

**Jackson County Water and Sewerage Authority**  
**Called Non-Voting Work Session Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2024**

Chairman Chris Nichols convened the Jackson County Water and Sewerage Authority called meeting at 2:00 p.m. on August 28, 2024.

Member Attendees: Chairman Chris Nichols, Vice Chairman Tommy Benton, Wade Johnson, Kevin Poe and Dave Ehrhardt.

Also Present: Attorney Paul Smart; Authority Staff: Joey Leslie, Mark Dudziak, Judy Smith, Harold Garrison, Karen Long, Nathan Hester, and Caleb Baughcum. Numerous members of the public also attended. The names of those who signed in for the meeting are attached herein.

Chairman Nichols welcomed everyone and stated this session is limited to 60 minutes. He said the purpose is to gather input on the Authority's user fees, connections fees and infrastructure improvements. He said the format will be as follows: The Authority Manager will take a few moments to explain the Authority's current fee structure. Representatives from the developer's community will be given 25 minutes to present any information for the Board to consider. Board members may ask questions for clarification but this session is not designed to be a back-and-forth dialog. Once the developers have concluded the floor will be open for public comment, 3 minutes per person for 25 minutes.

Chairman Nichols said there were written comments submitted to the Authority Manager and those comments will be given to the Board Secretary to become part of the minutes. Chairman Nicholes said he wanted to remind everyone the Authority is not involved in planning or development decisions. He stated we do not have the authority to approve or deny any developments or projects. He said this lies solely with the county and municipalities. Chairman Nichols said the Authority's charter does not charge it with limiting growth, determining growth or creating financial gains for the members of the public or causing development delays. The purpose of this session is not to debate the benefits or consequences of developments within the County. He said to please speak with your commissioners and council members regarding those issues.

Authority Manager Leslie gave a presentation on how the Authority operates and how the connection fees are determined. He stated that the water and sewer connection fees are based on the cost of connecting to the system and maintaining and expanding the system to accommodate Authority Customers. Manager Leslie went over the timelines involved with the connection fee analysis, indicating that on July 13, 2023, the Board implemented a Temporary Suspension of Certain Preliminary Water/Sewer Applications. He then spoke of multiple public Board presentations used over a period of many months to arrive at the updated connection fees.

Chairman Nichols opened the meeting up to the public.

Robert Stigele, Keith Hayes and Corey Deal spoke on behalf of developers and builders giving an alternative proposal to the connection fee structure that was adopted by the JCWSA board on April 9, 2024.

Scott Butler and Don Roberts, Jackson County citizens, spoke regarding their support for the new connection fees.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 pm.

Karen Long  
Board Secretary