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RWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of Regular Meeting
April 26, 2016

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority (RWSA) Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 2:15 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room, Administration Building, 695 Moores Creek Lane, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Board Members Present: Mr. Tom Foley, Mr. Mike Gaffney, Ms. Kathy Galvin, Mr. Maurice Jones, Ms. Judith Mueller, Mr. Gary O’Connell and Dr. Liz Palmer.

Board Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Mr. Tim Castillo, Mr. Tom Frederick, Dr. Rich Gullick, Ms. Teri Kent, Mr. Scott Schiller, Ms. Michelle Simpson, Ms. Andrea Terry, Ms. Jennifer Whitaker and Mr. Lonnie Wood.

Also Present: Mr. Kurt Krueger – RWSA Counsel, 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. Gaffney on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 3:25 p.m., and he noted that a quorum was present.

2.0 Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

- a) *Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board on March 22, 2016*

Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes with no requested changes. Mr. Foley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

3.0 Recognition

- a) *Joint Resolution of Appreciation for Thomas L. Frederick*

Resolution of Appreciation for Thomas L. Frederick

WHEREAS, Mr. Tom Frederick has served as Executive Director of the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority and the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority for 12 years since 2004; and

WHEREAS, over the same period Mr. Frederick has demonstrated excellent community leadership in the water, wastewater, and solid waste field and has been a tremendous resource to the Authority, its customers, its employees, and this community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Frederick's leadership resulted in a comprehensive wastewater management plan and the initiative to strengthen customer service, and Mr. Frederick's leadership, technical expertise, personal perseverance guided the community water supply effort for the citizens of Albemarle County and the City of Charlottesville, resulting in adoption and implementation of the Community Water Supply Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority Board of Directors and Rivanna Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors are most grateful for additional professional and personal contributions Mr. Frederick has provided to both Rivanna Authorities and their customers, employees, and community members; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Frederick has shown responsible stewardship of the former Ivy landfill through environmental remediation efforts; improved the reputation of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority through community engagement and responsiveness; adapted to changing market conditions in ways that has assured the ongoing solvency of the organization; and maintained a very successful household hazardous waste collection program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority Board of Directors and the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors recognizes, thanks and commends Mr. Frederick for his distinguished service, efforts and achievements as head of the Rivanna Authorities, and presents this Resolution as a token of esteem, with its best wishes in his career advancement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be entered upon the permanent Board Minutes of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority and the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority.

Mr. Foley moved to approve the resolution as presented recognizing Thomas L. Frederick's service to the community. Mr. O'Connell seconded the motion which passed unanimously (7-0).

Mr. O'Connell commented that part of a legacy in public service is leaving things better than when you started, and Mr. Frederick has done a great job with that, focusing the community on issues

for the benefit of the community such as clean water. Mr. O’Connell stated that they have made great strides as a utility and he is glad that Mr. Frederick will be close by and will be with another utility.

Mr. Gaffney added that during the interviews for an executive director, one of the things he wanted to impress upon interviewees was that they wanted to make the RWSA one of the best utilities in the country – and from where they started it was an incredible challenge, but Rivanna is one of the best if not the best in the country. Mr. Gaffney noted that they were on a path to continue with that.

Mr. Frederick stated that what comes to people’s minds for the work over the last 12 years is the community water supply plan and the Ragged Mountain Dam, and while there may have been some citizen concerns for various reasons, the RWSA did what it had to do in order to fulfill its contract to the City and the Albemarle County Service Authority to provide water. He added that this also was to fulfill what was set out in each locality’s comprehensive plan, and the RWSA’s mission has always been to fulfill the agreement that created the organization – not for personal or other reasons. Mr. Frederick stated that Jennifer Whitaker, Lonnie Wood and staff have provided tremendous effort to secure financing for a very ambitious capital improvement program, with about 65% of the capital budget going towards wastewater over the last 12 years. He recalled that in the context of the Rivanna interceptor pump station, he was able to get up and present information on wet-weather flows indicating that a vote to postpone the project was a vote to put wastewater into the rivers. Mr. Frederick emphasized that this is a shared responsibility, and the RWSA has been able to take a broken wastewater facility and make it a world-class system, with the effluent flowing into Moore’s Creek being of better quality than what is in the creek already.

