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4 **RWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
5 **Minutes of Regular Meeting**
6 **September 25, 2018**
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9 A regular meeting of the Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority (RWSA) Board of Directors was
10 held on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at 2:15 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room,
11 Administration Building, 695 Moores Creek Lane, Charlottesville, Virginia.
12

13 **Board Members Present:** Mike Gaffney – Chair, Gary O’Connell, Lauren Hildebrand, Liz
14 Palmer, and Kathy Galvin.
15

16 **Board Members Absent:** Jeff Richardson and Mike Murphy.
17

18 **Staff Present:** Bill Mawyer, Katie McIlwee, Lonnie Wood, Scott Schiller, Austin Marrs, Dave
19 Tungate, Tim Castillo, Andrea Terry, Michelle Simpson, Victoria Fort, Rob Woodside, and Bill
20 Morris.
21

22 **Also Present:** Mr. Kurt Krueger, RWSA counsel, media representatives and members of the
23 public.
24

25 **1. CALL TO ORDER**
26

27 Mr. Gaffney called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rivanna Water and
28 Sewer Authority at 2:49 p.m.
29

30 **2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS**

31 *a. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting on July 24, 2018*
32

33 There were no changes to the minutes presented.
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35 **Dr. Palmer moved to approve the RWSA Board meeting minutes of August 28, 2018. Ms.**
36 **Galvin seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-2. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Murphy were**
37 **absent from the meeting and the vote.**
38

39 **3. RECOGNITION**

40 There were no recognitions presented.
41

42 **4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

43 Mr. Mawyer introduced Rob Woodside as the new GIS Coordinator, stating that Mr. Woodside
44 had come from the Timmons Group and had earned his bachelor's degree from James Madison
45 University.

46
47 Mr. Mawyer presented photos of Sugar Hollow and the Scottsville Wastewater Plant following
48 the heavy amounts of rain received in the area.

49
50 Mr. Castillo stated that typically you can walk on the grating over the UV channel at the
51 Scottsville Wastewater Plant, but not after the heavy rainfall.

52
53 Mr. Mawyer reported that there were no sanitary sewer overflows following the heavy rainfall,
54 indicating that the systems were working.

55
56 Mr. O'Connell commented that this was amazing.

57
58 Mr. Mawyer reported that Rivanna was starting an information technology master plan, with a
59 consultant hired to help them leverage technology to enhance services in a coordinated fashion.
60 He noted that this would be completed in spring of 2019.

61
62 Mr. Mawyer stated that Andrea Terry had been handling the RWSA's algae monitoring program,
63 with this summer being described as "normal," with Beaver Creek having to be treated several
64 times as expected. He noted that the season would wrap up in November and Ms. Terry would
65 present on the 2018 algae season at the RWSA Board's January meeting. He added that the
66 hypolimnetic oxygenated system proposed for the reservoir would help with Beaver Creek, and
67 that item was already in the CIP.

68
69 Mr. Mawyer reported that Rivanna had begun moving forward with the Birdwood waterline
70 main, with bids advertised and expected to be returned by October 9. He stated that they were in
71 further discussions about the terms for that easement acquisition, noting that he included
72 information about the Birdwood project in his August report. He stated that it had also been
73 discussed at the RWSA's Board meeting in December 2017, March 2018, and April 2018 –
74 when the Board approved the engineering services contract. Mr. Mawyer stated that they had
75 originally planned to start in July 2018, but a delay in UVA's project schedule pushed that
76 timeframe back.

77
78 Dr. Palmer stated that comments had been made at a Board of Supervisors meeting recently
79 regarding the need for better coordination of digging up utilities with projects like Birdwood, and
80 asked Mr. Mawyer to comment on how Rivanna coordinated this.

81
82 Mr. Mawyer explained that Rivanna coordinated through the Miss Utility program to notify all
83 parties that may have utilities in a digging site area.

84
85 Dr. Palmer clarified that her question was not about Miss Utility but about the timing of separate
86 entities who had projects in a specific area, noting that the Board had expressed an interest in
87 having better coordination.

88

89 Mr. Mawyer stated that Birdwood was an example of how that has been done, with Rivanna
90 coordinating with Virginia Power and the UVA Foundation.

91

92 Ms. Galvin stated that the City of Charlottesville would be doing some fairly significant street
93 improvements, with Smart Scale applications having been submitted for West Main Street and
94 other projects such as Avon Street and the Belmont Bridge having already been approved for that
95 funding. She stated that it seemed important to notify everyone of what their construction
96 schedules were.

97

98 Mr. Mawyer stated that a lot of that came through Miss Utility in terms of planning.

99

100 Ms. Hildebrand noted that there had been a coordination meeting recently that included Rivanna,
101 the County, ACSA, UVA, the UVA Foundation, and the City of Charlottesville – and they all
102 discussed their upcoming projects, with plans to make it an annual occurrence. She stated that
103 with City projects, they alert Rivanna’s engineer about any possible utility-related conflicts or
104 issues with transportation or streetscape projects.

