

RWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of Regular Meeting
April 22, 2002

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority (RWSA) Board of Directors was held on Monday, April 22, 2002, at 2:02 p.m., in the Conference Room, Administration Building, 200 Franklin Street, Charlottesville, Virginia.

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

Authority staff present: Mr. Lawrence Tropea, Mr. Gene Potter, Mr. Stephen Bowler, Mr. Lonnie Wood, Mr. Bruce Edmonds, 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 Dr. Richard Collins, Chairman, on Monday, April 22, 2002 at 2:02 p.m., and a quorum was present.

2.0 Minutes Of Previous Meeting

Upon a motion by Mrs. Mueller, and seconded by Mr. Brent, the Board of Directors voted to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on Monday, March 25, 2002. The minutes were unanimously approved, with Messrs. O'Connell and Mr. Tucker abstaining due to their absence from that meeting.

3.0 Executive Director's Report

Mr. Tropea wished everyone in attendance a "Happy Earth Day." He stated that the RWSA celebrated the occasion with a tree planting, and the Authority plans to continue that tradition in the future.

RESERVOIR LEVELS: Mr. Tropea reported that the water demand reached over 12 million gallons per day last Tuesday versus an average of 10.4 million gallons per day the previous week. He further stated that the reservoir levels were at 93 percent of capacity and that both the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir and the Sugar Hollow Reservoir were full. He added that the Ragged Mountain Reservoir is now down about six (6) feet. Mr. Tropea cautioned that the 93 percent figure is still low for this time of year, as we should be at 100 percent reservoir capacity as we approach the peak water demand season. He urged citizens

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to heed the water conservation message being delivered by the City of Charlottesville and the Albemarle County Service Authority.

FUTURE WATER SUPPLY RECOMMENDATION: Mr. Tropea encouraged citizens to attend the public hearing to be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 1, 2002, at the Monticello High School concerning the Future Water Supply Recommendation. He stated that although the actual hearing starts at 7:00 p.m., beginning at 6:00 p.m., attendees would be able to view displays, have questions answered by RWSA staff, and sign up to speak at the hearing. He added that, in his opinion, the decisions reached through this process could potentially impact the quality of life and the economic future of our area.

WOOLEN MILLS RIVERVIEW PUMP STATION: Mr. Tropea reported that on April 18, 2002, Mr. Potter, Dr. Collins and he attended a Woolen Mills community meeting. He stated that he thought it was a productive meeting, which included an honest exchange of ideas among the participants, who expressed a strong concern over the long standing odor and the aesthetics of the Riverview pump station. Mr. Tropea added that although the RWSA did install odor control technology at the pump station several years ago, which did help abate the odors, there remains an odor issue that needs to be addressed further. He recommended that an in-depth study be conducted to better understand the odor situation and evaluate technology choices that might be available to further reduce odors. He welcomed the Woolen Mill Community residents in attendance at today's Board meeting and stated that the RWSA would be open to any comments and suggestions they might offer during the public comment segment of the meeting.

TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHMs): Mr. Tropea reported that the RWSA has been in discussion during the past few weeks with the State Health Department concerning Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) in drinking water. He commented that TTHMs are a disinfection byproduct created when chlorine is used to disinfect drinking water. Mr. Tropea stated that the results of water samples taken by the Health Department at the Crozet and Scottsville water treatment plants indicated apparent higher than historical levels of TTHMs which exceeded standards. However, he noted that the State Health Department's samples had been held in excess of mandated sample holding times, which invalidated the results. Mr. Tropea commented that RWSA has proceeded to resampling the Crozet and Scottsville drinking water, and the results indicated that both systems are in compliance. He noted that we have provided our results to the State Health Department, and they agree that our data is valid.

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4.0 Consent Agenda

Dr. Collins asked if there were any items that the Board members would like to pull for discussion regarding the Consent Agenda.

- 4a) Staff Report on Finance
- 4b) Staff Report on Operations
- 4c) Report of Ongoing Projects
- 4d) Staff Report on Employee Safety
- 4e) Watershed Manager's Report
- 4f) Approval to Advertise for Environmental & Safety Manager Position (FY 2003 Budget)

In regards to Item 4a), Staff Report on Finance, Mr. Tropea responded to a question from Mrs. Mueller regarding RWSA strategies regarding the current budget deficit. He stated that the budget deficits generally resulted from reduced wastewater flows and lower than anticipated water demand. He further stated that although RWSA has reduced expenses by 5 percent, it cannot cover the revenue deficit and the Authority may need to explore other funding options. Mr. Wood added that there are currently insufficient reserve funds to handle fluctuations of this size in the budget.

