

# **Hart County Water & Sewer Authority**

## **Board of Directors Meeting February 19, 2018**

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in the Hart County Cooperative Extension Service Building. Chairman Wade Carlton called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present were Vice Chairman Hugh Holland; Board Members Jerry Cannady, Larry Haley and Mike MacNabb; Director Pat Goran; Legal Counsel Walter Gordon; Board Secretary/Treasurer Holly McBrayer; The Hartwell Sun Reporter Michael Isom; and Hart County residents Nathan Barnes, Bobbie Brown, Harold Brown, Ashley Poole, Eric Sanders, Thomas Saxon, Tran Trung, Bobby Vickery, and Carolyn Vickery.

### **Welcome**

### **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Cannady motioned to approve the agenda. Mr. Holland seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

### **Public Comments; remarks by invited guests**

Mr. Saxon requested water service on behalf of the chicken farmers on Eagle Grove School Road, Mewborn Road, and Liberty Church Road. He stated there are about 29 chicken houses in that area. Mr. Saxon cited poor water quality and the expense of replacing water filters as support for his request.

Mr. Goran had a cost estimate prepared. He explained that if the project was approved the commitment required from the farmers to be a total of around 4 million gallons per year for 5 years based on residential equivalent gallons. Mr. Goran also said that residential commitments would likely reduce the required number of gallons committed by chicken farmers.

Mr. Vickery spoke on behalf of the Beacon Light Road residents. He asked that HCWSA install water lines on the remainder of Beacon Light Road.

Mr. Goran stated that a cost estimate had been prepared for a portion of Beacon Light Road, but did not include the additional distance now being requested.

After much discussion, the Board agreed to send commitment letters to the remaining residents of Beacon Light Road, and residents of Wildwood Lane and Holly Hills Drive. Additionally, the Board agreed to send commitment letters to all property owners on Eagle Grove School Road, a portion of Mewborn Road and a portion of Liberty Church Road. The Board will revisit both requests at the next meeting.

### **Approval of January 18<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes**

Mr. Holland motioned to approve the January 18<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes. Mr. Haley seconded the motion which passed 4 – 0. Mr. Cannady abstained since he was not in attendance at that meeting.

## **Financial report**

Mr. Goran presented the financial report. He noted the invoice for the Corps' annual water storage fee was higher than the previous year due to changes in the Corps' billing system. Mr. Goran also presented the Master Meter Reading report to showing the percentages purchased this fiscal year from HCWSA's wholesale suppliers.

The Board discussed the current guideline used to decide which projects to pursue. Mr. Goran noted that the guideline was made several years ago and suggested the \$5,000 per committed customer guideline be increased and that operational and hydraulic benefits be considered as well.

Mr. MacNabb suggested having a planning and orientation session for incoming Board members.

## **Old Business**

### **Cokesbury Highway Addition (2015 CDBG amendment)**

Mr. Goran informed the Board that Dale Construction will be doing pressure and bacteriological testing this week. About 20 taps will be installed.

### **2018 Community Development Block Grant application**

Mr. Goran informed the Board that the 90% surveyed requirement had been met. He stated that the grant application will be for the \$750,000 maximum funds available and that the local match estimate would be about \$250,000 to \$300,000. Mr. Goran stated that he would estimate the local match at the lower end of the spectrum to prevent an amendment being needed. He also stated that it was his intention to recommend installing water lines on portions of other roads in the areas with HCWSA funds to benefit operations and hydraulics for the water system as a whole. Mr. Goran informed the Board that the Hart County Board of Commissioners approved the 2018 CDBG grant resolution at their last meeting.

### **Hydrant usage and payment for water withdrawn**

Mr. Goran recommended changing the current hydrant policy to include a base fee of \$90 with usage from 0 to 9,000 gallons and \$10 per each additional 1,000 gallons and removing the \$3 per day flat rate.

Mr. Cannady motioned accordingly. Mr. MacNabb seconded the motion which passed 4 – 0. Mr. Haley abstained.

### **GEFA loan for radio-read retrofit and meter replacement**

Mr. Goran requested a motion from the Board to extend the project schedule, to change the wording of the GEFA radio read loan agreement, to allow for installation of new meters, and to adopt the resolution.

Mr. Cannady so motioned and Mr. Haley seconded it. The motion passed 5 – 0.

## **New Business**

### **Request for water service – Mewborn Road, Eagle Grove School Road, Liberty Church Road poultry farmers**

See Public Comments.

### **Request for water service – Beacon Light Road residents**

See Public Comments.

## **Director's Comments**

Mr. Goran informed the Board that staff had reached out to University of North Carolina to prepare a rate review.

Mr. Goran also informed the Board that the FY17 audit had been completed and he would have the hard copies available soon. He noted that the Bad Debt for FY17 in total was less than \$1600, which is a little more than .1% of HCWSA total revenue.

Mr. Goran offered his thanks to both Mr. Holland and Mr. MacNabb for their hard work and years of service on the Board.

## **Members' Comments**

Mr. Cannady stated that he had reapplied to be HCWSA Board member but the Hart County Board of Commissioners had not yet voted. He offered his thanks to Mr. Holland and Mr. MacNabb for their service. Mr. Cannady also stated that he would like to see the following projects completed: digital mapping, Standard Operating Procedures, EPD documents, rate study, updated master plan and strategy, software, sewage treatment agreements, and the road cut repair.

Mr. Haley suggested doing a study on the payback time period using the Mouchet Road chicken farmer as an example.

Mr. MacNabb offered his thanks to all.

Mr. Holland offered his thanks to the other Board members, Mr. Goran, Mr. Gordon, and HCWSA staff.

Mr. Carlton thanked Mr. Holland and Mr. MacNabb as well.

## **Upcoming Meetings – March 19<sup>th</sup> and April 16<sup>th</sup>**

The next two Board meetings will be held on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## **Adjournment**

Mr. MacNabb motioned to adjourn and Mr. Haley seconded it. The motion passed 5 – 0.

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Wade Carlton, Chairman

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Holly McBrayer, Secretary

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