

## Jackson County Water and Sewerage Authority

### Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2013

Chairman Ehrhardt called the June 13, 2013 Jackson County Water and Sewerage Authority Board Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present included Chairman Dave Ehrhardt, Board Member Dean Stringer, Board Member Pat Bell and Board Member David Lathem. Also present: Manager Eric Klerk, Attorney Paul Smart, CIO/GIS Analyst Mike Johnson, Engineer Joey Leslie, Finance Director Judy Davis, Water/Wastewater Manager Mark Dudziak, and Amy Bales. Visitors included Mark Beardsley, Main Street Newspapers

### Approval of Minutes

Chairman Ehrhardt made a motion to table the May 9, 2013 board meeting minutes until the July meeting.

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

### Visitor

Michael Sweetser: Manger Klerk stated that Mr. Sweetser requested an audience with the Authority Board to protest a tampering charge but he did not show up. Manager Klerk stated he recommends crediting the \$250.00 tampering fee to Mr. Sweetser's account. He said there is a gray area where we cannot be certain that the meter was completely cut off. He said the customer might not have been aware that the meter had been cut off and that would explain the water usage.

Manager Klerk stated we have had this issue in the past because we have roughly 4000 meter boxes that are difficult to lock.

Member Bell made a motion to credit the \$250 tampering fee to customer Michael Sweetser.

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

## **Old Business**

### *Approval of 2012 Audit*

Member Stringer made a motion to approve the Jackson County Water & Sewerage Authority 2012 Audit

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

## **New Business**

### *Roquemore Road Bid Reviews/Contractor Award*

Engineer Leslie stated we had a bid opening on Roquemore Road.

He said nine contractors purchased plans and we received bids from J & K Utilities, Strickland and Sons, Griffin Brothers, Dodd Construction and Site Engineering.

Engineer Leslie said J & K Utilities was the low bidder on both projects at a total of \$186,373.68. He stated his recommendation is to award the contract to J & K Utilities.

Engineer Leslie said the Authority engineering department will do all the construction management and inspection.

He stated this project will add ten new customers and possibly more.

Member Lathem made a motion to award the contract for Roquemore Road/ Highway 129 to J & K Utilities in the amount of \$186,373.68.

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

### *Ramblers Inn Road Bid Reviews/Contractor Award*

Engineer Leslie stated this project was bid through invitation since it was under \$100,000. He said projects costing less than \$100,000 are not subject to the requirements of the Local Government Public Works Construction Law.

Engineer Leslie said we gave invitations to four nearby contractors; Dale Construction, Griffin Brothers, J & K Utilities and Strickland and Sons. He said we received bids from all of them except Dale Construction.

Engineer Leslie stated J & K Utilities was the low bidder at \$55,240.16 and his recommendation is to award the contract to J & K Utilities.

Engineer Leslie said the Authority engineering department will do all the construction management and inspection on this project as well.

Member Lathem made a motion to award the contract for Ramblers Inn Road to J & K Utilities in the amount of \$55,240.16.

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

***Wheeler Cemetery Road Pump Station: (1) board approval to allocate the remainder of SPLOST funds for said construction and (2) board approval to publically bid said project***

Manager Klerk said the Board will need to allocate the remaining 2005 SPLOST funds for this project.

Chairman Ehrhardt asked what the estimate for this project was. Finance Director Davis said \$350,000 is budgeted. She stated there is a little over \$460,000 in the SPLOST account.

Member Stringer made a motion to allocate the remaining SPLOST funds for the Wheeler Cemetery Road Pump Station.

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

Member Bell made a motion to approve publically bidding the Wheeler Cemetery Road Pump Station.

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

***Board Approval of Town of Braselton's Wholesale Water Agreement***

Manager Klerk gave the Board a copy of the Braselton Wholesale Water Agreement. He stated that this agreement has been approved in form by the Authority attorney and Braselton's attorney.

Manager Klerk said this agreement is for three years at time of execution. He said the purchase price is \$2.50 per thousand gallons based on them purchasing a minimum of two million gallons a month.

Manager Klerk said if they purchase less than the monthly minimum the price increases to \$2.70 per thousand gallons. He said the maximum is two million gallons per day.

Member Lathem made a motion to approve the Town of Braselton's Wholesale Water Agreement.

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

Manager Klerk said he has sent the City of Maysville and the City of Hoschton two letters regarding our wholesale water rates.



He said he also sent a letter to the City of Nicholson and saw in the paper that they voted to adopt our new wholesale rates.

Member Bell made a motion to approve the new water agreement with the City of Nicholson.

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

Manager Klerk explained that the City of Jefferson rates are based on an agreement that was executed in 2000 between the Authority, the City of Jefferson and the BOC, and our rates are tied in with that Parks Creek Reservoir Agreement.

### ***Presentation of bid received from Lanier Construction for gas chlorinator improvements at Apple Valley Pump Station***

Manager Klerk said that a couple of years ago we did an upgrade to the Apple Valley Pump Station.

Manager Klerk stated that we need to make a couple of improvements to the way we are injecting the chlorine. He said we need to move the chlorine injection point to outside of the building and farther away from the pump suctions and the bid of \$8,560.00 from Lanier accomplishes this.

## **Managers Report**

### Wastewater System

A pump at the Traditions 1 Lift Station has burnt up due to seal failure. This was the same station that needed a pump motor “soft-start” replacement several months ago at \$7400.00. The pump is a 250 hp Yeomans submersible and just parts for this repair will be \$9000.00. Instead of considering variable speed drive units at this station, the cost of which was included in the Capital Outlay portion of the 2013 Budget, it may be in our best interest to look at retrofitting the station to Flygt pumps.

EMI, design engineer for the Wastewater Plant Phase Two Improvements, held a Prebid Conference at the Authority’s plant on June 5<sup>th</sup>. There are presently (8) Plan holders.

The bid opening for the Phase 2 Clarifier at the wastewater plant is June 26<sup>th</sup>. At that time, we will have up to 60 days to award a contractor to do work if we choose to adhere to the ARC Grant conditions.

### Water System

We are experiencing several operational challenges throughout the system brought about by (4) pressure zones, the connections between the zones, pump-maintained pressure zones, short water towers, and some out-dated SCADA control configurations. We are presently upgrading the SCADA to allow more remote control of pumps at various locations to cut down travel.

SCADA will become even more useful to the Authority as sampling and monitoring regulations tighten because of its capability to accept and continually monitor critical data, such as chlorine residuals, and display it and store it indefinitely in the SCADA software. This is invaluable when looking at system-wide trending. The ability to do this is being incorporated in our upgrades.

Another component to monitoring chlorine residual data will be the purchase of up to (4) continual chlorine analyzers (HACH CL-17) that will be placed in areas of the system that are known problem areas in maintaining the required 0.2 ppm residual:

The end of Jackson Trail at the Hoschton connection  
Highway 60 (2) million storage tank and pump station  
Apple Valley Pump Station  
Hoods Mill Road  
Wheeler Cemetery Rd., New Pump Station

We've just acquired spare SCADA parts which include a central radio and digital vhf radios and RTU's.

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Karen Johnson  
Board Secretary