

Minutes
MCRWASA Board of Directors Regular Meeting
June 22, 2017

The Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority (MCRWASA) Board of Directors met for its Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 22, 2017 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 Hilton Keel, Board Director Julius Patrick, Board Director Junious Horton (alternate), Secretary Marion Thompson and Treasurer/Deputy Secretary Cindy Ange.

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

Others present: Martin County: County Commissioner Dempsey Bond, Jr.; 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 Keel. The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 25, 2017, Regular Session

Director Keel made a MOTION to approve the minutes as presented, with a SECOND by Director Patrick. The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

BUSINESS ITEMS

2016-17 Audit Contract

Chairman Bone stated Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC submitted a proposed contract to audit MCRWASA accounts for the year ending June 30, 2017. This contract would be for \$8,200, which would be \$700 more than last year's amount. Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC have audited MCRWASA accounts in past years.

The Board of Directors was asked to approve the audit contract.

Vice Chairman Chesson made the MOTION to approve the 2016-17 Audit Contract (*entered into these minutes by reference*) with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC for the amount of \$8,200, with a SECOND by Director Patrick. The motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Budget Amendment #7

Chairman Bone explained Budget Amendment #7 would close-out the water treatment plant project fund. The \$1,202,930 had already been incorporated into the overall MCRWASA Fund Balance. The budget amendment simply would transfer the funds from the Capital Project Fund to the Operating Fund in order for the Capital Project Fund to be closed-out. The Board of Directors was asked to approve Budget Amendment #7.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-7

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority that the following amendments be made to the capital project budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

Section 1. To amend the Water Treatment Plant Project Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

	Increase	Decrease
Transfers to Operating Fund	\$1,202,930	

This will result in an increase of \$1,202,930 in the expenditures of the Water Treatment Plant Project Fund. To provide an increase in revenue for the above, the following revenues will be changed.

Fund Balance Appropriation	\$1,202,930
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Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board and to the Finance Officer for their direction.

MOTION by Director Keel and SECONDED by Director Patrick to adopt the above budget ordinance amendment this 22nd day of June, 2017.

Budget Amendment #8

Chairman Bone stated Budget Amendment #8 would appropriate funds for the Suez Contract. The Maintenance Cap (MCAP) overage for 2016 was not settled until March 2017, causing these fees to be charged to the current fiscal year. The Board of Directors was asked to approve Budget Amendment #8.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-8

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority that the following amendments be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

Section 1. To amend the Operating Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows.

	Increase	Decrease
Contracted Services	\$ 10,730	

This will result in an increase of \$10,730 in the expenditures of the Operating Fund. To provide an increase in the revenues for the above, the following revenues will be changed.

Fund Balance Appropriation	\$ 10,730
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Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board and to the Finance Officer for their direction.

MOTION by Vice Chairman Chesson and SECONDED by Director Patrick to adopt the above budget ordinance amendment this 22nd day of June 2017.

Estimate for Work on MCRWASA Well #1

Chairman Bone restated there were some isolated complaints about cloudy water shortly after the MCRWASA Well #1 came online, on August 1, 2016. The MCRWASA Well #1 was taken offline, and currently, the Water District #1 Hassell Well is being used.

Groundwater Management Associates (GMA) was hired to perform a hydrogeological analysis of MCRWASA Well #1. GMA reported the source of the turbidity is from Kaolinite native clay that commonly occurs in the Cape Fear Aquifer.

A number of corrected action options were suggested, including:

- Install a pump check valve
- Eliminate the “trickle flow” of chlorinated water or, at a minimum, use a lower concentration or non-chlorinated solution
- Set-up an automatic blow-off from the wellhead for 10 minutes
- Prevent short-cycling of the well by modifying the pumping schedule to allow the well to be used for longer periods of time. This would reduce the “water hammering”: agitation, in addition to the amount of the water wasted during blow-off on a daily basis.

At the March 23, 2017 meeting, the Board approved replacement of the pump check valve on MCRWASA Well #1. The pump valve was installed, and SUEZ staff flushed the MCRWASA Well #1. Benefits were gained by the installation of the pump valve. However, the corrective action did not create the desired results in the turbidity level.