Dr. Collins commented on the dilemma created by the negative fiscal consequences that occur as a result of successfully promoting water conservation efforts in the community.

The Board recommended that RWSA staff meet with Mrs. Mueller and Mr. Brent within the next 30 days to discuss the deficit in further detail, devise strategies to deal with it and have a report for the May meeting.

In regards to Item 4f), Approval to Advertise for the Environmental & Safety Manager Position (FY 2003 Budget), Mr. Brent questioned the need to advertise for the position prior to the public hearing on the budget and whether an MBA degree was needed. Mr. Tropea stated that due to the lengthy time frame involved in the selection process and the critical need for this position in both Authorities, he felt it was necessary to advertise before July 1, 2002.

Mr. Brent made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Mueller, to deny the request until after the public hearing on the budget is held in May. After further discussion, Mr. Brent withdrew his motion and the Board authorized RWSA to advertise for the position but wait until after the public hearing on May 20, 2002 before proceeding with the interview process.

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Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, and seconded by Mrs. Mueller, the Board of Directors voted to approve Items 4a), b), c), d), e) and f) of the Consent Agenda. All members voted aye.

5.0 Other Business

In regards to Item 5a1), the Approved Minutes of the March 13, 2002 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting were accepted. There were no actions required by the Board.

In regards to 5a2), Committee Comments on Draft South Fork Rivanna Reservoir Report, Mr. Tropea stated that the Citizens Advisory Committee did meet with Stephen Bowler to review the draft report, as requested by the Board, and they have submitted the comments provided in the Board book. The Board thanked the Citizens Advisory Committee for their work and commended Mr. Stephen Bowler for his excellent report. Mrs. Mueller recommended that an executive summary of the report also be prepared and distributed prior to setting a date for a public hearing in order to maximize citizen understanding of the issues and participation at the hearing. Mr. Bowler agreed to prepare an executive summary of the draft report.

Ms. Michele Mattioli, Vice Chairperson of the Citizens Advisory Committee reported that the Committee met with Mr. Stephen Bowler twice in the process of reviewing the report and wanted to highlight the following three points:

1. The Citizens Advisory Committee is in support of this draft report in concept and understands that the report would be edited to facilitate public understanding;
2. The Citizens Advisory Committee is recommending that a new watershed plan be developed as recommended in the report; and,
3. The Citizens Advisory Committee feels that all stakeholders should be given the opportunity to participate in the process of developing the new plan, which should also include those parties that would implement it.

In regards to Item 5b), Request for Public Hearing on Draft South Fork Rivanna Reservoir Report, Mr. Tropea stated that after Mr. Bowler has prepared the executive summary, RWSA is requesting Board approval for a public hearing to obtain citizen input. He further stated that comments generated at the hearing would be brought back to the Board with a recommendation. Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, and seconded by Mr. O'Connell, the Board voted to authorize RWSA to schedule a public hearing on the draft report once Mr. Bowler has completed the executive summary. All members voted aye.

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6.0 Other Items From Board/Staff Not On Agenda

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

7.0 Items From The Public

Mr. Fran Lawrence, 1729 Chesapeake Street, stated that since about 1980 there have been complaints regarding the high visibility and the smell from the Riverview pump station. He further stated that around 1989, a charcoal filter device was installed, which did not seem to be very effective. Mr. Lawrence informed the Board that in 1994 concerned citizens met concerning this issue, which led to the formation of the present Woolen Mills organization in 1995. He added that in 1995, the City's representative, Mr. Cole Hendrix, met with the group and stated that the odor problem needed to be resolved and that it was the City's position that the pump station should not have a negative impact on the neighborhood. Mr. Lawrence concluded his comments by urging the RWSA to continue their commitment to the neighborhood and to investigate other odor control technology, as the present system is not working.

