

**Jackson County Water and Sewerage Authority  
Board Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2023**

Chairman Wilbanks called the March 9, 2023 Jackson County Water and Sewerage Authority Board Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present include: Chairman Dylan Wilbanks, Vice Chairman Chris Nichols, Board Member Kevin Poe, and Board Member Tommy Benton.

Also Present: Attorney Paul Smart and Authority Staff: Joey Leslie, Judy Smith, Harold Garrison, Mark Dudziak, Nathan Hester, Ben Massey, Matt Wyatt, Karen Johnson, Hope Weeks, Caleb Baughcum, Amy Bales, Ben Massey, Jordan Waters, Austin Marable, Wesley Colley and Ronna Berrong.

Visitors: Hannah Barron, Mainstreet News and Paula Feldman, Freese and Nichols

### **Approval of Minutes**

Member Benton made a motion to approve the February 9, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes.

Member Poe seconded the motion. The motion was carried with no objection and all board members present voting.

### **Operating Reports**

Finance Director Smith reported that during January 2023 JCWSA purchased 127.7 million gallons and sold 108.2 million gallons. We flushed a total of 12.1 million gallons.

The Authority gained 54 billed water customers and 28 billed sewer customers during January 2023.

For 2023, \$15K has been paid for customer leaks through our HomeServe Leak Insurance Program. For a total of \$618.3K since 2017 – the beginning of the program.

Finance Director Smith said on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, staff members were recognized for Customer Service Appreciation Day.

### **New Business**

#### *New Jackson Elementary School Water and Sewer Preliminary Application*

Manager Leslie reported a preliminary application was submitted for a new Jackson County elementary school. He said the school is located at Skelton Road and Highway 332.

Manager Leslie said this is a straightforward project with payment of all water and wastewater fees due in full at time of application for water service.

Manager Leslie pointed out the school will be served by gravity sewer only unless otherwise allowed by the JCWSA staff and to be determined in the best interest of the Authority.

Manager Leslie said a force main would save the school money and we are working with Carroll Daniel Construction on this. He said we may allow a partial force main and gravity sewer.

Manager Leslie said any lift stations will be private and not maintained by JCWSA. He also said the owner's engineer shall demonstrate that the downstream sewer has capacity for the existing customers and if capacity is found insufficient, the applicant shall replace/upgrade the existing lines as necessary. He said staff recommends approval.

Member Poe asked if we would consider giving them a reduced rate. Manager Leslie said that would not be staff's recommendation. He said giving the school a break would put the burden on our rate payers.

Vice Chairman Nichols made a motion to approve the Jackson Elementary School Water and Wastewater Preliminary Application based on the Terms of Approval and Conditions as presented and authorize the Authority Manager to execute the documents.

Member Poe seconded the motion. The motion was carried with no objection and all board members present voting.

### *Water Master Plan Presentation*

Engineer Hester presented the Water Master Plan. He explained we have an existing hydraulic water model, but it was due to be updated.

Engineer Hester said Freese and Nichols assisted with the study.

Vice Chairman Nichols asked if we would be allowed to do regional connection fees.

Engineer Hester said yes, it is doable and Attorney Smart will look into it further.

Chairman Wilbanks asked how far along we are in forming the new Authority and noted we have missed this legislative session. Manager Leslie said that is correct. It is in the works and we are pursuing it hard, but there have been some delays with Senator Ginn no longer leading the Madison County IDA. He said Paula from Freese and Nichols has given us a lot of ideas for regional partners.

The master plan has been made available for the Board members to study before adopting the plan.

## **Department Reports**

Average daily flow .654 MGD

Average Peak .768 MGD

Effluent BOD BRL 100 % Removal

Effluent TSS BRL 100% Removal

Effluent NH<sub>3</sub>N BRL 100 % Removal

Effluent Fecal Below readable limits

Effluent Total Phosphorous .20 mg/l 98.7 % Removal

Dewatering totals: 101 dry tons sent to the landfill.

Wastewater work order tasks completed:

Total tasks completed: 280, broken down by category as follows:

CMOM manhole inspections: 99

Lift station inspections: 112

Sewer connection inspections: 20

Sewer Main work orders: 15

Wastewater treatment plant tasks: 34 includes daily plant process control

Collection System Summary:

We had a force main break in Traditions of Braselton and two other collection system issues, everything was repaired and handled in-house with the exception of the hauling on the force main break. Staff is working hard on CMOM inspections and sewer rat work with 2 subdivisions complete.

An inflow issue was found in the Dry Pond LS area caused by a warehouse fire pump running open and draining into our sewer system, we were assisted by our metering crew in finding and correcting the issue.

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

Staff spent the month working on several O &M issues from general wear and tear around the plant, increased flows have also increased the amount of time spent on these tasks.

Staff attended a one-day course on the Ovivo carousel system this month as well as a lunch and learn on sludge drying systems.

Wastewater Manager:

I worked with our SCADA provider this month to troubleshoot and repair issues with our plant radios. Started work on our WLA renewal as well as working with Dr. Booth on another possible WLA.

Our Plant permit status in GEOS was upgraded this month to pending admin review, no comments have been received from EPD at this time. I was advised it may be a few months before this is reissued.

We gave plant tours to the Jefferson HS science department on Wednesday, March 1st. This annual event was again a success. We are working with the Empower career academy on doing a tour and Q&A session in the near future.

## **Water – Harold Garrison**

- 1024 total locates
- Exercised 238 valves
- 464 marked locates
- Cleaned water pumping stations

- 8 leak repairs
- Cleaned 3 taps
- Installed 13 taps

#### **IT – Caleb Baughcum**

- Updating and documenting our inventory of devices so we have a clear picture of where everything is located and for security purposes as well.

#### **Engineering – Nathan Hester**

- Introduced Matt Wyatt our new Engineering Technician
- Ben Massey received his Collection Systems License

#### **Manager Report**

- Discussed the new JCWSA administrative building and showed pictures of the site. He announced the groundbreaking ceremony is March 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm.
- Applied for a grant for 5 million dollars for Bear Creek Reservoir with Senator Warnock's office. Also applied for several other grants pursuing everything we can for funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Karen Johnson  
Board Secretary