Dr. Palmer stated that she had mentioned at the Board of Supervisors meeting that Mr. Frederick had commented once that “The problem with reporting your sewer overflows to the DEQ is then you have to fix them,” and this remains one of her favorite statements.

Mr. Frederick added that Rivanna did the right thing.

4.0 Executive Director’s Report

Urgent Emergency Repair Projects

Mr. Frederick expressed his compliments to staff for responding to a number of pipe breaks that had occurred, and said that they have gone beyond the call of duty as well as staying within budget.

Sugar Hollow Reservoir Release

Mr. Frederick reported that a program to provide ecological flows to the rivers from dams is now starting its third year and has been very successful in releases from the South Fork Reservoir and Ragged Mountain Reservoir – and has also been successful in releases from the Sugar Hollow Reservoir into the Moorman’s River. He stated that when the transfer to Ragged Mountain is closed, in theory the Sugar Hollow level should remain stable because what is coming into the river should be the same as what is being released. Mr. Frederick noted that the formula for calculating what is coming in is embedded in the DEQ permit and cannot be changed without that agency’s permission, and the formula within the permit turned out to be over-calculating the inflow which meant that four-million gallons more on average were being released into the river than

what was coming in, which was causing the Sugar Hollow Reservoir to drop. Mr. Frederick stated that the RWSA was extremely proactive in taking steps to remedy the issue and clarified the data, then went to DEQ and stated that there was no intention other than to release no more than the natural inflow. He said that on April 22, DEQ authorized permission to reduce release back as far as 450,000 gallons per day in order to refill the reservoir and would be taking additional steps to clarify the calculations to be included in the permit. Mr. Frederick noted that seepage could be one factor, and that would be considered as part of the review. He said that Lonnie Wood made the decision to go with the engineer's best estimate of present inflow, which is estimated at 60% of Mechums River calculations, and this indicates Mr. Wood's capability as he takes the helm of the organization. Mr. Frederick noted that they could be releasing anywhere from 4-5 to 8-9 million gallons per day, and they would try to stabilize the Sugar Hollow Reservoir until rain came, with no transfer to Ragged Mountain for the time being – with a decision in the fall to stop filling Ragged Mountain. He emphasized that staff felt this was a very important step to take.

Dr. Palmer commented that it was a great step for them to take, and she has not heard any negative comments about it.

Mr. Frederick stated that the job is not finished and they need to refine the calculations, which should be done collaboratively working alongside DEQ staff. He said that he is appreciative that DEQ is not rushing to a final calculation and instead is allowing time to review the data.

Dr. Palmer commented that it seems to be an abnormally dry spring and asked how it compared to previous springs.

Mr. Frederick responded that it has been very dry since late February but is not severe enough yet to reach drought status, although it is a concern as it heads into summer and fall because it could become a drought. He said that there have been recent global weather extremes with an El Nino pattern over the winter that has now subsided, with climatologists predicting a return to normal conditions and possibly a La Nina pattern that could produce conditions in the Atlantic that are more favorable to hurricanes.

Mr. Gaffney commented that there used to be a graph that showed rainfall but he did not see it.

Mr. Frederick responded that it is in the operations report and it had been slightly reformatted, with the data showing rainfall totals per month. He noted that March is typically the wettest month of the year, so for that to be low is fairly significant.

Mr. O'Connell asked what the next step was in considering the placement of the stream gauge.

Mr. Frederick responded that Andrea Terry would be meeting with USGS representatives the following day to survey the North Fork and South Fork Moorman's River to try to identify a site that is suitable for a stream gauge, and she would come back with an estimate of capital and operating costs required. He said that DEQ is also coming to assess seepage.

Ms. Terry stated that the DEQ permit writer has agreed to take an incremental approach with this, and the goal is to analyze the upstream inflows, and the DEQ is currently monitoring four or five

different locations upstream and downstream as well as verifying data at the Moorman's River gauge. She added that they are also looking at the cost of putting in metering in the transfer pipeline, contemplating mass balance information, and considering programmatically what the best solution would be – which might be several elements. Ms. Terry said that they would then look at costs and implementation of whatever protocol is decided upon.

New Finished Meters

Mr. Frederick reported that the RWSA had discovered by way of a third party that there was a testing meter error in the South Fork Water Treatment Plant for finished flow out of the plant that was making the total urban system demand numbers lower than previously reported, but that had now been corrected.