105

106 Mr. O’Connell mentioned that the site planning process would also reveal this. He stated that the
107 concerns raised by the Board of Supervisors may have arisen from VDOT paving and utility
108 projects that had come in behind that, noting that they had held some meetings with VDOT in
109 which they exchanged information all ACSA capital projects and VDOT paving projects. He
110 stated that they agreed to an annual meeting in early April of every year, and VDOT also reached
111 out to other utility companies such as Dominion.

112

113 Dr. Palmer asked if it would help to have VDOT and Dominion present at some of these
114 meetings.

115

116 Mr. O’Connell responded that most of the issues pertained to communications providers, which
117 would simply show up and start doing work – even though they were supposed to go through the
118 Miss Utility system – and VDOT had been reaching out to them to try to coordinate first.

119

120 Mr. Schiller stated that sometimes they learn about these issues from private property owners,
121 which informs Rivanna for the design phase.

122

123 Dr. Palmer suggested that they continue to make attempts to coordinate, understanding the issues
124 with communications companies.

125

126 Mr. O’Connell stated that there was not good coordination in one specific project in which
127 VDOT came in and paved during an ACSA construction project.

128

129 Mr. Mawyer stated that Rivanna would try to coordinate as much as possible prior to projects
130 getting underway.

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133 **5. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

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There were no items from the public presented.

6. RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no responses to public comments.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Staff Report on Finance*
- b. Staff Report on Ongoing Projects*
- c. Staff Report on Operations*
- d. Recommendation for CIP Amendment and Award of Construction Contract: Crozet Water Treatment Plant Expansion and Rehabilitation*
- e. Recommendation for CIP Amendment and Construction Work Authorization: Sugar Hollow to Ragged Mountain Reservoir Transfer Flow Meter*

Ms. Hildebrand mentioned that the Sugar Hollow to Ragged Mountain Reservoir transfer flow meter project seemed to provide a good opportunity to address labor costs savings.

Mr. Mawyer explained that they would now be able to remotely open and close the valve, as well as measure how much water was going through, which was especially helpful in storm conditions. He stated that this was also a labor and cost savings measure, adding that the valve and meter were expected to last about 20 years.

Ms. Galvin moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Dr. Palmer seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-2. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Murphy were absent from the meeting and the vote.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Presentation: An Overview of Local and National Utility Projects: Executive Director, Bill Mawyer

Mr. Mawyer stated that he would provide an overview of other projects for comparative purposes, noting that Greene County was preparing to build the White Run Reservoir and stating that they had been through a similar situation to Albemarle and Charlottesville following the drought of the early 2000s. He stated that the county's plan was to build an earth dam and reservoir, as well as a water treatment plant – with completion slated for 2020 and a cost of approximately \$45 million. Mr. Mawyer stated that they would put an intake in the Rapidan River, with a raw water pump station pumping raw water into the reservoir. He stated that after the treatment plant was built, they would take that water and run it through for processing, then becoming clean water.

180
181 Mr. Gaffney asked if it was similar to the Ragged Mountain Reservoir in that it was being fed by
182 clean water and would not be filled with sediment.

183
184 Mr. Mawyer responded that they would be taking it out very raw at their discretion, but logically
185 if the reservoir was full and the Rapidan was muddy, they would not pump into the reservoir. He
186 noted that this facility was a pump storage facility, with water stored in the reservoir and brought
187 into the treatment plant when needed. He pointed out the location of the proposed facility on a
188 map provided.

189
190 Mr. Mawyer also presented on a \$10 million bid project in Fluvanna for new finished water
191 drinking lines to be extended to the west of Route 250 and the south along Route 15, with the
192 possibility of adding elevated water tanks. He stated that the likely lines were phase two of their
193 expansion program, and they would also likely add some sewer lines. Mr. Mawyer explained that
194 Fluvanna was getting its water from a line running along Route 250. He stated that the James
195 River Water Authority, which is a partnership between Fluvanna and Louisa counties, has a
196 permit from DEQ to build an intake in the James River near Columbia and take water out there.
197 He stated that the raw water would be pumped to a water treatment plant in Ferncliff (Louisa),
198 then treated and piped up Rt. 250 to Zions Crossroads – connecting there and becoming available
199 for Louisa and Fluvanna.

200
201 Dr. Palmer asked how long the pipeline would be.

202
203 Mr. Castillo confirmed that it was about nine miles total.

204
205 Mr. O’Connell noted that at one point they had approached Rivanna about being involved with
206 part of that.

207
208 Mr. Gaffney mentioned that the concept was to take water from the James and run it down Rt.
209 250 towards Glenmore, and Rivanna had met with them about 10 years ago.