The Board of Directors discussed the next steps suggested by GMA and The Wooten Company, as corrective measures for the MCRWASA Well #1, during the May 25, 2017 MCRWASA meeting. Project Manager Thaxton, of SUEZ would request an estimate for an automatic blow-off valve and variable frequency drive (VFD) installation.

SUEZ had been working on an estimate for a second phase of work to address the turbidity issue at MCRWASA Well #1. The Board of Directors was asked to consider Change Order #12 with a non-to-exceed about of \$70,125.55, as an estimate from SUEZ for an automatic blow-off valve and variable frequency drive (VFD) installation.

After further consideration, it was decided the best option would be to proceed with the suggestion by GMA and the Wooten Company Engineer to add a valve and line to allow water to go on the ground until an accepted turbidity is achieved, if approved by the Board. Installation of the Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) could be delayed for now. This would cut cost by over \$28,000.00.

Additionally, Project Manager Thaxton stated at the bottom of the pump shafts, there are sections called bowls that boost the pressure of the water. So, by removing the bowls, the pressure and the flow to the line would be lowered. Even though there would be no charge for the well water being put on the ground, records of the amount of water used would be maintained for state reporting.

Director Patrick made the MOTION to move with the Change Order as modified not to exceed \$45,000, with a SECOND by Vice Chairman Chesson. The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

Temporary Switch to Free Chlorine

The Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority (MCRWASA), the Town of Williamston and Martin County Water District #2 typically use chloramines to treat its surface water. Chloramines are an effective disinfectant and also reduce the level of byproducts that are regulated by the US Environmental Protection Agency. State drinking water guidelines recommend water systems using chloramines periodically switch back to free chlorine (chlorine alone) for a period of time. This brief, scheduled change in disinfectant is a standard water treatment practice to keep water mains clean and free of potentially harmful bacteria throughout the year.

On June 9, 2017 and continuing through July 14, 2017, the Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority (MCRWASA), the Town of Williamston and Martin County Water District #2 switched temporarily from chloramines to chlorine alone. During this five-week change to free chlorine, customers may notice a slight change in the taste or smell of the tap water. The mild chlorine taste and smell is normal and poses no health risk.

Customers may also notice an increase in the frequency and volume of water flushed from the fire hydrants in the Williamston and Martin County Water District #2 distribution systems. This systematic flushing, which would be accompanied by water sampling and analysis, has been designed to ensure that the free chlorine disinfectant reaches all sections of the distribution systems at concentrations in compliance with State rules.

Project Manager Thaxton stated the Martin County Water District #2 changes from chloramines to free chlorine went smoothly. Martin County Water District Manager Ed Warren and staff took the tank out of service and provided much needed maintenance. While the tank was out of service, MCRWASA Water Treatment Plant served as the Water District #2 tank. During this time, the water disbursed to Water District #2 did not go over the daily allowance.

Project Manager Thaxton added the Baily Road Booster Pump Station (BPS) has been purged and should be back online next week.

Project Manager Thaxton stated the change had not gone as smoothly as desired for the Town of Williamston. Project Manager Thaxton stated in future exchanges, MCRWASA, the Town of Williamston and the Martin County Water District #2 would collaborate further concerning the switch-over methodology.

Monthly Report from Suez

Project Manager Joe Thaxton briefed the Board of Directors on SUEZ activities at the MCRWASA Water Treatment Plant for the month of May 2017. Project Manager Thaxton reported many of the testing requirements for the Long Term 2 (LT2) Enhanced Surface Water Treatment would not have to be done as often, due to change in the frequency schedules.

Project Manager Thaxton stated the intern worked out well, and another would be recruited to work at the Water Treatment Plant. There are plans also are to make presentations to the biology classes at the schools.

Election of Officers

Chairman Bone reminded the Board that as per the by-laws, the Board of Directors is to hold elections for the following officers during its annual regular meeting in July: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Deputy Secretaries.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Bone adjourned the meeting around 3:48 p.m. The next regular meeting for the MCRWASA would be Thursday, July 27, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

David Bone, Chairman

Marion B. Thompson, NCCCC
MCRWASA Secretary