

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

September 20, 2021 – 2:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority was held on September 20, 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, Grif Chalfant, and Lisa Cupid. James Balli and Corkey Welch were not present at the meeting.

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 August 16, 2021

Mr. Scott asked for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 16, 2021. Mr. Chalfant made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Buyers seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

3. Approval of Minutes of Executive Session of August 16, 2021

Mr. Scott asked for approval of the minutes of the Executive Session of August 16, 2021. Mr. Crowder made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Buyers seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

4. Financial report

Ms. Allison Clements, Director of Finance, presented a summary of the August 31, 2021 Financial Statement (copy in file). Operating income for August was \$4,447,649, which exceeded expectations by \$318,882. Net income for August was \$4,392,458, which exceeded expectations by \$131,405.

5. Pension Committee report

Chair Stanley Brinkley gave the report from the August 16 Regular meeting and the August 31 Special Called meeting of the Pension Committee (copy in file).

6. Bid Results – James E. Quarles Water Treatment Plant Taste and Odor Process Improvements

Mr. Page referred to the memorandum in the Board Package (copy in file). Mr. Buyers made a motion to award the James E. Quarles Water Treatment Plant Taste and Odor Process Improvements Project to Sol Construction LLC of Atlanta for the

verified low bid of \$3,805,000. Mr. Chalfant seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

Mr. Buyers stated that he had met with Ms. Cupid after the last board meeting to present the three color choices for the silo. Ms. Cupid stated that it is the consensus of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners that the silo should be gray.

7. Old Business

Authority Attorney Doug Haynie stated that the purchase of 11.08 acres of land adjacent to the Sharp Mountain Creek property closed on September 17, 2021.

8. General Manager's report

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

U.S. Corps of Engineers' Record of Decision on the reallocation of Allatoona Lake, granting made inflow credits to CCMWA's storage account:

- For CCMWA, is most significant decision in the "Water Wars" to date.
- Confirms CCMWA's claims to water reclaimed through Cobb County's Noonday Creek and Northwest Water Reclamation Facilities that have been made since 1981.
- Makes CCMWA "whole" on the \$75M investment at Hickory Log Creek, without having to build a \$200-plus million pipeline to the Wyckoff Plant.
- Ensures that future investments to responsibly return treated wastewater to the source will be rewarded with additional water availability.
- Saves CCMWA tens of millions of dollars in reallocation costs.
- Along with two recent court wins, delivers a great return in the investments made over the past 20 years in the ARC litigation group and in individual litigation and policy strategy by CCMWA.

Staff is working on the 2022 budget to be prepared for committee meetings beginning in late October. A few items of note:

- Recently received bids for process chemicals are much higher than last year, with most low bids between 10 and 20 percent higher than last year.
- A preliminary conversation with our benefits advisor, The Bottoms Group, has indicated a very high loss ratio on group health insurance to date this year, and that CCMWA should expect much higher renewal rates or rates from a new carrier. Staff will be investigating the possibility of moving to a self-funded health insurance plan beginning in 2022 as a long-term strategy to mitigate premium increases and will report back next month.

Committee meetings scheduled to discuss the 2022 Budget:

- Planning – October 22, 9 a.m., Board Room

- Finance – November 5, 9 a.m., Board Room
- Personnel – not yet scheduled, but will be held prior to Finance Committee meeting

9. New business

2021 Pine Mountain Tank Repairs Project

Mr. Buyers made a motion to reject any and all bids received for the 2021 Pine Mountain Tank Repairs Project and to re-advertise the project. Ms. Cupid seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

10. Legal

Amendment of Section 6.2 of the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority By-Laws

Mr. Buyers made a motion to amend Section 6.2 by deleting the last sentence which, prior to amendment, provides as follows:

6.2 Election and Term of Office. The officers of the Authority, including the Chairman and the Vice Chairman, shall be elected by the Members by a majority vote. The officers of the Authority shall serve for a one-year term beginning October 1 of each calendar year and thereafter until their successors have been appointed and have qualified. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the service of any officer shall also be terminated by the following: (1) their resignation; (2) their death; (3) their removal; or (4) the expiration of their term of office as a Member without reappointment for an immediately following successive term. Any officers or assistant officers appointed under Section 6.1 of these Bylaws shall serve at the will and pleasure of the Members. Except for the office of Assistant Secretary, no officer shall serve or be appointed for more than four consecutive one-year terms in the same office.

Based upon this deletion, there will be no term limits for the terms of office of any officer of the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority.

Mr. Crowder seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

Lease Agreement between the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority, as Landlord, and GeoSurvey, Ltd., as Tenant, for property known as 1660 Barnes Mill Road, Marietta, Georgia

Mr. Buyers made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement between the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority, as Landlord, and GeoSurvey, Ltd., as Tenant, for property known as 1660 Barnes Mill Road, Marietta, Georgia. The Lease runs through October 15, 2026 at a monthly rental rate of \$4,406.34. Mr. Crowder seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

11. Election of Officers

Mr. Chalfant, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, made a motion to approve and recommend to the board the following Board officers: Chair – James C. Scott, Jr., Vice-Chair – T. Daniel Buyers, Secretary – Charlie N. Crowder, and Patricia Tibbitts – Assistant Secretary. No other nominations were made. Motion passed 5/0.

12. Executive Session

Ms. Cupid made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. Mr. Chalfant seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

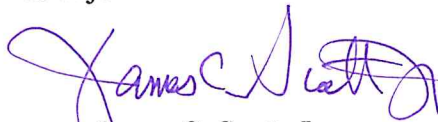
Mr. Crowder made a motion to return to the Regular Meeting. Ms. Cupid seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

13. Personnel Committee Report

Mr. Buyers made a motion to name Mr. Cole Blackwell as the sole recommended candidate for the position of the General Manager of the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority with a term commencing January 1, 2022. The Board Attorney and Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority staff are hereby directed to post the recommendation as required by Georgia Law. Mr. Crowder seconded the motion; motion passed 5/0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Pat Tibbitts
Assistant Secretary


James C. Scott, Jr.
Chair