to water and sewer from the public were able to be answered.

At November's Work Session on the 5<sup>th</sup>, we plan to present the Draft Budget for 2010 for Board review and comments/proposed changes.

Chairman Pugh asked Wastewater Manager Mark Dudziak if all the repairs have been made from the lightening damage. Wastewater Manager Mark Dudziak said there are just a few minor repairs left to finish.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Consulting Engineer McPherson reported they are finishing up with the reservoir study. He will meet with the Authority staff to review the study. When that is complete, he will be ready to present the study at the board's recommendation.

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

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Karen Johnson  
Board Secretary