

**CHARLOTTE WATER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
August 16th, 2018**

Charlotte Water Advisory Committee met Thursday, August 16th, 2:30 pm at 4222 Westmont Drive, Charlotte, NC.

Members Present: Barbara Bleiweis, Leslie Jones, Scott Baker, Barry Webb, William Royal

Members Absent: Frank McMahan, Dorian Carter

Staff Present:	Angela Lee	Director
	Ron Hargrove	Deputy Director
	Carl Wilson	Chief Engineer
	Keri Cantrell	Chief Engineer
	David Czerr	Deputy Director
	Shawn Coffman	Deputy Director
	Gina Kimble	Lab Supervisor
	Bill Gintert	Environmental Compliance Manager

Safety Minute

Basic Housekeeping Practices

Introduction of New Member

Scott Baker was appointed to the committee by the Mayor in June 2018. He will serve on the committee through December 13, 2021.

Approval of Minutes

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

Budget Status

For FY18, revenues and expenses may be slightly adjusted as the Business team finishes the annual report. Revenues were more than expected, and expenses were less than expected, leaving money to the fund balance for PAYGO to be used on capital programs.

For July, the first month in FY19, operating revenues were slightly lower than expected, as well as expenses, but the Business team is positive that the month will be positive.

Facility Plan

Roughly two years ago, C Design Inc. completed a space needs assessment for the department, as space is limited for employees across the 17 different locations. The space needs assessment suggested a consolidation at the Brookshire location due to the large amount of property and proximity to Uptown. In the interim, construction is being done to expand parking and modular units will be placed onsite to house more positions on a temporary basis. C Design Inc. also found that the department currently has enough space for present employees, but will not be able to meet the needs for growth and additional support staff.

Zone 4 in Field Operations is in need of a new building. The department tried working with City Real Estate to find available sites on the market, however, none of the locations toured were suitable. Zoning was also an issue, as Zone 4 requires I-2 zoning designation, which the sites toured did not have. The department is currently in the concept phase to construct a new building in the current location; an RFP was sent out and Rodgers Builders, Inc. was selected as the Construction Manager at Risk.

Update on Belmont/Mt. Holly

Several studies and feasibility analyses were performed to determine if it was better to treat wastewater near its origin or pump it to McAlpine WWTP in Pineville; decided to construct a new WWTP at the Long Creek property. The department purchased NPDES permits from Belmont and Mt. Holly a few years ago, which will allow the department to treat their flows for nutrients.

Since 2006, the department has worked to perform a feasibility study, worked through agreements with Belmont and Mt. Holly, received land agreements from Clariant, completed an environmental impact statement and a preliminary engineering report, applied for Long Creek NPDES permit, and finalized the nutrient trading agreements. The department is currently waiting on the state to issue new permits to Belmont and Mt. Holly. On September 10th, City Council will review the inter local agreement with Mt. Holly and will be going over the Belmont inter local agreements in winter 2019. The Mt. Holly River Connection will happen around Dec. 2020, and the plant will be finished by 2023.

Updating on Permitting Process

Several departments within the City are responsible for handling land development projects, which have been increasing due to the growing economy. Last year, Charlotte Water added staff in the middle of the year to the IDS division, which is responsible for handling all new pipes that are donated by developers. Recently, the City Manager put together a small focus group of those inside and outside of the City to improve the permitting process. The enhanced process started in March of this year, which allows developers to pay an additional fee for better access to City departments to get issues resolved faster and more effectively. On August 24th, an open session will be conducted for community members to get a better understanding of the new process and provide any additional feedback that may be helpful.

Introduction to Emerging Contaminants

Water contaminants have been in the news recently. The lab does extensive testing at water intake and water treatment plants to determine if there is anything that is not being treated effectively. The EPA has monitoring requirements for certain contaminants; every few years, the lab has a list of parameters that they must test for to see how extensive some contaminants are in the water system. The lab also tests for contaminants they are not required to just to ensure water safety. After the results are generated, the lab will determine how to best handle the possible contaminant. Contaminants that the lab is currently seeing are GenX, which is common within the state, and PFOA, which comes from Teflon pans, rain jackets, and plastics.

Open Discussion

1. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools are doing lead testing of water in their schools and Charlotte Water has offered lab services to help them collect and test samples.
2. The Communications team is working on an initiative to Discovery Place Educators for CMS schools and finalizing the FY18 Facts and Figures document.

Meeting Adjourned – 3:54 pm

KCJ