

Hart County Water and Sewer Authority

Board of Directors Meeting November 20, 2023

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met on November 20, 2023, in the Hart County Cooperative Extension Service Building. Chairman Wade Carlton called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present were Board Members Larry Haley, Bennie Harper, Marvin Justice and Patti York, Director Pat Goran, Legal Counsel Kim Higginbotham, Hartwell Sun reporter Rachel Black, and residents Rachelene Johnson, Charles Corbett, Carolyn Vickery, Bobby Vickery, Roger Canady, Kathy and Thurmon Moon, and Marvin Hill.

Welcome

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Harper motioned to approve the agenda. Mr. Justice seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Public Comments, remarks by invited guests

Several people spoke in support of getting water service on Beacon Light Road between Fred King Road and Morris Road.

Mr. Goran explained the scope of the project that is currently out to bid, with bids due December 14. He said the scope of the project being bid included Pineview Lane, Oaktree Lane and a section of Cleveland Mill Road but the Board has not voted to proceed with those roads nor has it voted to proceed with installing a line on Beacon Light Road from the Morris Road intersection toward Fred King Road. He explained that the Board had previously voted to provide water service to the Beacon Light Road poultry operation by extending its existing line from the Fred King Road intersection.

The consensus of the Board was to review the upcoming bids and decide how to proceed at that point.

Approval of October 16, 2023 regular meeting minutes

Mr. Justice motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Harper seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Financial report

Mr. Goran presented the financial report. He commented on the need to flush more water than we normally due to recent results of EPD mandated quarterly water quality sampling.

Old Business

Will Bailey Road – Mount Olivet Road connector project

Previously discussed under public comments. Mr. Goran explained that while the bidders will be including all required materials in their bids, HCWSA will be billed for and will pay for those materials on a tax exempt basis.

Request for water service – Beacon Light Road

Previously discussed under public comments.

Request for water service – Bowersville Highway near Deer Run Lane intersection

Mr. Goran explained that he had talked to requestor Alaina LaCount and Joe Sanders since the last Board meeting. No action was taken.

Request for water service – Bowman Highway poultry operations

Mr. Goran explained that Calvin Duong was at our June Board meeting on behalf of his brothers, and that he hadn't heard from him until recently. He said that Mr. Duong had dropped off two commitment letters signed by his brothers at 4:00pm today, but they were incomplete. There was discussion about what the Board had previously voted to set aside for non-residential projects. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

Consideration of Georgia Environmental Finance Authority loan with principal forgiveness

Mr. Goran presented EMI's proposed target area map for potential areas to be served along with EMI's memo and exhibits with respect to projected fire flows. There was discussion about loan time frames and possible geographical scopes for the project. Mr. Carlton motioned to proceed with the environmental review study for scenario 1 as described in the EMI memo and shown on the EMI map with revisions as discussed during the meeting. Mr. Haley seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0. There was further discussion about the timing of the loan application, Hart County needing to guarantee loan payments, how to choose which roads to serve by using surveys, interest letters or commitment letters, etc.

New Business - none

Director's Comments

Mr. Goran explained that the current Office Manager has tendered her resignation effective November 30.

Members' Comments – none

Upcoming Meetings – December 18th, January to be determined

Adjournment

Mr. Justice motioned to adjourn, and Mr. Harper seconded. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Wade Carlton, Chairman