

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Cleveland County Water Board Room

June 13, 2023
Tuesday, 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Donald Melton; presiding, Vice Chairman Dewey Cook, Secretary Bill Cameron, Commissioners Tony Brooks, Amy Elliott Bridges, Bruce Martin, and Pete Pedersen, and General Manager Brad Cornwell, Attorney Tim Moore attended via video conference.

Chairman Donald Melton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, welcomed all who were in attendance and recognized Commissioner Bruce Martin who gave the invocation and Commissioner Pete Pedersen led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Mr. Cornwell noted that there was an additional reference at the members seats to add to the consent agenda. The added item will be number 7 for Ordinance 12-2023 for the Clearwell and High Service Pump Station Project budget.

A. Approval of agenda:

Chairman Melton asked Commissioners if anyone had any questions related to the adoption of the agenda. Chairman Melton requested a motion to adopt the agenda.

ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mr. Pedersen and second by Mr. Cameron, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended to include item 7 under consent agenda.

B. Public Hearing

Chairman Melton opened the public hearing for the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget at 7:01 and introduced General Manager Cornwell. The proposed budget has been advertised in the Shelby Star and posted to the website. Mr. Cornwell noted that he had received no written inquiries via mail or email and no telephone calls concerning the budget. It was also noted that no citizens were in attendance for the public hearing. Mr. Melton closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

1) Proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Annual Operating Budget for Cleveland County Water

a. Consideration of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance:
Ordinance No. 10-2023

ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mr. Cameron, second by Mrs. Bridges, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance Number 10-2023 *Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance: Ordinance No. 10-2023*

b. Consideration of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Supplemental Budget Ordinance: Ordinance No. 11-2023

ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mrs. Bridges, second by Mr. Pedersen, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance Number 11-2023 *Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Supplemental Budget Ordinance No. 11-2023*

C. Public Comment

Ms. Gloria Day from 105 Lake Point Drive, Cherryville, North Carolina, shared some information and concerns about the fluoride chemical used in the treatment of the water.

D. Consent Agenda:

Action Taken: Chairman Melton presented the Consent Agenda Items. Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mr. Martin, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

- 1) Approval of the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of March 14, 2023
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular meeting of May 9, 2023
- 3) Approval of the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of May 9, 2023
- 4) Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 16, 2023
- 5) Consideration of Resolution Number 20-2023 A Resolution Ratifying the Offer and Acceptance of a Waterline Easement from Steven Swink near Patterson Springs, NC for the Shuford Drive Waterline Extension Project
- 6) Consideration of Resolution Number 21-2023 A Resolution Honoring Thomas Wade Moore upon the Occasion of His Retirement from Employment from Cleveland County Water
- 7) Consideration of Ordinance Number 12-2023 An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Clearwell and High Service Pump Station Project

E. Unfinished Business:

1) Consideration of Resolution Number 19-2023 A Resolution Authorizing and Accepting an Agreement with TGS Engineers, Inc. for Design of WBS Element 50388 Stagecoach Greenway

Mr. Cornwell explained that this resolution accepts TGS Engineers as the engineering firm designing the section of the greenway along Casar Lawndale Road. This section is funded through appropriations received from the NC Department of Transportation. The funding was in the amount of \$350,000.00. This section of the greenway will be from Grigg Street in Lawndale to the proposed Long Rock Park area. The NCDOT reviews and approves all the actions concerning this funding.

ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mr. Martin, second by Mr. Pedersen, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 19-2023 A Resolution Authorizing and Accepting an Agreement with TGS Engineers, Inc. for Design of WBS Element 50388 Stagecoach Greenway

F. New Business:

No new business was presented.

