

RWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of Regular Meeting
July 24, 2006

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority (RWSA) Board of Directors was held on Monday, July 24, 2006 at 2:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, Administration Building, 695 Moores Creek Lane, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Board Members Present: Mr. Gary Fern, Mr. Michael Gaffney – Presiding, Ms. Judith Mueller, Mr. Gary O’Connell, and Mr. Robert Tucker.

Authority Staff Present: Ms. Anne Bedarf, Mr. Bruce Edmonds, Mr. Tom Frederick, Mr. Chuck Kent, Ms. Mary Knowles, Ms. Jennifer Whitaker, and Dr. Robert Wichser.

Also Present: Mr. Kurt Krueger – RWSA Attorney, members of the public, and media representatives.

1.0 Call To Order

The regular meeting of the RWSA Board of Directors was called to order by Mr. Michael Gaffney on Monday, July 24, 2006 at 2:00 p.m., and he noted that a quorum was present.

Mr. Gaffney welcomed his fellow Board members, RWSA staff, and the members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

2.0 Minutes Of Previous Board Meeting

Mr. Fern noted one correction to the minutes of the June 19, 2006 Board of Directors meeting. He requested that on page 8, the word “curtaining” in the first line of the last paragraph be changed to “carbon adsorption.”

Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, and seconded by Mr. O’Connell, the Board of Directors by a 5 – 0 vote approved the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Monday, June 19, 2006 as amended by Mr. Fern.

3.0 Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Frederick first reported on the Draft Drought Response and Contingency Plan that was presented to the Board in April. A successful Public Forum was held on Thursday, July 13, 2006, which was jointly sponsored by staffs from Albemarle County, the Albemarle County Service Authority (ACSA), the City of Charlottesville, and RWSA. The Public Forum was carried live over Charlottesville Cable TV and is currently being replayed on one of its local access channels. The broadcast schedule has also been posted to RWSA’s website. The staffs from the four organizations were expected to meet during the first part of August to review the public comments and revise the draft plan as appropriate. The final document would then be presented to the Board for approval.

Mr. Frederick next stated that a question was raised at the June Board meeting as to whether land application of biosolids would be considered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) as recycling for the purposes of the solid waste recycling rate calculation if that option were to be pursued by RWSA instead of composting. The Authority has since received clarification from DEQ that land application would not be classified as a recycled solid waste. Mr. Gaffney inquired if land application would be considered recycling if the Authority sold the biosolids to someone else who would then use it for land application purposes. Mr. Frederick responded that since there was a beneficial reuse he felt it would be recycling, but DEQ would not consider land application of biosolids toward the recycling rate no matter who was performing the operation.

Mr. Frederick then reported that staff turnover within the Virginia Dam Safety unit has resulted in a more aggressive approach being taken by that agency with respect to existing facilities. During recent discussions initiated by Virginia Dam Safety, RWSA staff was making an effort to educate the state agency on the issues related to the water supply and the proposal and plans to build a new Ragged Mountain Dam. At this point, there was an agreement between Virginia Dam Safety and RWSA to continue the dialog. Mr. Frederick would keep the Board updated on the progress of those discussions.

Mr. Frederick next noted that there was a correction to **Consent Agenda Item 5f), Engineering Contract Amendment for Comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Study**, and copies of the revised report were then distributed to the members of the Board and the public who were in attendance at the meeting. He stated that Ms. Jennifer Whitaker would clarify the revision during the "Consent Agenda" portion of the meeting.

Mr. Frederick further commented that RWSA was requesting the addition of an item under "Other Business" to grant a one-year extension on the University of Virginia (UVA) Rowing Programs' current permit to use gas-powered boat launches on the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir (SFRR).

Mr. Frederick added that if UVA's request for a one-year extension of its permit was approved, RWSA would recommend that the Board take action to cancel the August 28, 2006 Board meeting.

