

# **Middle Chattahoochee Regional Water And Sewer Authority Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, June 14, 2022  
Union City- City Hall  
5047 Union St, Union City, GA 30291

- I.** Chairman Mayor 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 Mayor Mario Avery                      The Honorable Councilwoman Tara Miller  
The Honorable Vice-Chair Sonja Fillingame              The Honorable City Manager Tony Phillips  
The Honorable Councilman Brian Jones

**The following board members were absent:**

The Honorable Mayor Vince Williams

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

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

The motion to approve the May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 MCRW&SA Meeting Minutes was made by Mayor Avery and seconded by City Manager Phillips. **Vote: 6-0; Motion Carried**

**IV. New Business:**

**V. Discussion and Approval:**

- RFP- Accounting and Financial Services for the Authority.
- Chairman Boddie asked Secretary Davis to remove the RFP- Accounting and Financial Services position from the agenda until further notice.

**VI. Reports:**

**A. Water Authority Attorney-**

Ms. Ali Cox did not have a report from Attorney Dennis Davenport's office.

**B. Financial Report-**

Ms. Cox presented requisition #233 in the amount of \$41,987.47 and requisition #234 in the amount of \$556,362.50.

The motion to approve requisition #233 and requisition #234 was made by Councilman Jones and seconded by Vice-Chair Fillingame. **Vote: 6-0; Motion Carried**

**C. Project Managers-**

- **USGS Gages:** Project Manager Laura Benz informed the board that the link in the pdf allows the authority to check the status of the USGS Gage. The project managers have begun meeting with Gresham Smith (G&S). They have provided them with the PER Drawings and cat files to begin implementation within their work.

- **Mitigation:** The authority received one of the payments in the amount of \$82,545 on May 17th. The 671 and 304 credits will be processed, and the authority will receive \$26,000.00 or \$27,000.00 in June. The credit prices are increasing. The average credit price in the Middle Chattahoochee is \$125.00 per credit, and the authority paid \$18.50 per credit. The authority is receiving the reimbursement and a certain percentage of the total price.
- **GEFA Loan:** The Project Managers submitted all required documents to GEFA before the deadline. They're awaiting the 2021 audit. GEFA acknowledges that the 2021 audit is not due until the end of June. Union City is updating its audit as well. GEFA asked the project managers if the authority has a blinded rate to assist with lowering the rate for the loan? The blinded rate aids in receiving a 1 percent reduction.
- **EPD:** The project managers provided the environmental rate to EPD, and Project Manager Benz distributed a standard letter to the board members. Step 3 was to coordinate a public meeting by June 23rd. Project Manager Benz contacted the cities legal team to assist with scheduling. The meeting is Monday, July 25th at 4:00 pm. It will be held at Union City, and project manager Benz will notify the South Fulton Neighbor Newspaper 30 days in advance.

#### **D. Gresham Smith:**

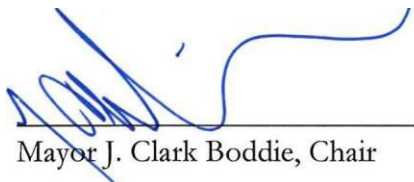
- Ms. Rebecca Lindsey distributed a copy of the collaboration charter. Sub task 1 helps to facilitate the development of the charter, and the authority has the choice to include whatever they deem necessary. G&S provided a graph to give the authority ideas.
- The Collaboration Charter is a living working document. The authority can update it throughout the process. The authority's vision, mission, and core values call for the authority's consultants to abide by the collaboration charter.
- The most important things that need to be established are:
  1. A vision statement
  2. Guiding principles and core values-What are most important to you?
  3. Performance measures: What do you want to define as measures of success?
- Ms. Lindsey discussed the frequency of the meetings. She informed the board that G&S would like to meet with the authority more than once a month.
- Ms. Lindsey used a poster board to assist with her presentation. She began by asking the members what is most important as the project unfolds?
  - Chairman Boddie and Vice-Chair Fillingame stated that the cost of water and the quality of drinking water is what's important.
  - Mayor Avery stated that Capital funding is important
- Ms. Lindsey asked the board if there are items they would like to spend extra money on or if the cost was an issue? City Manager Philips stated that cost is an issue, and the board must view some things from a financial advisor's perspective. Mayor Boddie informed G&S that the board is a Ford group, not a Cadillac group.
- Councilman Jones informed G&S that it must be a reliable system.
- Mayor Williams informed Ms. Lindsey that it is very important to have a showcase facility to invite the public and do tours.

- Vice-Chair Fillingame stated that she would like the public to see a return on the investment.
- City Manager Phillips requested a memorandum to walk the authority through the pros, cons, and costs. Ms. Lindsey stated that it would be standard of care to give the authority a facility that is energy efficient. There are upfront decisions that will help:
  - Laying out the hydraulics of the plant so that the authority is not pumping more than what's needed.
  - Jar testing will be used to look at optimizing the chemicals so that the authority is not feeding more chemicals and not feeding the wrong type of chemicals.

City Manager Philips stated that the Baseline standard is part of the narrative for this project. Ms. Lindsey stated that there are inexpensive things that G&S can do within a plant, like putting up signage, lights that turn on and off, and having a clear polycarbonate tube that shows part of the filter. Mayor Avery inquired about the transition from one system to the next system, and Chairman Boddie inquired about the water tank connections. Ms. Lindsey stated that there needs to be a plan for each city regarding where the inner connections are made hydraulically.
- Water quality issues
  - Bringing in a different water quality which can cause an upset in the system.
    - That's one of the main reasons G&S proposes jar testing. There are relatively straightforward calculations G&S can do that haven't been done yet to look at the stability of the water to make sure it's in a safe range.
- Three Issues:
  - Water quality
  - Hydraulic
  - Transitional
- Councilman Jones stated that he envisions the authority keeps the line connection for interconnectivity over the years in case of a natural disaster.
- Mayor Avery would like a representative from his utility department to attend the authority meetings to assist with certain items.
- Ms. Lindsey will contact GDOT regarding the coordination. The project will affect Chatt Hills and the City of South Fulton. Rebecca asked the cities if they envision maintaining the City of Atlanta and Cowetta as a backup source water? Chairman Boddie stated yes.
- Ms. Lindsey informed the board that they're meeting once a month, and things will rapidly pick up in terms of the decisions that need to be made. Ms. Lindsey asked to what extent does the board want to be involved in different levels of decisions and what is their decision for meeting more frequently via zoom, lunch, etc.? Chairman Boddie stated that the board can meet as needed on the fourth Tuesday. Ms. Lindsey would like the utility directors to attend the meetings. Secretary Davis will set up a doodle poll for a second provisional meeting.
- Ms. Lindsey reviewed the information displayed on the poster board:
  1. Your ratepayers are paramount concern with the cost of water
  2. Quality of water-will abide by the standard care will not have advance treatment water but have quality client drinking water
  3. Concern with capital funding and the overall effect of finances
  4. Ford not a Cadillac
  5. Reliability in system in terms of both water supply and water quality

6. Matter of public pride- want the public to see a return in their investment
7. Want the project to be environmental sound sustainable to the extent you want to take credit for good design and the good work you're doing
8. Smooth transition as the authority begins supplying water including maintaining redundancy with other connections
9. You want to meet your water supply demand for a 15–20-year planning
10. Committing to open, honest, stakeholder
11. Plan a provisional second monthly meeting
12. Utility Staff Engagement

**VII.** The motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm was made by Vice-Chair Fillingame and seconded by Councilman Jones. **Vote: 6-0; Motion Carried**



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Mayor J. Clark Boddie, Chair



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Jessica Davis, Secretary