



Fannin County Water Authority Regular Monthly Meeting Commissioners Meeting Room February 15, 2017, 2:00 P.M.

Anita Weaver called the meeting to order 2:00 P.M.

Members present were Anita Weaver, Chairwoman, Larry Chapman, Vice-Chairman, Zack Ratcliff, Larry Atkins and Kay Kendall, Secretary. Jackie Self was absent. A quorum was present.

A motion was made by Larry Chapman to approve the minutes from the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Water Authority held January 18, 2017. Zack Ratcliff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Marnie Mashburn, Administrative Assistant supplied a copy of the Budget vs. Actual report to all Board Members. Collections are being monitored closely with only a couple issues. Certified letters were mailed to two customers per the Board's request with no response yet. The Board discussed the contract for Lloyd McKenzie. Lynn Doss will send him a letter per the Board's request.

Ed Hawkins, Field Supervisor reported that there is approximately 3000 feet of pipe installation to complete Cross Creek Road in the Riverwalk on the Toccoa Project area. He also reported that work on Mercury Lane will begin tomorrow, February 16th.

Larry Chapman, Vice-Chairman reported that Dusty with T. Stanco will complete Hunters Ridge Road today.

Kurt McCord with Carter & Sloope Consulting Engineers reported that a request for funds to cover Bear Tracks was sent to GEFA (Georgia Environmental Finance

Authority) in January. The original deadline was March 1st, but a request has been made to extend that deadline to December 1st.

Additional customers are signed up for water service, but are outside the project area. Kurt McCord explained that because this area was outside of the preliminary studies, GEFA funds cannot be used. He also reported that EPD approval will be needed.

Lynn Doss with Doss & Associates explained that customers within the Bear Tracks Subdivision have the option to connect to the FCWA service, but must also agree to the terms of their current water supplier.

A motion was made by Larry Atkins to have Carter & Sloope start the EPD approval process and get work estimates for the extension outside of the GEFA project area. Larry Chapman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Anita Weaver reported that there is a leak within the Millholland connection service area which was taken over from the City of Morganton in July 2016. She suggested that Ed Hawkins schedule a time to cut the water off in this service area and try to locate the possible leak. Ed Hawkins reported that Frank at the City of Morganton thinks the main waterline runs through Mrs. Black's property @ 636 Greenhouse Road.

Anita Weaver reported that the City of Blue has raised their rates by \$1/1000 gallons from \$2.25 to \$3.25. This took effect in February 2017. Kay Kendall, Secretary reported that there is a 40-year agreement in place with the City of Blue Ridge. The agreement doesn't state that the FCWA is required to purchase water from the City of Blue Ridge; other sources can be used. The Board discussed the possible need to raise the rates and will need to discuss further. Larry Chapman suggested that the FCWA start looking at other possible water sources. Larry Atkins reported that it is critical that the FCWA can obtain/purchase water at a reasonable rate. Kurt McCord reported that the typical cost of developing a well is 2 to \$300,000.00.

Anita Weaver reported that the GRWA (Georgia Rural Water Association) will hold a training conference in May. She suggested that Ed Hawkins and Marnie Mashburn go to alternate trainings. Ed Hawkins reported that he will need to go to the conference in May since his license requires it. Larry Chapman reported that AWWA (American Water Works Association) will also hold a training conference in April. He also suggested to Ed Hawkins that he look at which conference will fit his schedule better.

A motion was made by Kay Kendall to make the \$119,189.45 payment due to Fannin County to cover wages for 2016. Larry Chapman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kay Kendall reported that there is no policy in place regarding late fees and disconnections. She suggested mailing a second bill, making phone calls and leaving door hangers. She recommended that the late fee be paid from the 15th to the 25th and if this is not paid, a disconnect should be completed. There should be a specific day for disconnections. The policy should go to each customer so that they are well informed. Lynn Doss will draft the policy for review at the next Regular Monthly Meeting.

A motion was made by Kay Kendall to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate and personnel. Zack Ratcliff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Coming out of executive session, no decisions were made.

A motion was made by Kay Kendall that the meeting adjourns. Larry Atkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

_____, Anita Weaver, Chairwoman

_____, Kay K. Kendall, Secretary