Reservoir Management Study

Mr. Frederick stated that staff would report to the board in May on a year and a half long South Fork Rivanna Reservoir management study with an eye to improving water quality in the reservoir, and the consultant team was quite impressive and interesting to work with.

Mr. Gaffney asked staff to comment on the “road closed” sign at Sugar Hollow.

Mr. Frederick responded that there had been conversations about establishing barriers so that people were not just going upstream of the reservoir and parking their vehicles next to the stream or sometimes in the stream.

Mr. Gaffney clarified that he was referring to picture on the National Park website that showed the barrier moved to the reservoir parking area that he thought was by the dam.

Dr. Palmer stated that the County had discussed it and the parks official said that it was not a good idea – with City parks officials also involved – and the only place they were having to fence was the access to the North Fork because the road is unsafe.

Mr. Gaffney noted that there was a barrier there now, and the National Park website showed that the road was closed.

Mr. Frederick said that Ms. Terry was going to make some phone calls to clarify the situation.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he had gone up there to fish and the road was open, but when he came back the barrier at the end of the parking lot had been moved.

Dr. Palmer explained that someone had ripped the whole thing out, and the police had placed cameras there to try to catch any offenders.

5.0 Items from the Public

Mr. Gaffney invited comments from the public.

Dr. Rich Gullick stated that on behalf of staff, he wanted to recognize and thank Mr. Frederick for the tremendous service he had given to the Authority and community, through strong leadership, a determined spirit, and a continuous quest to do what was right.

Dr. Gullick presented Mr. Frederick and the board with Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority water bottles.

6.0 Responses to Public Comments – No Responses This Month

There were no responses to public comments from the March meeting.

7.0 Consent Agenda

- a) *Staff Report on Finance*
- b) *Staff Report on Operations*
- c) *Staff Report on Ongoing Projects*
- d) *Election of Officers*
- e) *Construction Bid Award – Odor Control Facilities for Moores Creek Advanced Water Resource Recovery Facility*
- f) *Contract Services – Lake and Algal Management*
- g) *Engineering Services – Biosolids Dewatering Centrifuge for Moores Creek Advanced Water Resource Recovery Facility*
- h) *Surveying Services – Term Contract*
- i) *Construction Inspection Services Extension – North Fork Water Main Repair*
- j) *Service Contract – Health Benefits for Employees*

Mr. Gaffney asked if there were any items that Board members wanted to pull for comments or questions from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. O’Connell stated that he would like more information from staff on the rural water section at some point in the future.

Mr. O’Connell asked for clarification on the odor control project

Mr. O’Connell asked about the cost for the centrifuge and whether it was a design project.

Ms. Whitaker responded that she did not bring the capital plan to the meeting, but the cost was around \$1 million and the full cost was reflected in the capital program.

Mr. Frederick said that Rivanna was not only acquiring backup that would prevent them from having to lease equipment, and it was an item whereby they could run two centrifuges simultaneously and cut down time by about half – which would reduce operating expenses to offset much of the capital cost. He noted that it also provided some redundancy in the system, and if the biosolids are not removed quickly it could destroy the operation by adversely affecting the microorganisms that play a large part in the treatment process. The removal of biosolids is one of the most critical things that must be done in a wastewater facility.

Ms. Mueller moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Dr. Palmer seconded the motion, which passed by a 7-0 vote.

8.0 Other Business

a) Review of By-Laws

Mr. Frederick stated that there is one change proposed to the by-laws, which parallels the RSWA action and authorizes the Executive Director to execute contracts under \$100,000 for a term of less than one year, with funds to be approved by the board.

Ms. Mueller moved to approve the amendment to the Bylaws as presented. Dr. Palmer seconded the motion, which passed by a 7-0 vote.

9.0 Other Items from Board/Staff not on Agenda

Mr. O'Connell stated that the ACSA would be hosting two water resource professionals from Southeast Asia in May, and they would be visiting the community and attending the RWSA Board meeting in May, among other meetings.

Mr. Frederick reported that they would be holding an event at Ragged Mountain on May 5 as part of National Drinking Water Month, and people of all ages are invited to attend to learn more about the sustainability of producing water and treating it as it is turned to the environment.

10.0 Adjournment

Ms. Mueller moved to adjourn the RWSA Board meeting. Ms. Galvin seconded the motion, which was approved by a vote of 7-0.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.