# Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority Minutes of Regular Meeting

January 25, 2021 – 2:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority was held on January 25, 2021 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, Charlie Crowder, James Balli, Grif Chalfant, Lisa Cupid, and Corkey Welch.

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

## 1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Cole Blackwell offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 21, 2020

Mr. Scott asked for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 21, 2020. Mr. Chalfant made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Balli seconded the motion; motion passed 7/0.

# 3. Financial report

Ms. Allison Clements, Director of Finance, presented a summary of the December 31, 2020 Financial Statement (copy in file). Operating income for December was \$2,180,437, which fell short of budget expectations by \$96,523. Net income for December was \$2,270,283, which exceeded expectations by \$38,492.

Ms. Clements presented the 2020 Year End Summary (copy in file). Year to date operating cost per thousand gallons sold averaged \$1.64 at the end of December, compared to an average of \$1.56 for the same period in 2019.

### 4. Quarterly and Year-end Investment Review

Mr. Doug Gebhardt, Davenport and Company, presented the Quarterly Investment report (copy in file).

# 5. James E. Quarles Plant 1 Replacement Project Engineering Contract Modification No. 2

Mr. Page referred to the memorandum in the board package (copy in file). Mr. Balli made a motion to approve Contract Modification No. 2 valued at \$110,812.50 to the Engineering Services Contract with Hazen and Sawyer, PC for the James E. Quarles Plant 1 Replacement Project, bringing the total contract value to \$8,020,034.50. Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion passed 7/0.

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# 6. Approval of Board Travel Expenses for the AWWA Annual Conference & Exposition, June 13-16, 2021

Mr. Crowder made a motion to approve the travel and conference registration expenses for CCMWA Board members and CCMWA attorney to attend the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition to be held June 13-16, 2021, in San Diego, California. Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion passed 7/0.

## 7. Old Business

There were no old business items to present.

## 8. General Manager's report

Mr. Page provided the following updates to the published General Manager's Report (copy in file):

The Westside Loop, Section 2 Water Main Replacement has generated some correspondence related to disrupted traffic flow, muddy road conditions and other concerns. All concerns are being addressed by the project team. The project is on track to finish four to five months ahead of schedule.

Garney Construction, contractor for the Blackjack Mountain 36-inch Water Main Replacement, has encountered groundwater problems within the Indian Hills Country Club golf course, adjacent to Sope Creek. Production in this area has essentially ceased, leading to concerns about completing the work across the golf course within the time limits agreed to with the course owner, Futren Corporation. Following a meeting between Garney, CCMWA, project engineer Freese & Nichols and Futren on January 22, 2021, general agreement was reached on a construction plan over the next several weeks to maximize use of the golf course beginning in March.

Property owners and two homeowners' associations have contacted CCMWA staff about our plans to install a new security fence along the perimeter of the Quarles Plant following the current construction project. Initial plans were to construct an 8-foot chain link fence with 3 strands of barbed wire, according to guidelines given by Georgia EPD, the American Society of Civil Engineers and others. Following discussions with property owners in the area, staff offered to reduce the fence height to 6 feet from 8 feet, maintain the 3 strands of barbed wire, and powder coat the fence, posts and barbed wire black to "hide" it from view of the adjacent property owners. Fencing along the front of the plant will be 8 feet tall with privacy slats, and barbed wire, all powder coated black. Various neighbors have continued to communicate different desires for the type, height and location of the fence proximate to the property line, but staff is informing them of the decision to maintain consistency around the perimeter (except along road frontage) of the 6-foot fence with barbed wire.

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Mr. Chalfant stated his preference for an eight-foot fence around the entire perimeter, and other Board members indicated their desire to provide the best security possible for the water supply. Mr. Page stated it would be difficult to walk back from the currently negotiated position. No direction was given.

Mr. Page reported that the contracts for storage in Lake Lanier between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the State of Georgia were executed last week. This is a huge step for metro Atlanta in terms of sustainability through 2050 and beyond. An article from the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*'s web site was provided to Board members.

Mr. Page reported that he was contacted by Georgia Environmental Protection Division Director Rick Dunn on January 22. Mr. Dunn stated that the reallocated storage from Allatoona Lake that CCMWA is anticipating will also be contracted by the State, and not CCMWA and Cartersville (as are the current contracts). Mr. Page told Mr. Dunn that CCMWA would rather have a direct contractual relationship with the Corps and welcomed the opportunity to discuss this with the State.

#### 9. New business

Mr. Chalfant stated that he had been interviewed by the media about the Water Authority and that he had provided them CCMWA staff-generated information.

ames C. Scott, Jr.

#### 10. Executive Session

There was no need for Executive Session.

#### 11. Legal

There were no legal items to present.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Pat Tibbitts

**Assistant Secretary**