Minutes of the South Fulton Municipal Regional Water And Sewer Authority Meeting Held on December 10^{th,} 2019, At 56 SW Malone Street, Fairburn, GA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Vince R. Williams, J. Clark Boddie, Elizabeth Carr Hurst, Shayla J. Nealy, Sonja Fillingame and Laura Mullis

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: James Whitmore

Consultants Present: Dennis Davenport, Dan Post, Laura Benz and Andrea Gray

Others Present: Dennis Stroud with The City of Fairburn and other unknown persons

Call To Order: Chairwoman Shayla J. Nealy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

<u>Approval Of The Minutes</u>: A motion was made by Vince R. Williams to approve the minutes of the October 08th, 2019 meeting, seconded by Sonja Fillingame. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Reports:

<u>Legal</u> – Dennis Davenport reviewed the Draft name change for the Authority and to change the requirement to post each meeting in two local newspapers with the Board members.

A motion was made by Vince R. Williams to approve for Mr. Davenport to move forward with the resolution to change the name of the Authority and how the meetings are advertised before each monthly meeting, seconded by Elizabeth Carr Hurst. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Finance – Dan Post reviewed with the Board:

1. The October and November 2019 financial statement.

South Fulton Municipal Regional Water and Sewer Authority Minutes of the December 10th, 2019 Meeting Page 1 of 2 2. Requested approval for draw number 198 in the amount of \$29,350.79, draw number 199 in the amount of \$12,912.00 and draw number 200 in the amount of \$2,045,662.50 from the construction account.

Vince R. Williams made a motion to approve draw number 198 in the amount of \$29,350.79, draw number 199 in the amount of \$12,912.00 and draw number 200 in the amount of \$2,045,662.50 from the construction account seconded by Sonja Fillingame. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Project Managers - Laura Benz and Andrea Gray reviewed with the Board:

See attached memorandum for details

- 1. Water Withdrawal Application Process:
 - a. Minimum Instream Flow
 - b. Non Depletable Flow
 - c. District Audits
 - d. Treatability Analysis
 - e. Swap
 - f. Next Steps
- 2. Compensatory Mitigation
 - a. Site Specific Sites
 - b. Resale of Mitigation Credits
- J. Clark Boddie made a motion to approve Schabel Engineering to proceed with additional modeling at a cost of \$5000.00 but not to exceed \$12,000.00, seconded by Sonja Fillingame. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.
 - 3. Reservoir Land

Elizabeth Carr Hurst introduced new Fairburn City Administrator Dennis Stroud to the Board.

Executive Session: None

J. Clark Boddie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sonja Fillingame. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM

January 14th, 2020

Shavla J. Nealy, Chairwoman Date Minutes Approved by Board

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MEMORANDUM

To: S. Fulton Municipal Regional Water & Sewer Authority Member Cities Councils

(Fairburn, Palmetto and Union City)

From: Laura Benz & Andrea Gray

Date: December 10, 2019

Re: S. Fulton Authority Project Update

Water Withdrawal Application/Process:

<u>Minimum Instream Flow:</u> As previously discussed, EPD's model shows there are four days over a 73-year period when the Authority will not be able to withdraw a portion or all of the permitted 13.25 mgd. Schnabel Engineering analyzed the model and determined that the low flow days are all Mondays following the absence of hydropower generation releases during the weekends. At its September meeting, the Authority opted to commission a site-specific study which will assess potential impacts to fish, recreation and water quality as a result of the modified minimum instream flow.

The Authority's consultants coordinated with EPD and the Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division to determine the scope of a site-specific study. The fisheries division recommended a review of potential impacts to fish species and recreational access. Schnabel engineering obtained a copy of FEMA mapping which includes riverbed geometry of the Chattahoochee River. It was able to compute water surface profiles for the EPD-proposed and the alternative Authority-proposed nondepletable flows to show differences in flow depth and velocity. The analysis concludes that the difference in flow depth is less than 0.1 feet, less than 2% of flow depth, and the difference in velocity is less than 2%.

