

**(AMENDED) MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING: January 14, 2021
HENRY COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

A meeting of the Henry County Water Authority Board, duly advertised, was held on Thursday, January 14, 2021, at the Authority's Administrative offices located at 1695 Highway 20 West, McDonough, GA. Mr. Warren E. Holder, acting Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

The following members were present: Warren Holder, James C. Carter, Jr. (via teleconference), Cletonya Stidom, Siddiqa Gibson and Sandra Rozier.

The following Authority staff and consultants were present:

Administration: Lindy D. Farmer, Jr., Tony Carnell, Kim Osborne, Roderick Burch

Division Managers: Scott Harrison, Scott Sage, Allen Rape

Public Relations : Chris Wood, PhD, JWA

Legal Counsel: Andy Welch, Smith, Welch, Webb & White

II. VISITORS Mr. Holder welcomed all in attendance and yielded the floor to Mrs. Stidom.

III. ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE/SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Mrs. Cletonya Stidom welcomed everyone and gave opening remarks. Pastor Timothy J. McBride, Tabernacle of Praise Church International, gave the invocation. Commissioner Vivian Thomas, District IV, gave remarks concerning her new appointee, Mrs. Sandra Rozier. Honorable Holly Veal administered Oaths of Office to Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Rozier and Mr. Holder. It was noted that Mrs. Stidom will be reappointed by Commissioner Clemmons later this month and that Mr. Carter is not in attendance, therefore, they will be sworn in at the Authority's February meeting.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Mr. Holder noted that Mr. Carter is participating via teleconference. The Agenda was presented for approval by the Board. Mr. Holder noted that it has been amended in order to reverse the order of business for Items 3 and 4. Motion was made by Mrs. Gibson and seconded by Mrs. Rozier to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried (5/0).

V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Andy Welch facilitated the election of the slate of officers for 2021 as follows:

Clerk:

Mrs. Rozier nominated Mrs. Osborne to continue to serve as the Authority's Clerk. There were no further nominations and a motion was made by Mrs. Rozier and seconded by Mrs. Gibson to confirm her nomination. The motion carried 5/0.

Secretary:

Mrs. Stidom nominated Mrs. Gibson to serve as the Authority's Secretary. There were no further nominations and a motion was made by Mrs. Stidom and seconded by Mrs. Rozier to confirm Mrs. Gibson's nomination. The motion carried 5/0.

Vice Chair:

Mrs. Stidom nominated Mrs. Rozier to serve as the Authority's Vice Chairman. There were no further nominations and a motion was made by Mrs. Stidom and seconded by Mrs. Gibson to confirm her nomination. The motion carried 5/0.

Chair:

Mrs. Rozier nominated Mrs. Stidom to serve as the Authority's Chairman. Mr. Holder nominated Mr. Carter for the position. There were no further nominations. Board members cast their respective votes by paper ballot. Mr. Carter's vote was taken via text message to Mr. Welch. Mr. Welch tallied the votes received and announced that Mrs. Stidom had been elected to serve as the Authority's Chairman. He then yielded the floor to Mrs. Stidom to chair the remainder of the meeting. She expressed her appreciation to members of the Board.

VI. DISCUSSION OF 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

A discussion was held to consider the Board's meeting schedule for 2021. A proposed calendar was distributed to the Board for consideration. After discussion, motion was made by Mrs. Rozier and seconded by Mr. Holder to adopt Resolution No. 2021-01 setting forth the Board's meeting schedule for 2021. It was resolved that the meetings begin at 8:00 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month with the exception of the months of May (third Thursday, May 20) and November (third Thursday, November 18). The motion carried unanimously (5/0).

VII. REPORT OF ATTORNEY

Mr. Welch reported concerning the status of the Authority's bond refinancing. He noted that since the issue was not completed in 2020, the documentation would be revised to refer to the issue as the Authority's 2021 Bond Refinancing. He announced that the Board of Commissioners passed a resolution at its January 6, 2021 meeting to reaffirm the collection of the Authority's 2 mil tax which is designated for the repayment of the Authority's outstanding bond indebtedness. He stated that the Authority can now move forward with the bond issue. He explained the schedule for the issuance of the bonds. He advised that Moody's Investors Service will be issuing its decision concerning the Authority's rating around the 22nd of January. The bond validation hearing has been scheduled for January 27th at 9:00 a.m. Once the bond issue has been approved, the Authority's Board will need to adopt a resolution to finalize the terms of the issuance of the bonds. A special called meeting will be required. He advised that he can be prepared to present a resolution to the Board as early as January 28th. Mrs. Rozier made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Gibson to have a Special Called Meeting on January 28, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. in

order for the Board to take action to approve a resolution concerning the terms of the sale of the Authority's 2021 bonds. The motion carried (5/0).