Ms. Allison Ewing, 1900 Chesapeake Street, stated that she and her husband built a house adjacent to the pumping station several years ago and are often reminded of the pumping station's presence when sitting on their deck or when opening windows in their home. She further stated that the Association's goal is to have no perceived presence of the pumping station through the complete elimination of odors, 100 percent screening of the pumping station and associated equipment, and the addition of security fencing or other physical improvements related to the facility. She related other concerns, such as exposure to hydrogen sulfide emissions, odors at levels from unpleasant to unbearable, the pump station's unsightly appearance which detracts from the historic character of the neighborhood, lessening of the value of the adjacent park, that property values within a 200 foot radius are negatively impacted by 5-10 percent, and the Woolen Mills neighborhood's perception that it bears an unfair burden of the City and County's sewage problem.

Ms. Patricia Shields, 1804 Chesapeake Street, distributed copies of a letter (attached) to the Board, which contained additional information from the previous letter faxed to Mr. Tropea. She stated that this is an opportunity for the Board and RWSA to make good on a promise made seven (7) years ago to the neighborhood to abate the odor problem in the Woolen Mills neighborhood. She further stated that she has conducted research on the current odor control system in place at the pump station and found there are better solutions available to address this odor problem. Ms. Shields explained how the present system worked and outlined the limitations of the existing technology, such as the system's inability to regulate the temperature, humidity and air pressure throughout the system. She stated that the problems could be solved by changing the system into an aboveground, self-contained biotechnology

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system which would better combat odors and which is affordable to the Authority. Ms. Shields also offered a petition with over 100 signatures, obtained during a three-day time period, as evidence of the community's concern for this issue. She concluded that it is an opportunity for the Authority to start a new relationship with the residents of Woolen Mills that is beneficial to both parties.

Mr. Chris Hayes, 1900 Chesapeake Street, stated that at last Thursday's Woolen Mills Association meeting, it was decided to bring forward recommendations for aesthetic improvements to the pump station. He added that in light of the RSWA commitment to study alternate systems, it did not seem appropriate at this time to propose visual changes to the present system. He offered the Association's assistance during the study process and stated that the aesthetic issues should be addressed as part of the scope of the study.

Ms. Michele Mattioli, 1404 E. Market Street, stated that although she lives further away from the pump station than some of her neighbors, she has often been made aware of the odor. She further stated that she tried to follow the guidelines given to her by the Authority to call the night operator whenever odor was detected, but that it was not always feasible nor did she see a big difference after appropriate RWSA staff had been notified. She acknowledged RWSA's efforts to resolve the problem, but she felt that a new system was needed to reduce the noxious odor.

Mr. Tropea stated that the RWSA would like the Woolen Mills Association to identify three residents who would be the contacts for a continuing discussion on the issues. He further stated that RWSA wants to be a good neighbor and acknowledged that there is a legitimate odor concern. He recommended that \$20,000 earmarked for building improvements be used to conduct an engineering study on the entire interceptor, since the optimal solution may lie with a series of activities versus concentrating only on the pump station. In response to a question from Dr. Collins, Mr. Tropea responded that he estimated that it would take about six months to complete the study of available technology. Mr. Potter added that Ms. Shields' analysis of the modes of failure of the existing in-ground biofilter were correct and consistent with RWSA experience. Mr. O'Connell commented on the need to look at future equipment funding needs now to ensure timely implementation of solutions identified by the study. Mr. Brent received clarification that the engineering study would be included in the Capital Improvements Plan budget to be acted on at the May Board meeting.

Mr. Kevin Sauer, Head Coach – University of Virginia Women's Rowing Team, spoke on behalf of Mr. Tony Kilbrodige, Head Coach – Virginia Rowing Association, and Mr. Tom Jones, President – Rivanna Rowing Club, who also were in attendance, to request an

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extension of their permit to use non-electric powered launches on the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir. He stated that the existing permit expires in April, 2002. Mr. Sauer informed the Board that the University is committed to converting to electric boat technology whenever that equipment is proven to sustain speeds sufficient to support their coaching needs. Mr. Tropea stated that RWSA has no objection to extending the permit for a one-year period.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tucker, and seconded by Mrs. Mueller, the Board voted to approve extending the existing permit for one year, with the understanding that the University of Virginia Rowing Club would continue to diligently research non-gasoline powered craft and the use of low wake launches. The Board also requested that the University submit a written report on its research and the potential budgeting support to be utilized in the evaluation of any future request for a permit extension. All members voted aye.

8.0 Closed Meeting

There was no need for a closed meeting.

9.0 Adjournment

Mr. Tucker made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Mueller, to adjourn this meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Mr. Robert Tucker
Secretary - Treasurer