CCR Environmental, Inc. ("CCR") conducted a field survey on September 4, 2019 on the reach of the Chattahoochee River between its confluence with Bear Creek downstream to its confluence with Dog River which spans approximately one mile. The assessment of aquatic habitat and recreation access is discussed in the report prepared by CCR. The report concludes that the proposed alternative nondepletable flow would not substantially adversely impact the native fish community or recreational opportunities in the study area given the absence of shallow riffles susceptible to changes in depth. In addition, the report concludes that the daily hydropower-driven fluctuations in flows dwarf the small change proposed by the Authority. No recreational access points were observed in the study area.

The Authority's consultants met with EPD on October 7, 2018 to discuss the site-specific study consisting of the CCR memorandum which includes the Schnabel memorandum as an attachment. EPD agreed with the parameters Schnabel and CCR evaluated in the site-specific study but needed more time to evaluate whether the physical scope of the study, one mile, fully supports the conclusion that there are minimal impacts. The Authority asserts the one-mile study area is adequate given the minimal impacts and downstream effects of the Dog River Reservoir's releases. EPD also informed the Authority that it updated the Res Sim modeling to include the current drought which now shows only two days over the 73-year modeling period that the Authority would be partially without its full permitted withdrawal amount with shortages of 4.3 mgd (8 cfs) and 5.9 mgd (11 cfs). EPD also reported that it concluded its review of the Service Delivery Strategy compliance and determined that the 1999 SDS supports the three cities' rights to serve the citizens within their boundaries.

EPD completed its review of the above-referenced studies and requested that Schnabel update its NDF report to include the additional data and associated flow impacts to West Point lake. For consistency with that modeling,

and in furtherance of defensibility within the interstate water disputes, EPD requested the fishery/recreation analysis be extended to the Whitesburg gage. Proposals for the additional work are presented to the Authority.

<u>District Audits:</u> The Atlanta Regional Commission ("ARC") and the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District ("MNGWPD") aid communities in completing audit documentation. Fairburn, Palmetto, and Union City representatives met with ARC and MNGWPD representatives on August 21st, August 27th and September 4th respectively. All cities provided draft audits which were coordinated with ARC for final comments before submission to EPD. All cities have received comments and we are awaiting revised packages for submission to EPD.

<u>Treatability Analysis</u>: An engineering report will be required as a part of the Water System Permit (a separate permit required to operate the system which is issued upon construction of the facilities).

<u>SWAP</u>: ARC provided a draft SWAP document on December 5th. The draft was emailed to each City's utility director as well as the engineer that had been assisting on the District Audit. Comments are due back to the project managers by COB December 18th so they may all be assembled and provided to ARC by the deadline of COB on December 19th. The final report is anticipated by January 1, 2020.

<u>Next Steps</u>: Finalize and submit the District audits and comment responses, obtain EPD approval of the site-specific study to support alternate nondepletable flow proposal, update the engineering RFP for the preliminary engineering work and refine the budget and cost estimates accordingly and evaluate sources of funds including additional GEFA loans.

Compensatory Mitigation

<u>Site Specific Sites:</u> The Mitigation Bankers continue to work through the mitigation bank authorization process and the coordination with new regulatory guidance. The Prospectus for the Mulberry Creek site was submitted in January and is moving forward with development of the mitigation banking instrument.

Resale of Mitigation Credits:

Monastery: There is a Statement of Credit Availability for 3.68 wetland credits at \$50,000/credit which results in a total of \$66,660 due to the Authority when the credit sale is completed. Upon the sale being completed and receipt of the payment, correspondence will be submitted to the USACE releasing all interest in the 3.68 credits per the modification of the mitigation banking instrument.

Blue Creek: Two credit sales have closed: one for 629.91 stream credits at \$35.00/credit and another for 116.26 credits at \$45.00/credit. The contract provides for the compensation to the Authority of \$15,986.28 which will be sent to Post & Associates for deposit. Upon receipt of the payment, correspondence will be submitted to the USACE releasing all interest in the 746.17 credits.