

**Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority
Minutes of Regular Meeting**

September 18, 2023 – 2:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority was held on September 18, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., in the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority's Board Room. Water Authority Board members present were James Scott, Dan Buyers, Grif Chalfant, Lisa Cupid, Charlie Crowder, and Corkey Welch. James Balli was not present for the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Chair James Scott.

- 1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**
 - a. Mr. Brandon Smith offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 21, 2023**
 - a. Mr. Scott asked for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2023. Mr. Chalfant made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously 6/0.

- 3. Approval of Minutes of Executive Session of August 21, 2023**
 - a. Mr. Scott asked for approval of the minutes of the Executive Session of August 21, 2023. Mr. Crowder made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Buyers seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously 6/0.

- 4. New business**
 - a. There were no new business items to present.

- 5. Financial report**
 - a. Ms. Rebecca Watkins, Senior Accountant, presented a summary of the August 31, 2023, Financial Statements (copy in file). Operating income for August was \$4.7 million, exceeding the budget expectation by \$184,629. Net income for August was \$5.7 million, exceeding the budget expectation by \$1.5 million.

- 6. Pension Committee Report**
 - a. The Pension Committee Chair, Mr. Stanley Brinkley, gave the report from the August 21 meeting of the Pension Committee (copy in file).

7. **Request for Proposal Results – 2023 On-Demand Coatings Program**
 - a. Ms. Rita Neely, Director of Engineering, referred to the memorandum in the board package (copy in file). Mr. Buyers made a motion to approve an award of a one (1) year 2023 On-Demand Coatings Program contract, which may be renewed by the General Manager for two (2) one-year increments to All American Markets, Inc. of Atlanta, GA, and Llamas Coatings, Inc. of Atlanta, GA. Mr. Chalfant seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously 6/0.

8. **Nomination and Election of Officers**
 - a. Mr. Chalfant, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported the following officer nominations from the Committee: James C. Scott, Jr. to serve as Chair; Dan Buyers to serve as Vice Chair; Charlie Crowder to serve as Secretary; and Nicole Zvanut to serve as Assistant Secretary. Election of officers will follow.
 - b. Mr. Chalfant, Chair of the Nominating Committee, made a recommendation to the board for the following Board officers: James C. Scott, Jr. to serve as Chair; Dan Buyers to serve as Vice Chair; Charlie Crowder to serve as Secretary; and Nicole Zvanut to serve as Assistant Secretary. No other nominations were made; motion passed unanimously 6/0.

9. **Old business**
 - a. There were no old business items to present.

10. **General Manager’s report**
 - a. Ms. Neely provided the following updates to the published General Manager’s Report (copy in file):
 - i. Wyckoff 6 MG Clearwell Addition
 1. The project lost another 21 days and is now 490 days behind schedule, according to IHC. IHC achieved substantial completion on July 30, 2023, and expects to achieve final completion by September 30, 2023.
 2. IHC Construction has submitted many claim notices on this project. Types of claims include testing of rock anchors, pipe cost escalation, fasteners (bolts), leak testing, unsuitable soil, concrete supply, rock excavation, supply chain delays, and pipe testing.
 3. Most claim notices do not disclose an associated dollar value. However, the claim notices with dollar values total \$6,979,829 and 479 days of delay.
 4. In the contract, IHC is responsible for attendant overtime construction engineering costs and attendant construction engineering costs beyond the contractual project completion date.
 5. On July 11, 2023, IHC filed for partial (50%) release of retainage. As of August 31, 2023, \$1,505,895 was being held in retainage.

