

RWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of Regular Meeting
January 28, 2002

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority (RWSA) Board of Directors was held on Monday, January 28, 2002, at 2:02 p.m., in the Conference Room, Administration Building, 200 Franklin Street, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Board members present: Mr. Richard Collins, presiding, Mr. William Brent, Mrs. Judith Mueller, Mr. Robert Tucker, and Mr. Gary O'Connell.

Authority staff present: Mr. Lawrence Tropea, Mr. Gene Potter, Mr. Stephen Bowler, Mr. Lonnie Wood, Ms. Carol Wiles, and Ms. Mary Knowles.

Also present: Mr. Kurt Krueger, RWSA Attorney, members of the public and media representatives.

1.0 Call To Order

The regular meeting of the RWSA Board of Directors was called to order by Mr. Richard Collins, Chairman, on Monday, January 28, 2002, at 2:02 p.m., and a quorum was present.

2.0 Minutes Of Previous Meeting

Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, and seconded by Mr. O'Connell, the Board of Directors voted to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Monday, November 26, 2001.

Mr. Collins welcomed Mrs. Mary Knowles on behalf of the Board to her new position as Executive Secretary. Mr. Collins also thanked Ms. Carol Wiles for her previous service to the Board and wished her good luck in her new position with Rivanna

Mr. Collins informed the Board that Mr. Tropea has suggested that the first "Items from the Public" segment be eliminated from the Agenda and replaced with the "Executive Director's Report" to make the Board, and the public attending the meetings, more aware of the overall progress and potential issues of concern.

4.0 Consent Agenda

Due to Mr. Tropea being temporarily called away from the meeting, Mr. Collins proceeded with the Consent Agenda and asked if any Board members wanted any item pulled for further discussion.

RWSA Board Minutes
4.0 Consent Agenda Continued
January 28, 2002

- 4a) Staff Report on Finance
- 4b) Staff Report on Operations
- 4c) Staff Report of Ongoing Projects
- 4d) Staff Report on Employee Safety
- 4e) Watershed Manager's Report

In regards to item 4b), Staff Report on Operations, Mr. Tucker inquired as to why the South Rivanna Reservoir was not mentioned in the reservoir levels data. Mr. Potter responded that when a reservoir is full, it would not be mentioned in the report.

Upon a motion by Mr. Brent, and seconded by Mr. Tucker, the Board of Directors approved items 4a), b), c), d), and e) of the Consent Agenda. All members voted aye.

3.0 Executive Director's Report

Mr. Tropea returned to the meeting and proceeded with the Executive Director's Report. He stated that Mr. Potter will report on the reservoir situation, and Mr. Bowler will also give a short presentation on a draft report he prepared on the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir. Regarding the future water supply alternatives, Mr. Tropea stated that the RWSA staff recommendation would be brought to the Board in February.

5.0 Other Business

In regards to item 5a), the Raw Water Storage Status Report, Mr. Gene Potter gave a brief presentation on urban water consumption rates and methods used to predict yearly rates. Referencing the graph included in the Board packet, Mr. Potter stated that the consumption rate projected for 2002 is 11.7445 million gallons a day in the urban area. He compared this figure to the 2001 consumption rate of 10.286 million gallons a day, which is the lowest number since 1992.

He then highlighted the reservoir storage data obtained during a 10-week period beginning on October 15, 2001. During week 3, Mr. Potter stated that the decision was made to cut back on the release from the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir. He stated that the system storage was below 70 percent at that time and voluntary water conservation was also encouraged. He added that on December 3 (week 10), the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir was at full capacity.

Mr. Potter also informed the Board that the Observatory Plant is presently being operated 12 hours a day at the lowest rate possible with a daily withdrawal of 1.25 million gallons from the Ragged Mountain Reservoirs. In response to a question by Mrs. Mueller regarding

RWSA Board Minutes
5.0 Other Business Continued
January 28, 2002

seasonal versus historical data collection, Mr. Potter responded that he has viewed consumption rates in a gross standpoint and concluded that our consumption remained flat during 2001. Mr. Collins added that it would be helpful in future drought management times to better define the categories of use if costs could be justified. Mr. Brent stated that he is currently gathering that data for the Albemarle County Service Authority and should have a report available in a few weeks.

