

# **JACKSON COUNTY WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY**

## **WORK SESSION**

**August 5, 2010**

Chairman Pugh called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Members present included Chairman Randall Pugh, Board Member Shade Storey and Board Member Dean Stringer. Also present: Manager Eric Klerk, Attorney Paul Smart, CIO/GIS Analyst Mike Johnson, Chief Engineer Fred Alke, Wastewater Manager Mark Dudziak, Finance Director Judy Davis and Board Secretary Karen Johnson. Visitors included Mark Beardsley with The Main Street News and Consulting Engineer Rob McPherson.

Chairman Pugh introduced new board member Dean Stringer.

### **AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED**

#### *Investment/Collateralization Report*

Finance Director Davis presented a report on JCWSA's investments portfolio and bank accounts.

No action was taken.

#### *Uncollectible Debt*

Finance Director Davis reported on the Authority's uncollectable debt. She said historically this debt was never written off so the receivables were never reduced. She stated the debt that is being looked at now is over one year's old, has been sent to collections and has been in collections for more than a year. She said we will continue to attempt to collect this debt even after it has been written down. The total amount that has been sent to collections is \$79,303.73. Finance Director Davis said that \$53,285 is debt that is up to a year old and may be collectible. She asked for approval to write down \$26,017.78. Chairman Pugh stated that we would look at this again at the end of the year.

This matter will be put on the agenda for next week's board meeting.

No action was taken.

#### *Access Road to Traditions Main Pump Station*

Manager Klerk reviewed the access road installation that took place at the Traditions main pump station. This included grading, graveling and erosion control of the easement leading to the main pump station. He explained this was necessary in order for us to have proper access to the pump station to deal with an emergency which involved removal of one of the pumps with a large truck.

Attorney Smart assisted in obtaining a temporary/permanent easement in order for us to make those repairs. Manager Klerk stated he will be asking the board to approve the expenditure for this emergency situation. He said the cost should be approximately \$6,500. This matter will be put on the agenda for next week's board meeting.

No action was taken.

#### *Aeration Basin Weir Replacement*

Manager Klerk presented a proposal for removal/repair of the aeration basin laundering weir at the sewer plant. He explained that we need to replace a piece of pipe that is broken and is undersized. The proper size pipe (10") will help control the basin water level and regulate flow into the clarifier. In the event of clarifier failure, the replacement unit will provide up to (2) days storage in the basin until repairs to the clarifier can be completed. Manager Klerk said we received two bids. Lanier Contracting for the amount of \$25,554.00 and Willow Construction for the amount of \$32,900.00. Manager Klerk's recommendation is Lanier Contracting.

This matter will be put on the agenda for next week's board meeting.

No action was taken.

#### *Neighborhood Water Line Policy*

Chairman Pugh explained that due to the lack of growth over the past two years, we have not had any additional revenue to service our debt. He also stated that we do not have any Authority allocated funds in the proposed SPLOST that will be voted on this fall. Chairman Pugh explained we have been looking for options to run additional water lines to potential customers to enhance our revenue stream. Manager Klerk presented a proposal on how we could add to our customer base. He stated this would be a very big step for the Authority and would offer the opportunity for Jackson County residents to connect to public water at a reasonable expense who would otherwise be passed by. Manager Klerk said we are looking at using different pipe materials and in-house labor to manage the costs. He clarified this project is for neighborhood water lines only, not major transmission lines like those from prior SPLOST projects along primary highways. Manager Klerk said that Engineer Alke wrote specific construction standards regarding line installation for use by Authority staff only, if the policy was adopted by the board. He stated clearly that any line installation performed under the proposed policy would have prior approval by the Authority Board on a case by case basis. Manager Klerk presented a sample letter that was sent out to residents in specific areas to get a feel for their interest. Manager Klerk discussed the responses received from those residents. Engineer Alke stated this work could be done for about one half the cost of a traditional installation if using in-house labor, PVC pipe and the same fittings used for ductile iron. Manager Klerk said we are considering sending a follow up letter to the residents that did not respond favorably in neighborhoods where the Authority received a fair amount of positive feedback. Chairman Pugh suggested the follow up letter could include information on the savings to their homeowners insurance that fire protection could offer. Manager Klerk said he would work with Attorney Smart to draft the proposed water line policy for Authority use for board adoption.

This matter will be put on the agenda for next week's board meeting.

No action was taken.

Chairman Pugh adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Karen Johnson,  
Board Secretary