

AT A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX WATER AUTHORITY HELD IN THE
BOARD ROOM OF THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE AT 6:00 P.M. ON
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2022:

Present: Janet Riggs, Chair
Greg Chambers, Vice Chair
James Michael Reed, Treasurer
Carlton S. Revere, Secretary
Lud Kimbrough

Jim Nagy, Executive Director
Brendan Hefty, Authority Co-Counsel
Holly Gailey, Administrative Assistant
Betty Muncy, Staff Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Janet Riggs, at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Riggs opened the meeting for public comment. Lee Roberts of General Puller Highway petitioned the Board for removal of all monthly fees, late fees and other fees associated with inactive accounts or those not using the water system. Mr. Roberts basis for the request was if the water is not used, a customer should not have to pay a bill.

There being no additional comment, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion to approve items included in the Consent Agenda was made by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Revere, and carried unanimously. The Consent Agenda included the minutes from the July 20, 2022, meeting, and expenses to date checks numbered 3385-3406, totaling \$182,592.66.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND STAFF

Construction Update:

Ken Baybutt, with Bowman Consulting, reported that Phase 3A is near completion with a few remaining punch list items that should be complete in roughly 30 days. 3B is considered complete and has been turned over to the authority. Phase 4 is an ongoing intense effort, noting that Phase 4 has been split into five different sub-phases. According to the contractor, 85% of the subscribers have had meter boxes installed, 51% of new subscribers have had meter boxes installed and for the project overall 75% of subscribers have a meter box and meter installed. He noted the contractor was not completing as many installations per day as expected.

Jim Nagy added that at the end of August there were 95 customers, an additional 189 customers in the upcoming September meter reading, and 428 in October.

Operations Update:

Robert Finch, Operator, reported that the first water audit was completed that showed a water loss of 20%, noting that the goal is less than 10%. He attributed the loss to customers who had meters installed early last month and were using water that was not being billed yet. Mr. Finch stated that he must compare water sold to water produced to calculate the percentage of loss. Chlorine consumption is increasing with Deltaville coming online and is becoming difficult to keep in stock with the market demand.

Mr. Reed asked how many suppliers are available for chlorine. Mr. Finch stated that he orders directly from the supplier.

Mr. Chambers asked if it would be practical to go to a bulk tank rather than 15-gallon drums of chlorine. Mr. Finch stated that larger 55-gallon drums are available, would last a longer period and are more available than the 15-gallon drums but that more manpower is needed to move those around. He noted that having an additional storage facility for the chemicals is needed where the drums would be stored allowing for the chemicals to be out of the pump station away from the computer components and electrical controls and the chemicals could be pumped inside the pump station.

Mr. Revere asked if the chlorine consumption was higher than anticipated. Mr. Finch stated that this is normal consumption.

Outstanding Connection Fees:

Mrs. Muncy reported that an additional 14 subscriber accounts have been paid off since the July 20, 2022, meeting, leaving a remaining balance of \$280,987.00. Approximately, \$92,000 of that total was just 3 of the larger customers who have been reluctant to pay the balance until some progress was noticeable in terms of meter box installation. Mr. Chambers noted that more than half of the outstanding customers have paid.

Mr. Revere asked if those customers in 2 and 3A that haven't paid the balance due have meters installed. Mrs. Muncy noted that the meters were installed but not turned on for consumption until the balance is paid.

Jim Nagy offered a Wilton Creek update by stating that the engineers are currently investigating the concerns presented to the MWA from the Wilton Creek HOA and will report their findings when complete.

CLOSED SESSION

The motion to convene for a Closed Meeting pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(7), for consultation with legal counsel was made by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Reed, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Revere asked if there was anticipated action following the closed session as there were members of the public present. Seeing there was not, Mrs. Riggs opened a public comment period. There was no public comment, and the public section was closed.

OPEN SESSION

Upon reconvening in its Open Meeting, the following motion was made by Mr. Kimbrough, seconded by Mr. Chambers, and carried unanimously:

"To the best of the Authority members knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted by the motion by which the closed session was called were considered or discussed in the closed session."

PERSONNEL

Mr. Walker addressed the authority thanking them for the opportunity to be the Executive Director through the long-term planning process of the water system. He noted that it was a privilege to be a part of this project and he was proud to have been part of bringing a much-needed water system to Middlesex County residents. With pleasure, Mr. Walker turned over the position of Executive Director to Jim Nagy. At this time, Mr. Chambers thanked Mr. Walker for his 8-year commitment and contributions to the project. Mrs. Riggs added that without the hard work from Betty Muncy, Heather Lewis and Matt Walker, the project would not have been possible.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made by motion of Mr. Kimbrough, seconded by Mr. Revere, and carried unanimously.

Janet Riggs, Chair