

ATHENS MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY
December 14, 2016

The Board of Directors of the Athens Municipal Water Authority ("AMWA") met in Regular Session on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 8:02 a.m. at the Hart-Morris Conservation Center, located at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, with the following members present, to-wit:

Mike Peek, President
Ed Gatlin, Vice President
Don Foster, Secretary
Milburn Chaney, Board Member
Frank Lunceford, Board Member

others present: Bill Casey, AMWA Executive Director; Martin Bennett, AMWA Attorney; Corey Frentress, Velvin & Weeks; Beth McConnell, AMWA Office Manager;

guests of note: Edwin McCain, City of Athens; Philip Rodriguez, City of Athens; Gary Whittle, City of Athens; Lawrence Cutrone, City of Athens; Mike Finney, City of Athens; Lance Clemmon, Garver USA; Michael Watts, PhD, Garver USA; David Thomas, AMWA Board Member 2014-16

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted to wit:

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by President Peek.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest declared.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO EXPRESS ITEMS OF CONCERN

No citizens wished to express concern.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Director Gatlin and seconded by Director Chaney to accept the minutes of the November 9, 2016 Regular Session and the November 28, 2016 Special Session Board Meetings, as presented. This motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Director Gatlin presented the financial statements.

Director Gatlin presented proposed amendments to the 2016-17 fiscal year budget, including increasing the boat maintenance budget, and lowering the expected expenditures for the Henderson County Tax Assessor. A motion was made by Director Chaney, seconded by Director Foster to amend the budget as presented by staff. This motion carried unanimously.

At this time, Director Gatlin presented the monthly bills for payment. A motion was made by Director Foster and seconded by Director Gatlin for payment of those bills. This motion carried unanimously.

Director Chaney had no report for the Rules & Administration committee.

The Water & Resources Committee report was given by Director Foster. He stated that a meeting with City of Athens staff the previous week had been productive in regards to the issues the City is having with well #1 at the Water Treatment Plant.

Director Lunceford reiterated how important the joint session with the City of Athens was in regards to the infrastructure at the Water Treatment Plant, as his Infrastructure & Engineering committee report.

President Peek commented on the Athens City Council meeting that he and Office Manager McConnell attended on November 14. He believes that more communication is still needed between the two organizations and looks to move the relationship between the Authority and the City of Athens forward.

DISCUSS AND ACT UPON REVISIONS TO THE AUTHORITY'S POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL TO GO INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 2017

Executive Director Casey and Office Manager McConnell presented three changes to the Authority's Policy & Procedure Manual for the upcoming calendar year:

1. Increasing employee sick time from 40 hours to 96 hours per year, to align with Henderson County's policy, in order to hire and retain qualified staff.
2. Add a clause to increase internal fraud controls, that the same person who makes the monetary deposits does not open the mail.
3. In preparation of the new headquarters building having a secure storage area, to change the records management policy from requiring files be kept at a secure off-site location, to keeping files in the secure archives room at the headquarters building.

A motion was made by Director Gatlin, seconded by Director Lunceford to accept these changes. This motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION WITH GARVER USA REGARDING DISENFECTION OPTIONS AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT TO REDUCE/CONTROL HAA5 LEVELS

At this time, Lance Clemmon and Dr. Michael Watts gave a presentation regarding the current water disinfection process and five alternatives at the Water Treatment Plant.

The original scope of their analysis was studying the effects of relocating the current chlorine injector and possible baffling improvements to the clearwells. In their analysis, Garver engineers came up with the following alternatives to changing the disinfection process at the Water Treatment Plant, in order to reduce HAA5 (haloacetic acids) and THM (trihalomethanes) levels, as well as reduce chlorine dosing during the disinfection process. HAA5 and THM are by-products of the chlorine disinfection process.

Proposed Alternative #1

The first alternative presented was to reduce the dosing of chlorine at the current chlorine injection site, by adding a second chlorine injection after the filters, before the ammonia injector. While this change would reduce the HAA5 and THM levels, it would also limit the treatment capacity and flow rates of the Water Treatment Plant.

Proposed Alternative #2

The second alternative presented was to use a free chlorine system throughout the plant. While this would reduce the current chlorine dosing levels, it would not guarantee a reduction in HAA5 or THM levels.

Proposed Alternative #3

The third alternative presented was to eliminate the pre-filtration chlorine injection and to use free chlorine in the clearwells. With this plan, both a new ammonia and a new chlorine injection points would have to be added. This plan would maintain the Water Treatment Plants treatment capacity, while reducing the dosing of chlorine and chloramines by approximately half.

Proposed Alternative #4

The fourth alternative presented was to eliminate pre-filtration chlorination and to use free chlorine in newly baffled clearwells. This would require new injection sites for ammonia and chlorine, as well as improvements to both clearwells to add baffling. Garver USA does not find this alternative feasible.

Proposed Alternative #5

The fifth and final alternative presented was an extremely high overview of converting the Water Treatment Plant to chlorine dioxide disinfection. This solution would require the most capital of all the alternatives proposed, but it also the only alternative that Garver can safely say will significantly reduce both HAA5 and THM levels.

At this time Garver USA took questions from the Board of Directors. Director Lunceford questioned what had changed to make these changes necessary. The engineers from Garver USA stated that it is a combination of more organics in the raw water due to heavy rain and changes in TCEQ regulations.

Directors Gatlin, Lunceford and Peek then questioned if Garver took any consideration for groundwater from the well into their analysis, which they did not.

DISCUSS AND ACT UPON AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CASEY TO HIRE A FIRM TO INSPECT THE WELL HEAD, PUMP, AND SHAFT OF WTP WELL #1

Director Lunceford made a motion, seconded by Director Chaney, to hire a firm to pull the well head to inspect the well and bench test the pump of WTP Well #1. This motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Executive Director Casey gave an update on the construction progress of the AMWA headquarters building, and progress on the boathouses previously approved for removal.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Corey Frentress, of Velvin & Weeks Consulting Engineers, let the Board know that the dam toe drain project will begin in January and Morrow Construction will begin the headquarters parking lot within a week.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Director Gatlin and seconded by Director Foster to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 A.M.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 11th day of January 2017.

Mike Peek, President

ATTEST:

Donald A. Foster, Secretary

This page has been intentionally left blank