

**CHARLOTTE WATER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 15, 2018**

Charlotte Water Advisory Committee met Thursday, November 15th, 2:30 pm at 5301 Closeburn Rd, Charlotte, NC

Members Present: Barbara Bleiweis, Leslie Jones, William Royal, Frank McMahan

Members Absent: Dorian Carter, Barry Webb

Staff Present:	Angela Lee	Director
	Ron Hargrove	Deputy Director
	Carl Wilson	Chief Engineer
	Chad Howell	Chief Financial Officer
	Will Rice	Engineering Project Manager
	Keri Cantrell	Chief Engineer
	Billy Allen	Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor
	Frederica Love	Administrative Officer II
	Karen Weatherly	Senior Assistant City Attorney
	Jason Bromirski	Senior Engineer

Safety Minute

Don't Follow Too Closely

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Leslie Jones, and seconded by Barbara Bleiweis, to approve the October 2018 minutes. Motion was approved.

Budget Status

From a revenue perspective, the department is under collecting based on trends over the past 3 years due to the two hurricanes this season. The Business office is actively tracking water usage tiers and both consumption and revenue are down. On the other hand, construction is still occurring and new accounts are still being created. The Business office has also asked the rate consultant to assume that all tiers are held flat with no growth to help future planning. On the expenses side, the department is under budget because PAYGO and interest payments have not come out yet.

The Business office must submit the CIP and Operating budget to the City by Dec. 7th.

CBI Reorganization and Business Inclusion Consultant

Since the last presentation to the Advisory Committee, the CBI office has moved to Management and Financial Services. The department has hired LaPronda Spann as the Business Inclusion Consultant to increase MSWBE participation on design build projects. Lane Consulting will assist with public outreach and engagement to reach small business are interesting in working with Charlotte Water and can assist with providing the department's specialized services. Ms. Spann will help businesses through the long process of becoming an eligible MSWBE at no charge to them. The CBI office sends out a 90-60-30 day

letter to existing small businesses that they already work with to let them know when their certifications will expire so they can reapply and continue to qualify for contract work.

Work with Water Event

This is a free networking event that will be hosted by Charlotte Water to help construction firms, engineering vendors, and other certified firms become certified to do business with the department. The event will take place on Dec. 14th from 8 am to 11 am.

Vest Rehabilitation Project

Built in 1924 and located on Beatties Ford Road, the Vest Water Treatment Plant currently has a 24 mgd capacity, with an average of 106 mgp pumped. This was the first plant in the Southeast to apply fluoride to a public water system in 1949, and has been deemed a historical water facility and an AWWA Landmark in 1990.

In 2015, Black and Veatch restored the treatment module building and provided other upgrades throughout the plant. The department would like to make more upgrades in the future and will start advertising bids in December. In January 2019, all bids from interested contractors should be in, notice to proceed will be issued in Summer 2019, and hopefully the estimated \$30 million construction project will be completed by Summer 2021.

NCAWWA-WEA Annual Conference Award

The annual state conference took place in Raleigh, where the department won several awards including Wastewater Collection System of the Year. The Operations Team won first place in the extremely competitive state competition and will compete nationally in Chicago in 2019. Marion Sanders received the prestigious Red Ebert award for water and wastewater operations, and Deputy Director Ron Hargrove received the Golden Shovel for work in the association and industry. At the national conference, the department was awarded the Utility of the Future award that was presented to City Manager Marcus Jones; this award is for energy excellence and is a collaboration between several industry organizations. In addition, the department received a renewal for Partnership for Safe Water, which means that the department is continuing to improve systems holistically through the utility.

Open Discussion

1. Billy Allen, Sugar Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor, provided an overview of the plant. The plant is a historic site built in 1927 to originally treat 3 mgd. It was one of the first activated sludge process plants on the East Coast. The plant is now permitted to treat 20 mgd with 16 employees on staff, and has received a Silver or Gold NC-AWWA award since the early 1990s for less than 5 or no permit violations.
2. The December meeting has been cancelled.

Meeting Adjourned – 3:49 pm

KCJ