

BRUNSWICK REGIONAL WATER & SEWER H2GO
WORKSHOP MEETING
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2, 2023

OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ronnie Jenkins called the meeting, located at H2GO, to order at 10 a.m.; a quorum was present. The assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Present from the Board of Commissioners were members Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman, Barry Laub, Vice Chairman, Rodney McCoy, Secretary, Bill Beer, and Steve Hosmer, present from H2GO was Bob Walker, Executive Director, Russ Lane, Assistant Executive Director, Operations, Scott Hook, Assistant Executive Director, Administration, Ken Brown, Finance Officer, and Deana Greiner, Clerk to the Board.

H2GO'S FACILITY EXPANSION:

Mr. Walker presented to the board a site drawing of the current H2GO office with the original proposed expansion. Mr. Walker explained that the Town of Leland gave us two important waivers if we stayed within those footprints; he said the waivers had to do with parking and storm water. It was said that with this proposed plan as it is, is at the max this site can be expanded; it was said that we could outgrow this expansion within 5 years. It was said the cost of this expansion was roughly \$3.5 million.

Members of the board expressed their concerns about jumping in on a fully new complex; it was said that \$25 million was a lot of debt on top of the debt we know we have now and have coming. Mr. Walker explained that a percentage of the expansion could possibly be paid for using system development fees; he said he has been trying to get this clarified with the State. There was a brief discussion on the budget; it was said that the initial engineering for this project is already included in the budget; it was said that with growth there would be room in the budget to carry the cost. It was said that even without Leland's ability to annex that over the next 10 years, we were still looking at an additional 15,000 customers. It was said that the one thing we have is that most of our customers are residential; residential customers are always going to be there. There was a brief discussion on rates; it was said that we have done well in keeping rates low even during one of the highest inflation periods. Members of the board said that this was important; to keep rates low while also maintaining operations.

Mr. Walker stated that the staff was not looking for anything overly fancy, that staff wanted functional working space for all positions. The board looked at the original plan once more; it was suggested to take away the field operations and possibly move it to allow for the current space to be converted to office space. Mr. Walker explained that where that sounded good operationally that it would cause some challenges in terms of

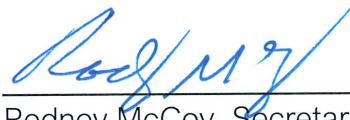
communication and fluency between departments. Members of the board expressed that they wanted to see options; not just one set plan. Mr. Walker explained that with the RFQ that the board approved in the last meeting, it allowed for a space allocations study, and cost analysis; he said this will help with planning and exploring options. The board generally agreed to move forward with the space allocation and cost analysis.

ADJOURNMENT:

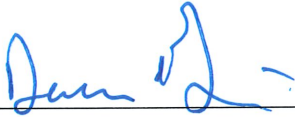
Commissioner McCoy made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 p.m.; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.



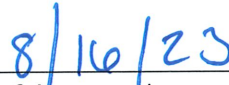
Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman



Rodney McCoy, Secretary



Deana Greiner, CMC
Clerk to the Board



Date of Approval