VIII. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

Recommendation of Bid Award – NW Fairview Community Sanitary Sewer Extension Phase 2

Mr. Sage presented the bids submitted for the NW Fairview Community Sanitary Sewer Extension Phase 2 project which were received and opened on December 9th, 2020. The Authority's consultant, Carter & Sloope, tabulated the bids received and determined that The Dickerson Group, Inc. submitted the low bid for the project in the amount of \$559,943.00. Mr. Sage gave a visual presentation to explain the routing of the sewer line project. Mrs. Stidom opened the floor for discussion. Mr. Sage answered additional questions concerning the qualifications of The Dickerson Group. He noted that Carter & Sloope has recommended the project be awarded to The Dickerson Group as they have the experience and technical knowledge having completed similar projects. Mr. Sage noted that Universal Grading, the Authority's annual labor contractor, completed Phase I of this project. Mr. Farmer noted that the Authority's annual labor contractor is experienced and by utilizing their services the Authority was able to move quickly to complete this project in accordance with Commissioner Holmes' request. Mr. Carnell also noted that the Authority experienced some delays in the project due to right-of-way acquisition along West Village Parkway. Mrs. Gibson inquired whether The Dickerson Group works with minorities. Mrs. Rozier also inquired whether minorities/women have an opportunity to participate. Mrs. Stidom noted the Authority is addressing this and is working with a consultant on a policy. Mrs. Rozier stated that moving forward we need to make sure that women and minorities have this opportunity and that contractors are aware of the Authority's expectations. There being no further discussion, motion was made by Mr. Holder and seconded by Mrs. Gibson to approve the award of the contract for Phase II of the NW Fairview Community Sewer Extension to The Dickerson Group. The motion carried unanimously (5/0).

Media Relations Report – Chris Wood, PhD, JWA

Dr. Chris Wood presented a media relations report concerning newsworthy events and activities. He discussed recent news media releases for awards received by the Authority at the GAWP Fall Conference, as well as a release concerning the charitable work of HCWA employees including the HCWA Cares program. He noted that the Authority received news coverage on the Imagine a Day Without Water poster contest and the Model Water Tower Competition. Dr. Wood referred the Board to his written report and clip file. Members of the Board had additional questions concerning the promotion of the Authority's Charitable Assistance Program. Mrs. Gibson inquired about available data on how many people see the information we provide about the program and how much the program is advertised. Mr. Burch advised that Samaritan's Together is administering the program, and that approximately \$500 per month is being collected. Mrs. Gibson stated that the Authority needs to continue to promote this program heavily. She requested whether data is available from Samaritan's Together on who is being served by the program. Mrs. Stidom noted that Samaritan's Together has nothing about the Authority's program on their website. Mr. Carnell stated that the Authority will be looking at other organizations to see if we can identify more options for the administration of the program. Mrs. Stidom

was in agreement and suggested that a 501c3 or other non-profit could administer our program. Mrs. Gibson and Mrs. Rozier concurred and indicated they would be interested in serving on a committee to research other options for the program.

IX. PROJECTS AND ADJUSTMENTS

The following projects were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Sage reviewed specifics concerning each project and took questions from the Board. Mr. Farmer advised that the projects are compliant with Authority policy. Mrs. Stidom called for a motion to approve the projects as presented. Mrs. Gibson made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Holder and the projects were approved by unanimous vote (5/0).

DEV1173	Barnes Station Unit 3
DEV3656	Kelleytown Rd Sewer Ext
DEV3718	Ace Hardware

X. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 9, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

The minutes of the December 9, 2020 regular meeting of the Board were approved on a motion made by Mr. Holder and seconded by Mrs. Gibson. The motion carried (5-0).

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Welch advised he had additional information to share with the Board concerning the 2021 bond refinancing. He advised that Moody’s Investors Service has indicated that it may be ready to announce its decision concerning the Authority’s bond rating earlier than expected (January 22nd rather than January 25th). The bond validation hearing will be held on January 27th. It was noted that there may be some competing bond issues around the 28th which could affect the rate the Authority would realize on its issue. Therefore, it was the recommendation of Raymond James to hold off on marketing the Authority’s bonds to see if a better rate can be obtained. Mr. Welch recommended the Board rescind its motion to have a Special Called Meeting on January 28th at 8:00 am. It was further recommended the Board take action to amend Resolution 2021-01 establishing the Authority’s meeting schedule by moving the Board’s February meeting to February 4th instead of February 11th in order to take action to approve the sale of the Authority’s bonds. Mrs. Stidom called for a motion for the Board’s approval of these actions. Motion was made by Mrs. Rozier and was seconded by Mr. Holder and Mrs. Gibson to rescind the motion to schedule a Special Called Meeting on January 28th; and to amend Resolution No. 2021-01 in order to schedule the Board’s February meeting on February 4th instead of February 11th. The motion carried 5/0.

Motion was made by Mr. Holder and seconded by Mrs. Rozier to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m. The motion carried (5-0) and the meeting was adjourned.

Cletonya Stidom, Chair

Kim Osborne, Clerk