6. As of August 31, 2023, accrued engineering costs and liquidated damages liable to IHC were approximately \$1,450,000.
 7. Mr. Haynie, Board Attorney, mentioned that letters were sent to the bonding company to keep apprised of progress; no suit is being filed at the time.
- ii. Blackjack Mountain 36-Inch Water Main Replacement Project
 1. Contractor, Garney, completed the water main installation along Barnes Mill Road at Wallace/Merritt Road.
 2. Project cleanup, grassing and paving, and punch list work remain to be completed at other locations.
 3. The pipeline should be placed in service this fall.
 4. The contractual, substantial completion date is currently January 30, 2023.
 5. The project is anticipated to finish within contract value.
 - iii. Maner Road 36-inch Pipeline Replacement
 1. The pre-construction meeting was held on August 8th.
 2. Engineer, ESI is coordinating with Georgia Power Company on the potential of shifting easement alignments. Moonshower's Right-of-Way Services completed easement acquisitions for two of the three parcels.
 3. CCMWA's FRP pipe is loaded into shipping containers for transport from the manufacturer (Thompson Pipe) in Turkey.
 4. Contractor plans to mobilize in late September 2023.
 - iv. Corrosion Control Feed System Installations at Wyckoff and Quarles
 1. Contractor, Sol Construction, prepared site for modified concrete pad for chemical storage tanks at the Quarles facility.
 2. Orthophosphate storage tanks are expected to be delivered in September 2023 to the Quarles facility and in October 2023 to the Wyckoff facility.
 3. Pre-purchased pump skids are expected to be delivered in September 2023.
 4. Staff held a customer coordination meeting on August 9 to provide information related to the transition to orthophosphate for corrosion control. Staff continued coordination with EPD to provide an updated schedule for transition.
 5. The construction of the orthophosphate tank installation pad at the Quarles Division has begun.
 - v. Hickory Log Creek Reservoir Pipeline Request by the City of Canton
 1. On August 18, 2023, at the Hickory Log Creek Reservoir (HLCR) Board of Managers meeting, the City of Canton requested an amendment to the Joint Project Agreement to allow the city to tap the HLCR diversion pipeline. The diversion pipeline makes releases from HLCR and pumps water to HLCR from the Etowah River.

2. The Joint Project Agreement in Article X, Section 1001 prohibits using the HLCR diversion pipeline to supply a water treatment plant.
 3. Staff has reviewed the feasibility of using the raw water diversion pipeline to supply a drinking water treatment plant and is not fundamentally opposed to the use of the pipeline but has concerns such as operational control of the HLCR pumping station, river withdrawal permit challenges, pipeline maintenance, water quality liability, and possible reduced yield of the reservoir.
 4. Staff recommends conducting a brief engineering study to confirm the implications of using the HLCR diversion pipeline to supply a water treatment plant and ask Canton to participate.
- vi. Quarles Chemical Building Replacement
1. The 40-year-old chemical building, which has been retrofitted many times, will be replaced with an up-to-date building, designed for chemical safety and maintenance accessibility.
 2. Engineer, HDR held the 30% design review meeting on August 24th. Subsequently, staff received the first Engineers Opinion of Probable Cost for construction of \$86.9 million.
 3. This estimated construction cost, when added to engineering costs, is 3.3x greater than the 2023-2027 CIP budget allocation of \$28,017,000.
 4. Although staff believes the current design of the chemical building will result in a structure with optimized capabilities for current and future chemical needs for water treatment and longevity, the estimated cost of the structure is unexpectedly high.
 5. Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources recently bid a new chemical building for the Lanier Drinking Water Treatment Plant. The low bid on that project came in at \$69,185,000.
 6. Based on recent construction bids here at CCMWA and recent construction bids at peer utilities, construction prices have, in multiple instances, more than doubled in the last 18-24 months.
 7. At this point in the design of this project, we must decide to move forward with the current design or change the design to save construction costs, at the expense of treatment flexibility, structure/equipment longevity, and increased engineering design costs.
 8. Mr. Stuart Jeffcoat, HDR Engineering, presented information on the project goals, the 30% Design Cost Estimates, and options for moving the project forward.

11. Executive Session

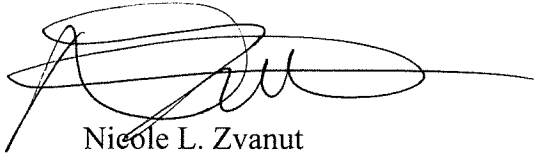
- a. Mr. Welch made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Cybersecurity. Mr. Crowder seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously 6/0.

- b. Mr. Buyers made a motion to return to the Regular Meeting. Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously 6/0.

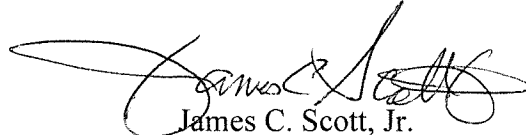
12. Legal

- a. There were no legal items to present.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 03:46 pm.



Nicole L. Zvanut
Assistant Secretary



James C. Scott, Jr.
Chair