4.0 Items From The Public

Mr. John Martin, a resident of Free Union, Virginia, commented that he received a copy of the Weekly Operations Report this morning and the data for the Crozet water production came to his attention. The report showed that for the first four days of last week the flows for Crozet were around 0.6 million gallons per day (MGD). The figure was usually around 0.3 MGD, and his immediate assumption was that "wow, somebody really left their sprinkler on in Crozet." For the last three days, the flows were normal. From e-mail discussions with Dr. Robert Wichser and Mr. Richard Defibaugh, he understood that production for those first four days was twice the normal because basically they were refilling the tanks. He also understood that the Crozet plant was not staffed all the time. When it was not staffed, water was drawn down from the tanks. When it was staffed, water was produced for consumption and to refill the tanks.

Mr. Martin further commented that on the water report there was also a column for the Urban area called “Urban Demand,” which adjusted the production of the plants by changes in tank volumes. He felt the data in that column gave a better day-to-day idea of the amount of water that was actually being consumed. He suggested that if it were possible and it would not cost a lot of money – he did not think it would – to add a column to adjust the Crozet data by changes in the tanks in order to get a better day-to-day idea of what was happening in Crozet. The reason he felt that it would be important to the public related to the Drought Management Plan. He and a lot of other people would like to see a strong push for voluntary water conservation during a “Drought Watch” stage. At the public meeting, one thing he suggested that he thought would help voluntary water conservation was for the public to have a real time day-to-day idea of what was going on with water conservation efforts. He understood that the Crozet plant was already hooked up to the SCADA system, so it was really a “computer kind of thing.” He felt it would be interesting to have that information now, and when the Drought Management Plan was completed and implemented, it would be very helpful.

Mr. Gaffney thanked Mr. Martin for his comments and added that a suggestion was made during the last drought to post RWSA’s daily water report figures to a small section on the front page of the newspaper during a “Drought Watch” so that citizens could see the data in real time as suggested today by Mr. Martin.

Mr. Frederick next stated that after conferring with Dr. Wichser, RWSA would be able to make the changes to its reporting as suggested by Mr. Martin.

5.0 Consent Agenda

Mr. Gaffney asked if there were any items that the Board members would like to pull for questions or further discussion from the Consent Agenda.

- 5a) Staff Report on Finance
- 5b) Staff Report on Operations
- 5c) Staff Report on On-going Projects
- 5d) Purchase Order Carry-Over
- 5e) Engineering Contract Amendment for Community Water Supply
- 5f) Engineering Contract Amendment for Comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Study
- 5g) Engineering Contract for EPA’s Required “Initial Distribution System Evaluation”

In regards to **Item 5f), Engineering Contract Amendment for Comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Study**, Ms. Jennifer Whitaker stated that a revised report was distributed during the first part of the meeting for the Board’s consideration. As part of the first phase of the study, three months of sanitary sewer interceptor flow monitoring was conducted. Due to the dry weather conditions during the spring, there was insufficient wet weather information gathered. The project team was recommending that additional flow monitoring be conducted during the fall in hopes of capturing a high rainfall event during the tropical storm season.

Ms. Whitaker next apologized for the information that was omitted in the initial report that was included in the Board packets. The numbers in the revised report included \$178,660, which was

the cost for three months of additional flow monitoring, data analysis, rain gauge monitoring, and related services. She noted that the data would assist RWSA in establishing interceptor system goals and capital project needs for the next 50 years, as well as dictate the Authority's response to future development projects in the City and the County.

Mr. Gaffney commented that June and July would have been an opportune time to have collected that data. Ms. Whitaker stated that normally June is the month with the lowest amount of measurable precipitation events, and it could not have been anticipated that the area would receive over 7 inches of rainfall during that month. If significant rainfall was not received during the August to October time frame, RWSA might need to bring this issue before the Board again in order to request an extension of the metering period.

