

BRUNSWICK REGIONAL WATER & SEWER H2GO
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ronnie Jenkins called the meeting to order at 5:00 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, Barry Laub, Vice Chairman, Rodney McCoy, Secretary, Commissioners Steve Hosmer, and Bill Beer. Present from H2GO was Bob Walker, Executive Director, Russ Lane, Assistant Executive Director-Operations, Scott Hook, Assistant Executive Director-Administration, Ken Brown, Finance Director, Jennifer Philips, Deputy Finance Director, Sara Meyer, Human Resource Director, Brenda Thurman, Customer Service Manager, Adrianna Weber, Engineering Director, Lloyd Brown, IT Manager, and Deana Greiner, Clerk to the Board. Also present was Mr. Steve Coble with Coble Law Firm.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA:

Chairman Jenkins asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda; hearing none a motion was called. Commissioner Hosmer made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Laub made the motion to approve the consent agenda which consisted of the August 20, 2024, Workshop/Regular Board Meeting Minutes, Parker Leland Apartments Deed of Dedication, Arboretum at Brunswick Forest Phase 2B Deed of Dedication, and the August 1-31, 2024, Check Register. A vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

Commissioner Hosmer mentioned another satisfied customer who had a good experience with our staff. Commissioner Beer wanted to thank Mr. Lloyd Brown for helping him with his email. Both Commissioner Beer and Chairman Jenkins spoke about customers being happy with the RO Water.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Jenkins opened the floor for public comments. No patrons were present.

OLD BUSINESS:

None Discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

None discussed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Walker reported to the board that we were in the process of getting a contract for our website design and hosting through Civic Plus.

Mr. Walker reported to the board that we were in the process of getting a contract for the Emergency Risk and Resilience Assessment with Hazen and Sawyer; it was said that Hazen and Sawyer were one of our on-call engineering services.

Mr. Walker reported to the board that bids were due for Well Sites 6, 7, and 8 on September 24, 2024; he mentioned that a special meeting will need to be held between then and the October Meeting.

Mr. Walker reported to the board that we have found possible properties for well sites 9-13; he said they wanted to hire an outside consultant to evaluate the properties for wetlands and other possible issues ahead of purchase negotiations.

Mr. Walker presented to the board the report on the ASR Well testing; it explained that so far everything has looked promising. Mr. Walker explained that the report showed that we could store up to 43 million gallons in the Lower PeeDee Aquifer and 80 million gallons in the Black Creek Aquifer. Mr. Walker also reported that he found out the ASR wells were an eligible expense for the FEMA Brick Funding Grant. Mr. Walker also said that well sites 9-13 will include two additional ASR Well Sites.

Mr. Walker reported that the plant was running at 3.5 MGD with a peak average at 4.7 MGD. Mr. Walker stated that Stage 2 Water Conservation will expire at the end of September. Mr. Walker reported that the bills with the new irrigation rates will be going out to customers in the next week; he explained that staff were prepared for questions and concerns.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-OPERATIONS:

Mr. Lane stated that he had nothing to report. Someone asked about trucks and Mr. Lane said there were 5 new trucks ordered for this year.

ENGINEERING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Terrapin/Malmo Phase 1A Performance Guarantee: Commissioner Beer made the motion to approve the performance guarantee for the Terrapin/Malmo Phase 1A project as presented; a vote was carried, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Arboretum at Brunswick Forest Phase 2B Release Performance Guarantee Commissioner Laub made the motion to release the performance guarantee for the Arboretum at Brunswick Forest Phase 2B as presented; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Hook stated that he had nothing to report.

HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Monthly Report: Mrs. Myers explained that she was finalizing the Personnel Handbook and that it would be up for approval in October.

The question was asked about turnover and on average how many employees leave. The board suggested that Mrs. Myers add this information to her monthly report.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Malmo Loop Pump Station and Force Main Fund 48 Budget Amendment Mr. Ken Brown presented to the board a budget ordinance amendment for fund 48; he explained that there was no money being added overall that they were moving money from Electrical to Engineering. Commissioner McCoy made the motion to approve the budget ordinance amendment for Fund 48 as presented; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Malmo Loop Wetland Mitigation Purchase Order Mr. Brown presented to the board a purchase order for wetland mitigation fees for the Malmo Loop project (Fund 48); he said this purchase order coincides with the budget amendment they just passed. Commissioner Hosmer made the motion to approve the purchase order for the wetland mitigation fees as presented; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Dewatering Can Repair for the WWTP Purchase Order Mr. Brown presented to the board a purchase order for repair to the second dewatering can; he explained it was sent out for bids and the lowest bidder was Gurkin Construction. Commissioner McCoy made the motion to approve the purchase order for the dewatering can as presented; a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Mr. Coble stated he had nothing to report.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION:

Commissioner McCoy wanted it said that with fall and fall festivals that there could be a situation where there may be two or three commissioners seen together; he wanted to it be clear that in those situations there was no business being conducted; that it was strictly commissioner's being neighborly. The idea was mentioned about public outreach; it was suggested that we only need to be involved in public outreach events when it's necessary, when there is something big going on such as building a Reverse Osmosis Plant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

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

There was nothing to report out of the executive session.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

Chairman Jenkins announced the next Regular Board Meeting to be October 16, 2024, to be located at the Training Room of the Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant, at 5 p.m. The board took a minute to look at the November meeting; the board decided to change the November Meeting to November 13, 2024. It was said there would be a special meeting tentatively scheduled for September 26, 2024, at 4 p.m.; it was said the meeting would coincide with the bid opening for Well Sites 6-8.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Laub made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m., a vote was called, and the motion was carried unanimously.



Ronnie Jenkins, Chairman



Rodney McCoy, Secretary



Deana Greiner, CMC Clerk to Board

10-16-2024

Date of Approval