

**BRUNSWICK REGIONAL WATER & SEWER H2GO
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021**

OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ronnie Jenkins called the meeting to order at 5:11 p.m.; a quorum was present. The assembly cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Present from the Board of Commissioners were members Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman, Rodney McCoy, Secretary, Bill Beer and Barry Laub, present from H2GO was Bob Walker, Executive Director, Scott Hook, Finance Officer, Russ Lane, Assistant Executive Director, Tyler Wittkofsky, Public Information Officer, Brenda Thurman, Customer Service Manager, and Deana Greiner, Clerk to the Board. Also present was attorney Steve Coble. Vice Chairman Steve Hosmer arrived at 6pm.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA:

Chairman Jenkins opened the floor for any adjustments to the agenda. No adjustments were made. Commissioner McCoy made the motion to approve the agenda as written; a vote was called and the motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of July 13, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes: Commissioner Laub made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; a vote was called and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

Commissioner Beer reported that he received a letter from a well-pleased customer who recently experienced a water leak near his meter box. The letter spoke highly of our staff, stating they were quick to respond and very respectful.

Commissioner McCoy reported that he recently toured the Ocracoke Island Reverse Osmosis Plant. Commissioner McCoy stated he learned they didn't really have any issues with treatment; he said because of their location they deal with corrosion.

Commissioner Laub and Chairman Jenkins both expressed that it felt good to hear and address positivity rather than battle with negativity.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Jenkins opened the floor for public comments.

No comments were given.

OLD BUSINESS:

None discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed Task Order 40 with Wooten for Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR) Planning/Preparation for Phase 3 Injection Testing: Mr. Walker presented to the board Task Order 40 for the Wooten Company. Mr. Walker explained this task order would allow them to move forward with planning for and prepare for testing Aquifer Storage Recovery Wells. It was said the cost of the task order was around \$32,000. **Commissioner Beer made the motion to approve Task Order 40 with Wooten for Aquifer Storage Recovery Planning/Preparation for Phase 3 Injection Testing in the amount of \$32,000. A vote was called and the motion carried unanimously.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

DOD: Ibis Landing Phase 1: Mr. Walker presented to the board a deed of dedication for Ibis Landing Phase 1; he said everything had been reviewed and found to be in order by staff and Mr. Coble. **Commissioner McCoy made the motion to approve the deed of dedication for Ibis Landing Phase 1 as presented. A vote was called, and the motion carried unanimously.**

DOD: Juniper Creek Phase 3: Mr. Walker presented to the board a deed of dedication for Juniper Creek Phase 3; he said everything had been reviewed and found to be in order by staff and Mr. Coble. **Commissioner Beer made the motion to approve the deed of dedication for Juniper Creek Phase 3 as presented. A vote was called and the motion carried unanimously.**

Update on RO Project: Mr. Walker reported that the concentrate line was complete; he said the raw water lines and the finish water lines were under construction. Mr. Walker said the RO site was going well, and that they were just about done with all the underground work, in terms of the backwash tank, electrical, and plumbing for the main building, and footers for other buildings. Mr. Walker said they were making real good progress on everything. There was a brief discussion on water treatment. Mr. Walker mentioned he will submit a resolution to eliminate using fluoride in our treatment process.

Belville WWTP Expansion Update: Mr. Walker reported that we have received the authorization to construct; he said the clarifier is currently in Georgia and will be shipped in the next few days. Mr. Walker said we should have all the pieces beginning of next week; he said if all goes well we should be operational by the end of September.

Brunswick Forest Annexation—Next Steps: Mr. Walker said Mr. Frink will report back to the health commission; he said they have a special meeting scheduled for Monday Morning in which they will adopt a resolution accepting the annexation of Brunswick Forest. Mr. Walker said that resolution will be sent to Brunswick County for adoption and the annexation will be put on the ballot for a vote this election.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Meter Change Out Update: Mr. Lane reported to the board that in eight days staff has changed out 600 meters; he said everything was going well.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Check Register, June 9, 2021 thru July 7, 2021: No comments nor questions were made regarding the check register. Mr. Hook stated he had nothing to report.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER'S REPORT:

Donation Request: North Brunswick High School Booster Club: Mr. Wittkofsky presented to the board a request from the North Brunswick High School Booster Club asking for a monetary donation. Mr. Wittkofsky suggested that the board did a stadium banner; he said it would be a way to advertise the RO Plant in the community. It was said that a good bit of the community attends football games and the banner will be displayed at all home games; it was also said that this would be a good way to show that we are a community partner. **Commissioner Beer made the motion to approve the request from the North Brunswick High School Booster Club in the amount of \$1200 for a three-year contract; a vote was called and the motion carried unanimously.**

RO Plant Communications Update: Mr. Wittkofsky reported to the board that we were now represented in the Life in Brunswick County website, the website for the North Brunswick Magazine; he showed the board screen shots of our clickable ads listed on it's webpage. Mr. Wittkofsky showed the board screen shots of our website; showing the clickable banner that will lead our customers to updated information on the RO Plant. Mr. Wittkofsky showed the board our recent bill inserts that went out regarding the RO Plant; he showed the board screen shots of our Facebook ads. Mr. Wittkofsky said the Facebook ads boosted our Facebook page to over 100 additional followers. Mr. Wittkofsky showed the board a picture of our billboard ad; he said it was on the billboard located next to State Employees Credit Union. Mr. Wittkofsky showed the board a copy of the ad in the Leland Magazine; he said his goal here was to direct people to our website and social media so we could better communicate with our customers. Mr. Wittkofsky said he is receiving a lot of positive feedback on our website; he said since we started this campaign we are up 48% on the number of views of our RO Plant page.

Mr. Wittkofsky mentioned that he was asked to look at advertising in Raleigh in an attempt to reach the legislators; he said he reached out to Ward and Smith, our lobbyist; and they gave him some places to look into. Mr. Wittkofsky said The Insider, which was listed as most likely read by our legislators; quoted \$12000 a month. Mr. Wittkofsky mentioned two others that were also very expensive compared to current advertising costs. There was a brief discussion on this; it was suggested that we hold off on advertising outside our community. Members of the board expressed their thoughts on whether we should spend money in advertising in Raleigh. It was said that our legislators were local people and we should leave it to them to spread out the word of what we are doing.

Mr. Wittkofsky ended his report with announcing that we will be receiving the Utility of the Future Award again this year for our work on the RO Plant.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Mr. Coble said he had nothing to report in open session.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION:

None discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Hosmer made the motion for the board to enter executive session at 6:27 pm to discuss Consultation with Legal Counsel, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) and Contract Negotiations, pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(5); a vote was called and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Beer motioned for the board to return to open session; a vote was called and the motion carried unanimously.

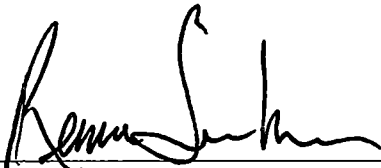
It was said there was nothing to report out of Executive Session.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

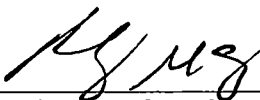
Chairman Jenkins announced that the next Regular Meeting would be held on September 21, 2021 at 6:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Laub made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm, the motion carried unanimously.



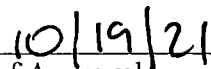
Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman



Rodney McCoy, Secretary



Deana Greiner, CMC Clerk to Board



Date of Approval