



RIVANNA WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY

695 MOORES CREEK LANE • CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22902-9016
(434) 977-2970 • FAX: (434) 293-8858 • WEBSITE: WWW.RIVANNA.ORG

RWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of Regular Meeting

March 26, 2007

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority (RWSA) Board of Directors was held on Monday, March 26, 2007 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. Michelle Simpson, Ms. Andrea Terry, Ms. Jennifer Whitaker, Mr. Norman Wescoat, Dr. Robert Wichser, and Mr. Lonnie Wood.

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, March 26, 2007 at 2:00 p.m., and he noted that a quorum was present.

2.0 Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

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, February 26, 2007.

3.0 Executive Director’s Report

There was no Executive Director’s Report this month.

4.0 Items from the Public

Mr. John Martin, resident of Free Union, Virginia, commented on some worries that he had about the Moormans River and other issues related to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). He stated that there was no date in the plan for starting the pipeline from the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir (SFRR) to the Ragged Mountain Reservoir. He felt building the pipeline would be the ultimate solution for the Moormans River. He was concerned that the pipeline would never be built or if it would be built on time. Mr. Martin understood that this project was a huge financial commitment and that RWSA had other commitments as well. He was reminded of Mr. Tucker’s comments during the November 2006 Board that it looked like “a perfect storm was forming with regard to fees and rates.” Citizens remembered those comments since Mr. Martin felt it was a very accurate description of the “perfect storm” that was forming.



Mr. Martin next commented that he was also concerned that “the City, the County, the Service Authority, and Rivanna are getting ready to sail into this perfect storm in individual small sailboats rather than a unified larger craft.” He felt a coordinated approach would be needed in order to remedy the Moormans River situation.

Mr. Gaffney thanked Mr. Martin for his comments.

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

Mr. Tucker moved, which was seconded by Mr. Fern, that the Board of Directors vote to approve **Items 5a), b), and c)** of the Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a 5 – 0 vote.

6.0 Other Business

In regards to **Item 6a), Adoption of FY 2007-12 Capital Improvement Plan**, Mr. Frederick stated that the document included in this month’s Board packet is identical to the one that was submitted at the February 26, 2007 Board Meeting. The ambitious nature of the plan, as well as the necessity of the work, was discussed during the plan’s introduction last month. During the development of the CIP, foremost consideration was given to meeting the Authority’s legal responsibilities. Other important factors taken into account included fulfilling RWSA’s responsibilities related to the provision of services to the City and Albemarle County Service Authority (ACSA) and their customers and to the comprehensive planning processes of the County and the City, which included environmental responsibilities and future needs. Mr. Frederick also reported that the CIP reflects significant planning beyond the five-year timeline in terms of project outlook and prioritization.

Mr. Frederick next stated that RWSA staff was available to answer any questions that the Board might have on the proposed CIP. Mr. Frederick noted that most of the comments that he had received have been positive, and he was not aware of any objections to any of the projects included in this plan.

Mr. O’Connell commented that he felt due to the recent focus on water issues, most citizens anticipated future increases in water rates. Mr. O’Connell pointed out that the public might not be aware that future increases in wastewater rates will also be needed in order to fund the major wastewater projects included in the CIP. Mr. Fern added that ACSA has already begun discussing potential rate increases for its customers during its current budget process to not only address the impacts from RWSA’s significant wastewater capital projects but to also meet the future needs of ACSA. Ms. Mueller also commented that the City will begin discussing its utility rates in May, and City residents will learn at that time about the huge increases being proposed. As reported by Mr. Frederick, Mr. Gaffney noted that most, if not all, of the significant wastewater capital expenses were the result of mandated projects.

Mr. Tucker next inquired if the \$1.9 million that was listed on page 7 of the five-year plan for the SFRR to Ragged Mountain pipeline included any funding for design work. Mr. Frederick stated that funding in the five-year plan for the pipeline would be used to secure the right-of-way for the pipeline route. The Authority recognized that fiscal constraints would make it extremely difficult to undertake all the items listed in the 50-year Community Water Supply Plan during a five-year time frame due to the number and scope of the projects included in that budget.

As there were no further questions or discussion, Mr. Tucker moved, which was seconded by Mr. O'Connell, that the Board of Directors vote to approve the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2007-12 as recommended by RWSA staff. 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 the Board or staff not on the Agenda.

8.0 Closed Meeting

There was no need for a closed meeting.

9.0 Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Fern moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mr. O'Connell. All members voted aye, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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