

Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water And Sewer Authority Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 9th, 2023
Palmetto- City Hall
509 Toombs St., Palmetto, GA 30268

- I. Chairman J. Clark Boddie called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- II. Roll Call was taken by Secretary Jessica Davis with the following board members present:

The Honorable Chairman Mayor J. Clark Boddie
The Honorable Vice-Chair Sonja Fillingame The Honorable Councilwoman Tara Miller
The Honorable Mayor Vince Williams The Honorable Councilman Brian Jones
The Honorable Mayor Mario Avery The Honorable City Manager Tony Phillips

The attendance of the board constituted a quorum and the meeting proceeded.

III. **Approval of Water Authority Minutes:**

The motion to approve the April 11th 2023 MCRW&SA Meeting Minutes was made by Mayor Avery and seconded by Mayor Williams **Vote: 7-0; Motion Carried**

IV. **New Business:**

V. **Discussion and Approval:**

- Discussion of the General Manager Proposed Job Description

Attorney Dennis Davenport distributed a suggested General Manager Job Description/Task Order to the board. He stated that the project managers, Tom Owens, and David Gray met with Mr. Lindy Farmer and discussed issues about what the authority should be focused on to move forward with resuming. Attorney Davenport further stated that the authority doesn't have anyone looking out for their best interest from the standpoint of an appointed person with experience, who can work with different entities. The authority needs someone who can represent it as a general manager. Mr. Owens took the liberty of putting together some job descriptions, but they're bullet points for the board to look at and decide if these are the type of issues someone in a general manager's capacity could tackle. Mr. Farmer is available and brings a lot to the table.

Chairman Boddie stated that the board decided not to move forward with the actual project. The cities have Atlanta water issues, such as water pressure which is a liability. However, none of the cities have signed a contract.

Project Manager Laura Benz stated that they have been communicating with Commissioner Brownie and they're having their internal discussion this month. She asked the authority to provide dates for the beginning of June. She has reached out but has not asked for additional information.

Mayor Avery asked, "Should we not bring as many authority members to hear the conversation?"
Mayor Williams stated that the authority doesn't want to have a quorum, which will constitute an open meeting.

Attorney Davenport stated that the first time the board met with the group, they didn't know what level of interest, if any existed. He's very encouraged to hear that they want to meet. What are the options to put on the table that may be more interesting to them?

City Manager Phillips asked what the framework is and whether the authority is exploring other options.

Project Manager Benz informed the board that the City of Atlanta received the authority maps, and they will have an internal discussion.

City Manager Phillips stated that at some point it must get the rational process.

Attorney Davenport stated that this is also a good opportunity, and Mr. Farmer can have some input concerning how that relationship may work with Atlanta.

Project Manager Benz stated that June 8th is the first preference for the meeting, and June 15th is the backup date for the meeting at 10:00 am.

Mr. Owens introduced Mr. Farmer to the board. He composed a task list to assist with the forward moving of the Water Authority. He stated that Mr. Farmer retired from the Henry County Water Authority. Mr. Lindy received a call 6-8 weeks ago about the possible need to lead the day-to-day operations for the water authority. He had the opportunity to speak with Project Managers Gray & Benz, Attorney Davenport, and Mr. David Gray. They discussed details surrounding the water authority. He reviewed some reports and maps, which was a little challenging. He further explained that the board needs someone who has the authority's interest at heart, with total transparency with three entities. He further stated that the authority needs someone with a plan to operate and maintain transmission lines and tanks to provide the fire protection each city needs.

Mr. Owens stated that each city must have a process of how to approach the authority when a technical issue arises or needs information. He further explained that the authority needs someone who is a day-to-day business operations manager and not a politician to complete the job.

Mayor Williams expressed his appreciation towards Mr. Owens and stated that he researched Mr. Farmer's background. He reviewed the package, and they have suggested bullet points that meet the criteria of what the authority requires. The authority must have a point person who will be the interface in all the discussions.

Chairman Boddie asked if the board wanted to hire Mr. Farmer.

Attorney Davenport stated that he will prepare the documentation for consideration at the June meeting. Mr. Farmer will attend the City of Atlanta meeting.

Attorney Davenport informed the board that several years ago, the authority entered into a lease agreement with the 92 South Sportsman Club. It's been a great relationship. They lease the land for hunting and a good steward of the land. The lease amount was increased about a year or two ago. They apologize for not sending the check for \$8,926.00 which is the annual lease payment. They are very interested in purchasing the land if the authority wants to sell the property.

The motion to approve the report was made by Mayor Williams and seconded by Vice-Chair Fillingame.

Vote: 7-0; Motion Carried

VI. Reports:

A. Water Authority Attorney-

B. Financial Report-

Attorney Davenport presented the revised Req #246 in the amount of \$10,739.77.

Motion to approve the revised Req #246 in the amount of \$10,739.77 was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by City Manager Phillips.

Vote: 7-0; Motion Carried

C. Project Managers-

Project Manager Benz reminded the board of the upcoming permit compliance deadline on July 27th. It's the update on the Water loss control program prepared by each of the cities and must be submitted to EPD.

The payment for the USGS Gage installed at the river is due on July 8th.

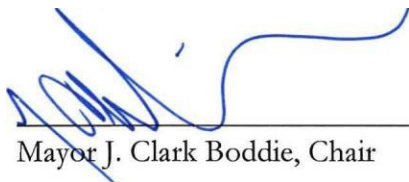
Individual City Audits- The project managers continue to coordinate with GEFA as well as EPA which constantly sends the authority opportunities for funding.

The Project Managers are excited to work with Mr. Farmer and help him get ready for the City of Atlanta meeting. When Krebs did the first PER, they recommended a general manager. But they ended up getting an owner's engineer instead.

Project Manager Benz informed the board that she was notified by RES that they may be selling the blue creek bank and that the authority has credits for resale available. If that gets sold, our contract for the royalty payments will go along with the banks, and we will make sure we have the proper contact. She further stated that Mr. Bouckaert has a right of first refusal on the reservoir property until 2030."

Other Business- Chairman Boddie received a request from Mauldin and Jenkins that the board has someone to do the prep work for the audit. The authority used Steve Garber to assist with the information.

- VII.** The motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm was made by Mayor Williams and seconded by Mayor Avery. **Vote: 7-0; Motion Carried**



Mayor J. Clark Boddie, Chair



Jessica Davis, Secretary