

Minutes
MCRWASA Board of Directors Regular Meeting
June 28, 2018

The Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority (MCRWASA) Board of Directors met for its Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2018 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, Secretary Marion Thompson and Treasurer/Deputy Secretary Cindy Ange.

Board Director Tommy Bowen (alternate) and Board Director Junious Horton (alternate) were not in attendance.

Others present: Martin County: Commissioner Dempsey Bond, Jr. and Water District Manager Ed Warren; Town of Williamston: Town Clerk/Deputy Secretary Christina Craft and Street & Lines Supervisor Stacey Stalls; 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, with a SECOND by Director Keel. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 24, 2018 Regular Session

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

BUSINESS ITEMS

2017-18 Audit Contract

Finance Director/MCRWASA Treasurer Cindy Ange asked the Board of Directors to consider approving the proposed audit contract with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC, to audit MCRWASA accounts for the year ending June 30, 2018. This contract would be for \$8,610, which would be \$410 more than last year's amount.

Director Keel made the MOTION to approve the 2017-18 MCRWASA audit contact with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC for the amount of \$8,610, with a SECOND by Director Patrick. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Budget Amendment #4

Finance Director Ange stated MCRWASA capitalizes assets over \$5,000. Several projects budgeted as capital projects this year (including the Bailey pump station door security, the line location equipment, and the clear well projects) ended-up being under \$5,000. Therefore, these items and their budgets needed to be classified as non-routine services and not capital outlay. The MCRWASA Board was asked to approve Budget Amendment #4, which would transfer \$10,000 between funds.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT-4

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, 2018.

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

	Increase	Decrease
Contracted Services Non-Routine	\$ 10,000	
Capital Outlay		\$ 10,000

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 Keel to adopt the above budget ordinance amendment this 28th day of June 2018. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

SUEZ Change Order #16 – Air Compressor Auto Restart System for Super Pulsator

Chairman Bone explained the Air Compressor Auto Restart System project was included in the capital needs request for 2018-19 and discussed on February 22, 2018. At that time, Project Manager Thaxton suggested updating the compressor to fix some of the shortfalls to the operations of the air compressor, which provides air to all the valves on the Super Pulsator. Project Manager Thaxton explained valve failure in mid-transfer would cause a large discharge of water and cause the piping to become overwhelmed. It would take up to 45 to 60 minutes for staff to get on site, if this happened late at night. Currently, in the event of a power failure or brown-out, the compressors would not restart. During a compressor failure, the other compressor unit would not start, as well.

This project was approved by the Board of Directors as part of the 2018-19 Budget on March 22, 2018. The original estimate was for \$10,000. Project Manager Thaxton submitted Change Order #16 for the Board's consideration and approval. The change order would involve the Air Compressor Auto Restart System installation at a cost of \$6,732.

Director Patrick made the MOTION to approve Change Order #16, as presented, with a SECOND by Director Keel. The Board APPROVED the motion unanimously.

Update on MCRWASA Well #1/Alternatives for Primary Water Supply for Martin County Water District #1

Chairman Bone reiterated currently, Martin County Water District #1 receives water through two sources, the Hassell Well and MCRWASA Well #1 (formerly named the Penco Well). The State allowed the installation of MCRWASA Well #1 as a redundant source of water to the Hassell Well before the MCRWASA Water Treatment Plant was constructed. Two abandoned Penco wells had previously been given to the County, and the State allowed the transference of the water points for those wells to the well now known as the MCRWASA Well #1.

With the addition of MCRWASA Well #1, Water District #1 had excess water supply that could then be made available to other parts of the overall system as withdrawal rates declined, due to the State mandated CCPCUA (Central Coastal Plain Capacity Use Area) rules. The plan was to use the excess capacity between the two wells as a back-up supply for the other areas of the system, as well as remain the primary source of water to Water District #1 for a number of years. The District could be served for many years into the future by these wells with no other supply needed.

Over the past couple of years, there were issues with water quality at Water District #1 caused by cloudiness or high turbidity water. The main reason for this cloudiness appears to be due to a fine clay present in the groundwater that is extremely difficult to remove. Numerous attempts have been made to clear this well, but it has been intermittent at best. Most recently, the well is still experiencing high turbidity but has seen some improvement. With this being said, the Authority considered:

- Option 1 – Continue to use existing Well #1.
- Option 2 – Install a new well to replace Well #1, with an approximated cost range between \$300,000 and \$400,000.
- Option 3 – Install a new Booster Pumping Station, cost would range from \$400,000 to \$500,000.
- Option 4 – (Suggested at the May 24th MCRWASA meeting) Evaluation of the old Town of Oak City Well.

Options #3 and #4 were the main options discussed at the May 24, 2018 MCRWASA meeting. The Wooten Company would be assisting MCRWASA in the evaluation of these options, as well as potential grant funding opportunities.

Senior O & M Technician Eddie Bristow stated Option 1 – Continue to use existing Well #1 was still a viable option because the turbidity had drop tremendously, in the last 3 to 4 weeks. After thirty (30) minutes of flushing, the turbidity tested 6 nephelometric turbidity unit (NTU), and 2 NTU after two (2) hours of flushing.

Martin County Water District Manager Ed Warren stated he would be willing to use MCRWASA Well #1, if the turbidity level tested consistently at 5 NTU. The Board questioned whether the turbidity had been tested after 40 to 45 minutes of testing. It had not been.

District Manager Warren was concerned about Option 4 – Evaluation of the Old Town of Oak City Well. Even after restoring the well, District Manager Warren doubted if the well would be able to supply the water capacity needed on a daily basis. District Manager Warren suggested consulting with the original installer, Jerry Pearson.

An online turbidity meter was suggested, which would allow SUEZ to monitor and regulate the flow of water at the different turbidity levels. Project Manager Thaxton and Senior O & M Technician Bristow would secure cost estimates on the online turbidity meter and present them to the Board at the MCRWASA July 26, 2018 meeting.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

Monthly Report from SUEZ

As part of SUEZ's plant status review for May 2018, Project Manager Thaxton reported Operations Technician Steve Barger and he attended Arc Flash training in Mississippi for OSHA compliance.

Additionally, Project Manager Thaxton stated he passed his Class "C" distribution license, which certifies him in "A" Surface Water, "A" Well, Physical Chemical 2 (PC2), Waste Water Class 4, and "C" distribution.

Regarding the temporary adjustment to chlorine disinfectant, Senior O & M Technician Bristow reported the process was going well, and there have been no known complaints in the water process of Williamston and parts of Martin County. The process began June 18, 2018 and would run through the end of July 2018. Streets & Lines Supervisor Stacey was in agreement. Water District Manager Warren agreed, although the process was barely getting started in parts of Martin County.

Project Manager Thaxton stated the Town of Williamston lost electricity for approximately two hours recently. The Water Treatment Plant's generator worked as it should; however, after reviewing the incident, Project Manager Thaxton suggested collaborating to update the Emergency Response Plan for events where excessive water could be an issue, such a hurricanes.

Chairman Bone reminded the Board that as per the by-laws, the Board of Directors were to hold elections annually at the July meeting, for the following officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Deputy Secretaries.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Bone adjourned the meeting around 3:31 p.m. The MCRWASA Board of Directors scheduled its next regular meeting for July 26, 2018.

David Bone, MCRWASA Chairman

Marion B. Thompson, NCCCC, NCMCC
MCRWASA Secretary