In regards to item 5b), Report on Financial/Administrative Information System, Mr. Tropea stated this is a review of Authority activities to implement an improved financial system. He reported that under Mr. Lonnie Wood's leadership, RWSA has abandoned a problematic approach and adopted a lower-cost solution that is performing well at this time and meeting our needs. As this was an informational report, no Board action was required.

In regards to item 5c), Watershed Manager's Report on the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir, Recommendation for updating the reservoir management plan, Mr. Stephen Bowler, Watershed Manager, gave a brief presentation on the draft report. He outlined the contents of the draft report with a focus on: Sedimentation, Nutrients, Land Use and an Overall Look.

Sedimentation: He stated that over the 35-year history of the Reservoir, it is estimated that an average of 15.6 million gallons of storage capacity is lost annually. He added that the annual rate of sedimentation has varied considerably from year to year and that weather conditions may be a big factor in yearly rates.

Nutrients: Mr. Bowler stated that nutrients have been more of a success story. He reported that phosphorus and nitrogen concentrations are down as a result of the Crozet sewage interceptor, the ban on phosphates in detergents and other positive measures.

Highlights on Land Use: Mr. Bowler stated that most of the data on "Land Use" came from the Albemarle County Planning Department. He reported that although the purpose of the 1980 rezoning was to assist in the complementary goals of rural preservation and water quality protection, the trend has been for the conversion of rural land to suburban land use, a decline in farm acreage, and the SFRR Watershed had a growth rate higher than average for designated rural areas but lower than designated growth areas.

Highlights Overall: Mr. Bowler stated that he feels that the SFRR watershed is a microcosm of water quality challenges in the United States. He reported that there have been successes with point source pollution. With sedimentation issues, and the rise of chloride

RWSA Board Minutes

5.0 Other Business Continued

January 28, 2002

concentrations, he concluded that nonpoint source pollution would be the focus of watershed management in the future.

Mr. Bowler recommended to the Board that the 1979 South Fork Rivanna Reservoir plan be updated.

Mr. Tucker asked how this draft ties into an integrated water resource planning approach. Mr. Bowler stated that this document contains some of the elements of integrated resource planning, and it would serve as a foundation upon which to build an integrated water resources plan in the future.

Mr. Collins asked about the feasibility of expanding the scope of this activity and combining the future water supply issue into the proposed Watershed Plan. Mr. Bowler replied that in his opinion he sees the two aligned parallel to each other because of the time dimension of the water supply issue, but over time he would like to see the two fully integrated. Mr. Tropea informed the Board that RWSA would be making a series of recommendations in February on the future water supply issue. He added that one of the recommendations would be to initiate a proactive effort in the watershed to reduce the sediment load to the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir. He further stated that, in his opinion, we will likely find that the main source of that sediment originates from stream banks being eroded during high velocity events.

Mr. Tropea stated that the recommendation to the Board is for RWSA to hold two public meetings on the draft document, come back to the Board in the future with specific recommendations, and outline an action plan for implementation. Mrs. Mueller suggested that this draft report be reviewed by the CAC before holding public meetings. Mrs. Mueller also inquired as to the process RWSA would use to write an updated plan. Mr. Tropea replied that he would recommend that a group be appointed, composed of citizens and staff, to work together to develop the updated plan. In response to a question from Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Tropea responded that future recommendations were placed into Appendix I so as to not discourage public comment or differing ideas from what Mr. Bowler had developed in this report. By consensus, the Board requested more time to review this draft report. Mr. Tropea will bring the report back in the future and will provide it to the CAC in the interim for their review. Mr. Collins complimented Mr. Bowler on behalf of the Board for an excellent job in preparing the report.

RWSA Board Minutes

5.0 Other Business Continued

January 28, 2002

In regards to item 5d), Appointments to Citizens Advisory Committee, upon a motion by Mr. Brent, and seconded by Mr. Tucker, the Board of Directors voted to approve the reappointment of Mr. John Hermsmeier, Ms. Cheryl Gomez, and Mr. Jim Morrisard for an additional two-year term (ending December 31, 2003). All members voted aye.