G. General Manager's Report:

Mr. Cornwell introduced Ginger Fern, Finance Director, to begin with the finance portion of the General Manager's report. Mrs. Fern shared that the reimbursement had been received from the insurance company for the lightning damage that occurred at the water plant. The insurance company was very quick to respond and assist with the damaged equipment. The maintenance materials account has finally resolved itself and the capital line extension projects for Delight Road and College Farm Road have been properly accounted for. The fourth yearly lease payment has been completed for the Town of Fallston. The interim audit was conducted remotely at the end of May. There were zoom calls for introductions with the staff. The auditing firm has a secure portal for the exchange of documents. The communication for additional requests and questions was handled through daily telephone calls and emails. The auditing firm and Ms. Fern agree that the interim audit went well. The final field work for the audit will begin the week of August 28, 2023. The plan is for the final fieldwork to also be conducted remotely unless the need arose for the auditors to appear onsite. The presentation for the board members will take place at the November or

December meeting. Mr. Cornwell continued his report and referred the members to the appropriate page in their packets for the individual department totals for the month. In addition to the numbers provided in the packet, the office staff called forty-five customers for potential water leak telephone calls and the leak adjustments completed in May totaled \$8,945.40. Mr. Cornwell noted that disconnections did take place in Cycle 2 and Cycle 3 and reported that the number of unpaid accounts was lower this time. The maintenance report numbers were available in the packets. The staff of the maintenance department have been very busy completing their work. Mr. Cornwell requested the members' opinions on the cancellation of the August board meeting. This meeting is scheduled during the same period as the American Legion World Series. Historically the members have cancelled the August meeting for those that volunteer and attend the games. It was noted that several projects were in the process of being rebid and may need to be awarded. If the August meeting were to be cancelled a special meeting may be necessary to conduct a bid award for these projects. The members agreed to cancel the August meeting and have a special meeting if necessary. Mr. Cornwell continued the General Manager report with the project updates. The Lawndale Park bid opening will be held on June 22, 2023. This is the second bid opening for this project, there was only one bid presented at the first bidding. The contractors are reporting that schedules are full, and work is busy. Since the first bid opening the Land and Water Conservation Fund awarded \$500,000.00 in grant money for Lawndale Park. The notice of award letter has been received, but the agreement has not been received yet. Once the Land and Water and Conservation Fund award has been received a deed restriction will need to be filed on the property. The property will be designated as recreational property for perpetuity. The construction work has begun on Highway 10 and Delight Road canoe access points. The heavy equipment can be seen at the Highway 10 site. Mr. Cornwell noted that these areas would need fencing and he will be discussing this concern with the agent for NC Wildlife Resources. This need won't be required until the construction is completed. The fence will restrict access to the adjoining private properties. Rutherford Electric will be contacted concerning the necessity for lighting in the area. The USDA weir project bid opening had fourteen plan holders, but no bids were received. The two types of contractors that will be interested in this project are concrete contractors and specialty river work contractors. The project has been readvertised and gained four plan holders by doing the re-advertisement. The bid date is set for July 25, 2023. The required process for the USDA project may require a

special meeting depending on the outcome of the bid opening. The Marion Street Booster pump project construction continues. Mr. Cornwell shared the November election information with the members for reference. This paperwork needs to be completed and returned to the Cleveland County Board of Elections for the upcoming election. The property offer for the land across the road from the New Operations Center was declined. The owner of the property elected not to make a counteroffer. The flocculation and sedimentation project was bid and the bids returned over budget. This project is being analyzed and changed to reduce the overall cost of the project. The Casar Lawndale, Sand Hill and Will Dixon Road water line improvements project will be funded with ARP funds. This project is still under review by Public Water Supply. The Polkville Tank and Booster Pump Station plans have been approved and returned from Public Water Supply. The next step for this project will be advertising and bidding. The Cherryville Interconnection and Waco Pump Station is 80% designed and will require an easement for the water vaults. Mr. Earl has returned to the District in a part-time capacity and is working to obtain this easement. Mr. Brooks inquired about the required number of bids for a bid opening. Mr. Cornwell noted that only one bid was required for the Lawndale Park and the USDA Weir Project in conjunction with a second bid opening. We strive for three bids on a first opening. The bid would need to be a qualified and complete bid that met all requirements. The flocculation and sedimentation basin improvement project would require a different bid process since the prior bids were overbudget and the scope of the work required a change.

H. Board Members Announcement and Remarks

The members expressed appreciation for all the work being done.

I. Adjournment

Action Taken: Chairman Melton called for a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mr. Pedersen, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Cameron

Bill Cameron, Secretary