Mr. Fern asked if RWSA was concerned that the ground was not saturated enough for initial rains to create any runoff. Ms. Whitaker affirmed that part of the reason for removing the flow meters was the Authority's concern about the dry weather conditions experienced during May and June. Much of the rainfall that the area did receive during the spring went into the ground and did not result in any significant runoff. Although this was the dry part of the year and there would be some ground absorption, RWSA felt that with the consistent rainfall that had been received and if there were tropical storm activity, the dry weather conditions should not be a concern.

Mr. Frederick further commented that this issue had been discussed by staff prior to bringing this recommendation to the Board. Depending on the size of the rain event and the response of the streams, RWSA could receive clues as to in-flow and infiltration in the system both from elevated stream levels and from urban runoff.

As there were no further questions or discussion, Mr. Tucker moved, which was seconded by Ms. Mueller, that the Board of Directors vote to approve Items 5a), b), c), d), e), f), as amended by Ms. Whitaker, and g). The motion was approved by a 5 – 0 vote.

6.0 Other Business

In regards to **Item 6a), Permit Extension for University of Virginia Rowing Programs**, Dr. Wichser reported that UVA Rowing Programs were requesting a one-year extension of their permit to use gasoline-powered boat launches on the SFRR. The present permit expires in August 2006. He added that as part of their continued efforts to research improvements in electric watercraft technology, the rowing programs have leased the latest battery-powered boat with state of the art lithium batteries, which they plan to test during the upcoming year. The engineer assisting UVA with this endeavor will be kept informed of the boat's performance.

Dr. Wichser added that RWSA has recently been contacted regarding potential research by a UVA graduate student on sediment in the SFRR. At this time, staff was also requesting that the Board authorize the Executive Director to allow the use of a motorized boat for the proposed research, subject to UVA agreeing to other conditions RWSA deemed necessary to protect the drinking water supply and the quality of the SFRR.

Ms. Mueller moved, which was seconded by Mr. Tucker, that the Board of Directors vote to approve the one-year permit extension to allow the UVA Rowing Programs to use gasoline-powered launches on the SFRR through August 2007, and also authorize the Executive Director to approve the use of a motorized boat on the SFRR by a UVA graduate student for research purposes subject to conditions outlined in the Board report. Ms. Mueller added that the UVA rowing teams over the years have pretty consistently worked towards the goal of developing electric-powered boat launches and have been very responsive in moving this endeavor forward.

Mr. Gaffney asked if UVA would make the research data available to RWSA. Mr. Frederick replied in the affirmative and added that the approval to operate a gas-powered boat was contingent upon UVA agreeing to that condition.

As there were no further questions or discussion, the motion was approved by a 5 – 0 vote.

Mr. Tucker moved, and was seconded by Ms. Mueller, that the Board of Directors vote to cancel the August 28, 2006 Board of Directors meeting. The motion was approved by a 5 – 0 vote.

7.0 Other Items From Board/Staff Not On Agenda

There were no other items from Board or staff not on the agenda.

8.0 Closed Meeting

Mr. Fern moved, and was seconded by Mr. Tucker, that the Board of Directors of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority enter into a closed meeting to discuss the potential acquisition of real property as permitted by Section 2.2-3711.A.3 of the Code of Virginia. The motion was approved by a 5 – 0 vote, and the Board entered into a closed session at 2:15 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Mr. Fern, Mr. Frederick, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Krueger, Ms. Mueller, Mr. O'Connell, and Mr. Tucker.

9.0 Resumption of Open Meeting

The RWSA Board of Directors Meeting was reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

Mr. Tucker made the following motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fern:

WHEREAS, the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712.D of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, (ii) only such public business

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matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Gaffney called for a roll call vote:
Ms. Mueller – Aye, Mr. O’Connell – Aye, Mr. Gaffney – Aye, Mr. Tucker – Aye, and
Mr. Fern – Aye

10.0 Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Tucker moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mr. Fern. All members voted aye, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Robert W. Tucker, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer