

**Minutes**  
**MCRWASA Board of Directors Regular Meeting**  
**March 28, 2019**

The Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority (MCRWASA) Board of Directors met for its Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in the MCRWASA Water Treatment Plant Building, 1001 Park Street, Williamston, NC.

**ASSEMBLY**

Members present: Chairman David Bone, Vice Chairman Al Chesson, Board Director Stacy Stalls, Board Director William Coffield (alternate), Board Director Julius Patrick and Secretary Christina Craft.

Board Director Tommy Bowen (alternate) was not in attendance.

Others present: Martin County: Deputy Secretary Jessica Godard; and Treasurer/Deputy Secretary Cindy Ange; Town of Williamston: Water System Operator Gary Barmer; and SUEZ: Project Manager Joe Thaxton and Senior O & M Technician Eddie Bristow.

Chairman Bone called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Vice Chairman Chesson made a MOTION to approve the agenda as presented, with a SECOND by Director Stalls. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 24, 2019 Regular Session**

Director Patrick made a MOTION to approve the minutes, with a SECOND by Director Stalls. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

**1. Public Hearing:**

The NC General Statutes have multiple requirements in regards to adoption of a local government’s annual budget. A public hearing on the budget is required by NC General Statute 159-11. This afternoon’s public hearing has been duly advertised. The MCRWASA Board is asked to hold a public hearing to receive public comment on the budget.

NCGS 159-13 specifies that no earlier than 10 days after the budget is presented to the governing body and not later than July 1<sup>st</sup>, the governing body shall adopt a budget ordinance. Otherwise, the MCRWASA Board may adopt an interim budget ordinance to be effective from July 1<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Vice Chairman Chesson made the MOTION to open the Public Hearing for the 2019-20 MCRWASA Budget, with a SECOND by Director Patrick. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Chairman Bone reported the trend in daily gallons of water usage was a consistent overall usage. There was a reduction in water usage by Williamston and an increase Martin County usage.

	<b>2014 (est.)</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Town of Williamston	727,000	701,025	669,791	592,068	577,619
Martin Co. WSD 1	124,000	133,997	126,746	136,898	141,541

Martin Co. WSD 2	137,000	149,728	132,681	128,347	150,276
TOTAL	988,000	984,800	929,218	857,313	869,436

As per the inter-local agreement, each member is required to make a “Minimum Purchase.” The agreement reads as follows:

“For the purposes of this Agreement, ‘Minimum Purchase’ means the volume of water...which is equal to one hundred percent of the Full Water Requirements of each Member Entity based on actual consumption levels from the prior calendar year.”

Project Manager Thaxton reported no big ticket items for the upcoming budget year. The Turbidity Analyzer may need to be replaced in Budget Year 2020/2021, as maintenance is to be discontinued soon. It is under contract for parts. Director Patrick reported the plant should receive at least a year’s notice. Project Manager Thaxton reported the screens in the river need to be inspected by a diver to verify if the screens require scraping or replacement. Another project is to clean the reservoir, which should be completed approximately every five to ten years. As there are no chemicals in the reservoir, the water could be pumped onto the ground, which will significantly reduce the project cost. There are fish in the reservoir, which will be flushed away during the cleaning process. Chairman Bone questioned if the Marine Fisheries should be contacted prior to inspecting the reservoir. Project Manager Thaxton reported the reservoir could be completely drained, but that is not recommended. Using heavy equipment, such as a backhoe, to remove the settled mud and material could damage the liner. A floating barge will be used to drain the reservoir, with a pulsator to eliminate damage to the reservoir lining.

Vice Chairman Chesson made the MOTION to close the Public Hearing for the 2019-20 MCRWASA Budget, with a SECOND by Director Patrick. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Chairman Bone reported the draft budget is based on maintenance of the current wholesale rate of \$5.63 per 1,000 gallons.

**Adoption of the 2019-2020 Budget and Wholesale Water Rate of \$5.63 per 1,000 Gallons**

Chairman Bone stated historically, the MCRWASA Board of Directors considered adoption of the Budget and Wholesale Water Rate after the Budget Public Hearing. The MCRWASA Board was asked to approve the 2019-2020 Budget and Water Rate of \$5.63 per 1,000 gallons.

Director Patrick made the MOTION to adopt the 2019-20 MCRWASA Budget with the inclusion of the wholesale water rate of \$5.63 per 1,000 gallons as shown above, with a SECOND by Director Stalls. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

<b>Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority</b>	
<b>2019-2020 Budget</b>	
<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>	
Town of Williamston	1,186,425
Martin County WSD 1	290,724
Martin County WSD 2	308,666
interest Earned	
Fund Balance Appropriations	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>1,785,815</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Administration</b>	
Legal	

Other professional services	11,000
office supplies	200
Postage	250
Advertising	500
Property & Liability Insurance	27,000
Dues and Subscriptions	
Miscellaneous	300
Permits	1,800
Engineering	
Debt Service - Principal	305,130
Debt Service - interest	506,662
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>852,842</b>
<b>Water Treatment Plant Operations</b>	
Maintenance & Repair	
Engineering fees	
Capital Outlay	19,200
Suez - Contract Services	843,038
Suez Water - Non-Routine Services	5,000
Contracted Services	
<b>Total WTP Operations</b>	<b>867,238</b>
<b>Booster Pump Station Operations</b>	
BPS Lease - WSD2	63,135
Water Purchases - BPS	
Permits/Testing - BPS	2,600
Contracted Services	
<b>Total BPS Operations</b>	<b>65,735</b>
<b>MCRWASA Well #1 Operations</b>	
Contracted Services	
<b>Total Well #1 Operations</b>	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>1,785,815</b>
<b>Revenues Minus Expenditures</b>	<b>-</b>

## INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

### Monthly Report from SUEZ

Project Manager Thaxton reported:

- The Town fixed a substantial water leak, resulting in a shutting down Factory Street to the Town for two weeks. After the line was repaired, Mr. Gary Barner back-flushed from the well to Factory Street, and he flushed from Factory Street to the blow off point to ensure water quality. This has stopped the Town from using their total water allotment daily.
- The budget has been submitted for 2020.
- The sump pump in the 30-foot deep alum pit failed and filled the pit in just days. New sump pumps are now in place.
- One valve in the pulsator was ruined. Upgrading air valves to same size as the sludge valves.
- One employee (Phil) now has a C License. All regulatory licensure have been obtained.
- A burnout has been scheduled to begin June 10<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>. The Town and County will perform testing on water quality by the first week of June. A public notice will be sent prior to the temporary adjustment to the chlorine disinfectant.
- Copper sulfate is to be added to the reservoir to control the algae.

Chairman Bone reported the Town and County have been approved for the Water Merger Study. The contract has not been received at this time. It will take approximately six months to conduct the study. The study does not require consolidation but presents options.

Chairman Bone reported in January, there was a discussion of allowing the installation of an antennae which would be used in a local effort to provide internet access in parts of the county that are deficient. They are currently considering the option of installing the antennae on the tower by the shooting range instead of the MCRWASA water tower.

Chairman Bone reported SUEZ has approached him about the possibility of a contract extension. The current contract ends March 2021. The supervisor plans to meet with him in April to continue the conversation.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Bone adjourned the meeting around 3:27 p.m. The next regular MCRWASA Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2019 at 3:00 pm.

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David Bone, MCRWASA Chairman

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Christina Craft, NCMCC  
MCRWASA Secretary