Mr. Tropea recommended that Mr. Don Franco, who was present at the meeting, be appointed to the CAC to represent the "Development" interest. Mr. Brent noted that the Board sought a nomination from the local developers and real estate community, and Mr. Franco was a former member of the County Engineering staff. Mr. Brent added that Mr. Franco is well versed on public issues and, given the issues facing the group that he represents, feels he will make an excellent addition to the CAC.

Mr. Collins commented on the designation of categories for CAC appointments that, in his opinion, are too narrowly drawn and suggested increasing the flexibility and diversity in appointments to the CAC.

Upon a motion by Mr. Brent, and seconded by Mr. Tucker, the Board of Directors voted to approve the appointment of Mr. Don Franco as the "Development" representative on the RWSA CAC, with a term ending on January 28, 2004. All members voted aye.

In regards to item 5c), Moormans River Flow Augmentation, Mr. Tropea reported that the Board and RWSA received a request to look into reactivating the Mechums River pump station. He stated that the proposal is difficult to evaluate because we do not have all the necessary data to make a sound decision. Mr. Tropea further stated that RWSA does not expect much safe yield advantage for the water supply. He stated that as a demonstration of RWSA's environmental commitment, and as a good community citizen, it is recommended that RWSA contribute 25 percent of the study costs up to \$3,000.00 and suggest that the remaining funding be obtained from individuals and community organizations interested in the Moormans River, who would have an integral role in the study.

In response to a question from Mr. Collins regarding community interest, Mr. Tropea stated that RWSA was initially approached by Mr. Martin, who was not able to attend the Board meeting today. Mr. Tropea further stated that local citizens and organizations that have gone on record in support for additional flow for the Moormans River, could play a key role in generating the remainder of the funding. Mrs. Mueller inquired as to any long-term commitment RWSA may have after the study has been completed and additional costs identified. Mr. Tropea replied that this proposal was not judged to be part of the final strategy for the water supply study. He further stated that RWSA's intent was to be

RWSA Board Minutes
5.0 Other Business Continued
January 28, 2002

responsive to the community and to give this proposal an opportunity to go forward by making this recommendation. As a response to Mrs. Mueller's question on the Department of Environmental Quality involvement (DEQ), Mr. Tropea stated he would recommend that a meeting be scheduled with DEQ to understand the regulatory issues involved before the study proceeds.

Upon a motion by Mr. Brent, and seconded by Mr. Tucker, the Board of Directors voted to approve RWSA funding 25 percent of the study costs up to \$3,000.00 for the Moorman River Flow Augmentation Project. All voted aye.

In regards to item 5f), Draft Environmental Policy, Mr. Tropea stated that he feels it is essential to establish an environmental policy for both the RWSA and RSWA. Further, he stated that it must be prominently displayed in the workplace, and our employees must be trained on the policy. He added that there are some elements contained in it, particularly in the solid waste area, where there are compliance issues, and we are actively working to solve them. Mr. Tropea stated that while we may not currently meet all the elements of the policy, it illustrates our commitment to do the right thing and that he believes our community will understand we are making excellent progress. In response to questions from Mr. Brent and Mrs. Mueller on staff involvement in this process, Mr. Tropea stated that he plans to ask staff to help expand on the elements contained in this policy and he plans to eventually develop an environmental management system. He also stated that once the environmental management system has been developed, it will be brought back to the Board for their approval.

Upon motion by Mr. Tucker, and seconded by Mrs. Mueller, the Board of Directors voted to approve the Draft Environmental Policy. All members voted aye.

6.0 Other Items From Board/Staff Not On Agenda

There were no other items from the staff or the Board.

7.0 Items From The Public

Lois Rochester commended the RWSA Board of Directors on the development of the Environmental Policy and feels it is a step in the right direction.

8.0 Closed Meeting

There was no need for a closed meeting.

**RWSA Board Minutes Continued
January 28, 2002**

9.0 Adjournment

Mr. Tucker made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Brent, to adjourn this meeting at 2:51 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Mr. Robert Tucker
Secretary - Treasurer