

## **Hart County Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Meeting June 16, 2025**

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met on June 16, 2025, in the Hart County Cooperative Extension Service Building. Chairman Wade Carlton called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Present were Vice Chair Patti York, Board Members Larry Haley, Bennie Harper and Marvin Justice. Also present were Legal Counsel Kim Higginbotham, Director Pat Goran, Office Manager Karen Neal, Hartwell Sun Editor Rose Scoggins and resident Bob Hartmann.

### **Welcome**

### **Approval of Agenda**

Ms. York made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Haley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of May 19, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Haley made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2025 Board meeting. Mr. Justice seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Public Comments**

Mr. Hartmann was present to again request the Board consider extending service down Tahoe Drive and Tahoe Court. He stated that HCWSA currently has 14 commitments, but the Board reminded Mr. Hartman that to cover the cost of construction HCWSA would require 21 commitments. Mr. Hartmann stated he would continue to speak with neighbors.

### **Financial Report**

Mr. Goran provided an abbreviated financial report this month. Mr. Goran noted that uncommitted SPLOST funds available went down by \$45,000 due to the Pineview Lane project. Mr. Goran also noted that HCWSA funds are up approximately \$190,000 from last month. He reminded the Board that bank balances could fluctuate monthly due to large payments for construction materials and the timing of receiving SPLOST reimbursements. Mr. Goran also noted that steps have been taken to prevent late payments to vendors in the future. Ms. York also stated she would reach out to the City of Hartwell to request that recent late fees be waived. Mr. Goran shared that we are passing more through our flushing meters due to the hotter weather and the amount would likely remain high for the next few months.

## **Old Business**

### **Will Bailey Road – Morris Road – Beacon Light Road – Mount Olivet Road Project including consideration of extending onto side roads**

Mr. Goran stated the project is approaching its end. Construction is currently on Mt. Olivet Road. Mr. Goran expects construction for this project to be completed in approximately two months, assuming no problems and no roads are added to the scope.

### **Reed Creek Area Expansion Project**

Mr. Goran shared that the solicitation for two bids, one for construction and one for materials, has been issued and the bids are due at 12:00 p.m. June 26<sup>th</sup>. He and Ms. Higginbotham will open the bids at that time and will turn the bids over to EMI for their review and recommendation of who to award the contracts to. Mr. Goran told the Board that they are all welcome at the bid opening but that no action would be taken during that meeting.

### **Discussion of Authority's wholesale water purchase arrangement with Hartwell**

Following a brief discussion, Ms. York motioned to submit proposal #2 with the price revised to \$2.43 per thousand gallons along with the general notes. Mr. Justice seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Goran will draft an email with the proposal for Mr. Carlton to send to the City of Hartwell.

### **Discussion of Pursuing Groundwater**

Mr. Goran stated that searching for groundwater is a slow process and he does not yet have a landowner who is willing to allow the Authority to search for water on their land. Mr. Goran expects to have at least two meetings with more landowners before the next Board meeting and will update the Board at that time.

### **Discussion of installing water lines on private roads**

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed to not establish a policy with respect to private roads. The Board Members agreed water requests for private roads should be decided on a case-by-case basis.

## **New Business**

### **Request for water service – Tahoe Drive / Tahoe Court**

The Board considered Mr. Hartmann's request for Authority water on Tahoe Drive and Tahoe Court and reiterated that with an estimate of approximately \$204,000, HCWSA would require at least 21 commitments. After a brief discussion no motion was made, and Mr. Carlton stated the Board would hold off on the request for now to allow Mr. Hartmann more time to collect commitment letters.

### **Request for water service – Mt. Olivet Road to Fiddlers Drive area**

Mr. Goran shared the estimate to provide water to the Fiddlers Drive area is approximately \$177,000. Mr. Goran stated that it would most likely take nearly full participation from every homeowner on Fiddlers Drive as well as on Mt. Olivet Road to make the project feasible. Inasmuch as no one from the area was present the Board took no action.

### **Request for water service – 170 Reed Road poultry operation**

Mr. Goran stated the estimate for the 170 Reed Road poultry operation is approximately \$123,000. Mr. Goran said he had spoken on the phone with the owner of the poultry operation once, but he never called back to discuss the estimate or how many gallons per year he would likely need to commit to. Mr. Goran also shared that there were a few homes that could potentially be interested in tying onto the HCWSA system. Since the requestor was not present the Board took no action.

### **Director's Comments**

Mr. Goran noted that we have especially high demand currently due to the hot weather and Sun Chemical using a larger than normal amount of water recently.

### **Members' Comments**

Ms. York asked if, when a line is installed a new customer pays for a tap but does not use water immediately, if it is necessary to put a meter in place. There was discussion about that and the typical commitment and “here we come” letters HCWSA uses.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Mr. Carlton announced the next meeting dates would be July 21<sup>st</sup> and August 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Harper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Haley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Wade Carlton, Chairman