



Henry County Water Authority

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

April 13, 2023 – 8:30 a.m.

A meeting of the Henry County Water Authority Board, duly advertised, was held on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the Authority's Administrative offices (Engineering Building) located at 100 Westridge Industrial Blvd., McDonough, GA. The following Board members were present: Jimmy Carter, Chair; Sandra Rozier, Vice Chair; Myra Lott, Secretary/Treasurer; Bruce Holmes, Member; Warren Holder, Member; Fred Mays, Member-At-Large

HCWA Attendance: Administration - Tony V. Carnell, General Manager; Karen Lake-Thompson, Clerk; Dave Peterson, CFO. Directors: (Dan Newcombe, IT; Tara Brown, Strategic Planning). Division Managers: (Scott Sage, Allen Rape). Staff: Travis Jackson, Kenneth Presley, Rebecca Bodron, and Buster Cook

Public Relations: Chris Wood, PhD, JWA

Counsel: Andrew Welch, III, Smith, Welch, Webb & White, LLC

1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME VISITORS

Chair Carter called the meeting to order at 8:32AM and welcomed all in attendance.

2. INVOCATION

Mr. Carter introduced Reverend Gil McGinnis, Locust Grove United Methodist Church who gave the invocation.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Mrs. Rozier and seconded by Mr. Holder to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried (6/0).

4. PUBLIC COMMENT None

5. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Dr. Chris Wood introduced Dr. Geraldine Helton and thanked her for the interview during her visit to Cubihatcha last summer with him, Mr. Holder, and HCWA staff. Board members also thanked Dr. Helton for her leadership and contributions to Henry County. Mr. Carnell presented her with a plaque and flowers recognizing her contributions to Henry County (especially Locust Grove). Dr. Helton is a former educator and administrator of Henry County Schools. Dr. Helton's daughter, Jacques Lee thanked everyone and said they are proud of the growth of Henry County. They also thanked Cubihatcha staff for making their visit last summer to Cubihatcha extra special, and noted that their grandchildren "got to touch the land of her ancestors". Dr. Wood also noted the recent article of her visit to Cubihatcha was posted to the Authority's website and was featured in the Henry Herald newspaper celebrating Women's History Month. Mr. Carnell invited Dr. Helton and her family back to Cubihatcha for HCWA's annual Kids Fishing Day on June 10th.

6. REPORT OF ATTORNEY

Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement with Georgia Timber, LLC (2023-07)

Mr. Welch addressed the Board regarding the ratification of resolution 2023-07. He explained that the recent tornados hit Authority spray fields and wiped out a considerable number of trees (assets of the Authority). Site inspections were conducted and it was determined the timber needed to be removed quickly, to recover value of assets, if the timber is not removed quickly, it quickly opens up to infection and disease of the forest. Therefore, an emergency bid was conducted and Georgia Timber was awarded the contract..

Motion was made by Mr. Holder and seconded by Mr. Holmes to accept Resolution 2023-07 as presented. The motion carried (6/0).

7. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

Walnut Creek Blower/Aeration System Upgrade Bid Recommendation

Mr. Sage addressed the Board regarding the budget adjustment upgrade of Walnut Creek Blower/Aeration System and provided a location map of the area. He noted the upgrade would improve efficiency and save money in the long run. There were two (2) bidders for the construction, Archer Western, LLC., submitted bid for \$814,000 and Sol Construction LLC., submitted bid for \$950,000. Archer Western, LLC., was the low bidder, therefore staff recommended award to Archer Western, LLC., for the construction bid.

There being no further discussion, motion was made by Mr. Holder and seconded by Mrs. Lott to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion carried unanimously (6/0).

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Viewing Grant

Mr. Ken Presley, Reservoir Manager introduced Rebecca Bodron, Naturalist, who was key to the success of Cubihatcha (HCWA) receiving DNR's Wildlife Viewing Grant of \$3,000. Mr. Presley gave an overview of the application process and that Cubihatcha was one of six awarded the grant out of 16 applicants. The grant will assist with placing interpretative signs along Cubihatcha red and blue one-mile trails. The project timeline consists of four Phases and is scheduled to be completed by December 1, 2023. These signs will further enhance Cubihatcha community awareness and education.

City of Hampton Municipal Dinner – Update

Mr. Carnell reported on the City of Hampton Municipal Dinner held on March 23, which he attended with staff. Water, Sewer, and the Future was the featured main topic at the Municipal Dinner. Mr. Carnell shared that the presentation went on to provide misinformation to the attendees regarding the 2-Mil Tax, Comprehensive Plan and Watershed Protection Ordinance. Mr. Carnell corrected the presenter and followed up with an official letter to the City of Hampton Council Members regarding HCWA's treatment as well as to clarify the erroneous statements made by the presenter and addressed the success HCWA has had in developing relationships with the Cities (including City of Hampton). Mr. Carnell noted that future meetings with the City of Hampton will require a HCWA Board member and City of Hampton Council Members to ensure tact and professionalism.

HCWA Board Planning Session - May 18th @ Tussahaw WTP

Mr. Carnell discussed and shared tentative topics that staff would like to discuss/present at the upcoming Board Retreat on May 18th. Board members were asked to provide suggestions on any topics for consideration. Mr. Carter mentioned that discussions are underway for a topic on Code of Ethics at a future meeting.

JWA Public Relations Report

Dr. Wood presented a media relations report concerning newsworthy events and activities. He reported on the recent news media releases such as the upcoming fishing season, HCWA's internship program with Southern Crescent Technical College as well as the Leadership Henry service project at Cubihatcha. Dr. Wood also reported he's currently working on HCWA's Currents Newsletter scheduled for Spring release.

Announcements

Mr. Carnell announced upcoming events, where HCWA staff will be present: Water Professionals Appreciation Day – May 1; HCWA Supplier Conference - May 4; HCWA Citizens Academy, May 18 - June 17; HCWA/SCTC Summer Internship - May 24 thru July 18 (info session April 20th 11th/12th graders); HCWA Kids Fishing Day – June 10 @ Cubihatcha Nature Center; HCWA Kids Summer Camp, July 10 - 12.

8. PROJECTS and ADJUSTMENTS

Mr. Sage addressed the Board concerning the following projects and provided a description of each project which are all within the Authority’s policy. Mr. Sage provided an update regarding the Walnut Creek budget adjustment.

- New Projects: EXT3850C North Dorsey Road Water Line Ext
 EXT3863 City of McDonough – Racetrack Road at Iris Lake Road

- Developer Projects: DEV3695 Gates at Pates Creek Phase 2
 DEV3695 Gates at Pates Creek Sewer Ext
 DEV3831 Harmony at Eagles Landing Senior Living

- Budget Adjustment: EXT2911C Walnut Creek WRF Blower Upgrade

Motion was made by Mr. Mays and seconded by Mr. Holmes to approve the New Projects, Developer Projects and Budget Adjustment as presented. The motion carried (6/0).

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES


Motion was made by Mrs. Lott and seconded by Mr. Holder to approve the March 9, 2023 Executive Session Minutes. The motion carried (6/0).

Motion was made by Mrs. Rozier and seconded by Mrs. Lott to approve the March 9, 2023 Board minutes. The motion carried (6/0).

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION *(An executive session may be held pursuant to O.C.G.A. §50-14-2)*

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Mays and seconded by Mrs. Lott to adjourn the meeting at 9:57AM.
The motion carried (6/0).


Jimmy Carter, Chairman

Karen Lake-Thompson, Clerk