210
211 Mr. Krueger clarified that they had originally planned to take water from the James River at
212 Route 15 and run it to Palmyra, building a water treatment plant there that would serve all parts
213 of Fluvanna County – but that plan fell apart.

214
215 Mr. Mawyer reported that the Henrico Cobbs Creek project includes an intake from the James
216 River, very close to the previous project mentioned, but the Henrico project also puts water back
217 into the James River. He stated that the Cobbs Creek Reservoir would be hosted in Cumberland
218 County and would include a reservoir of almost 15 billion gallons – with Henrico owning the
219 reservoir and sharing the rights to the water. He presented a photo that showed the location of the
220 proposed project.

221
222 Dr. Palmer mentioned that the Cumberland County Board of Supervisors had recently approved
223 a mega landfill for county waste, and that community was feeling growth pressure from
224 Richmond.

225

226 Mr. Mawyer stated that Cumberland was interested in economic development, and Henrico paid
227 them more than \$1 million per year in host fees for the reservoir.

228

229 Mr. O'Connell asked what the county seat was for Cumberland.

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231 Mr. Castillo responded that it was Cumberland Courthouse.

232

233 Mr. Mawyer noted that one of the challenges of the Cumberland project was the need to move
234 two Colonial pipelines that went directly through the middle of the site, at a cost of about \$30
235 million to move them from the pool area to the side. He pointed out the location of a tower and
236 controller so they can radio their SCADA wirelessly back to Henrico to control their pumps.

237

238 Dr. Palmer asked what other areas it would serve besides Henrico.

239

240 Mr. Mawyer explained that it created 47 MGD in safe yield, with Henrico allocated 30 MGD –
241 and DEQ has already permitted Henrico to take an additional 30MGD out of the James River. He
242 noted that when the James River was low, they would be putting water back in the river. Mr.
243 Mawyer stated that Cumberland had rights to 7 MGD, with Powhatan having rights to 10 MGD.

244

245 Mr. Mawyer reported that the Hampton Roads Sanitation District area encompassed 1.7 million
246 people and processed 250 MGD in wastewater alone, so they decided to build a SWFT facility
247 that took treated wastewater, treated it further, and put water back into the Potomac Aquifer in an
248 effort to replenish aquifers east of I-95. He stated that this project cost \$27 million and was
249 expandable up to 120 MGD.

250

251 Mr. Mawyer reported that the federal Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)
252 of 2014, allowed localities to borrow money to accelerate water and wastewater projects, and 12
253 localities borrowed in 2017. He explained that requirements to get in the program included a
254 minimum threshold of \$20 million, only 49% of total project costs can be borrowed, and the
255 money must be paid back within 35 years, along with some rate provisions. He stated that out of
256 40+ applications, 12 projects were selected that totaled \$2.3 billion – representing \$5.1 billion in
257 projects.

258

259 Mr. Mawyer stated that one awardee was the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which
260 was building a biosolids digester facilities project that would replace an outdated treatment
261 facility. He stated that this new facility would produce class A biosolids, maximize biogas
262 utilization and energy recovery, and minimize odors – and the cost estimate was \$1.4 billion. He
263 also reported that there was a \$167 million water reclamation project in the City of Morro Bay; a
264 San Diego Pure Water Project, which aimed to achieve 30 MGD of purified water production at
265 a cost of \$1.2 billion; a Deer Creek, Missouri sanitary tunnel and relief project with a pump
266 station constructed downstream at the end of a sanitary sewer tunnel, at a cost of \$85 million;
267 and other projects throughout the U.S.

268

269 Mr. Mawyer explained that he and Mr. Wood had looked at this WIFIA program and decided
270 there was nothing beneficial for Rivanna – and he mentioned that there were no projects
271 currently from Virginia for 2017, nor were there any planned in the next year. He mentioned that

272 there was a \$100K application fee, along with a \$250K-\$500K credit processing fee, with a
273 fairly extensive bureaucratic process involving numerous layers of review. Mr. Mawyer
274 emphasized that they did not see any advantage in pursuing WIFIA, noting that Rivanna already
275 had access to favorable funding structures.

276
277 He also mentioned that Cape Town, South Africa had turned around its water crisis and was back
278 to being able to provide adequate supplies for its residents.

279
280 Mr. Gaffney noted that the consumption there was only 18.5 gallons per person per day.

281
282 **9. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD/STAFF NOT ON AGENDA**

283
284 There were no other items presented.

285
286 **10. CLOSED MEETING**

287
288 There was no closed meeting held.

289
290 **11. ADJOURNMENT**

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292 **Ms. Galvin moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. O'Connell seconded the motion, which**
293 **passed 5-0-2. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Murphy were absent from the meeting and the vote.**

294
295 **The RWSA Board adjourned its meeting at 3:26 p.m.**

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297
298 Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Jeff Richardson
Secretary-Treasurer