

Minutes of a Regular Meeting
Board of Commissioners
Central Arkansas Water

October 8, 2015

The Board of Commissioners of Central Arkansas Water (CAW), convened in a regular meeting at 2 p.m. on Thursday, October 8, 2015, in the Board Room of the James T. Harvey Administration Building located at 221 East Capitol Avenue in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Present:

Dr. Roby Robertson, Chair
Mr. Anthony Kendall, Vice Chair
Mr. Jay Hartman, Secretary/Treasurer
Ms. Carmen Smith, Commissioner
Mr. John Braune, Commissioner
Ms. Marie-Bernarde Miller, Commissioner
Mr. Eddie Powell, Commissioner

CAW Staff in Attendance:

Mr. Graham Rich, P.E., Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Thad Luther, P.E., Chief Operating Officer
Mr. Tad Bohannon, Chief Legal Counsel
Mr. Robert Hart, P.E., Technical Services Officer
Mr. Jeff Mascagni, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Dale Kimbrow, Manager of Planning, Regionalism & Future Water Source
Mr. John Tynan, Director of Customer Relations & Public Affairs
Mr. Jim Ferguson, P.E., Director of Engineering
Mr. Randy Easley, Director of Water Quality & Operations
Ms. Raven Lawson, Watershed Protection Manager
Ms. Deena Coston, Controller
Mr. Todd Fisher, Finance Manager
Ms. Mary Dyson, Management Secretary

Also in Attendance:

Mr. Jake Sandlin, Reporter, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
Mr. Barry Haas, Audubon Society of Central Arkansas, Inc.
Ms. Kathleen Oleson, League of Women Voters of Pulaski County
Ms. Kathy Wells, Coalition of Greater Little Rock Neighborhoods
Mr. Bernie Hochstetter, Citizen
Ms. Mary Carol Poole, Paschall Strategic Communications

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Robertson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Braune, the minutes of the September 10, 2015 Regular Meeting were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Consolidation with Maumelle Water Management (WMA)

Mr. Bohannon updated the Board on the consolidation with MWM. Mr. Bohannon requested Board approval of two Resolutions: one stating CAW's intent to issue bonds related to the consolidation with MWM and one adopting rates for customers within MWM's service territory during the Transition Period.

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Miller, after due consideration and discussion, the Resolution stating CAW's intent to issue bonds related to the consolidation with MWM, was unanimously approved.

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Powell, after due consideration and discussion, the Resolution adopting rates for customers within MWM's service territory during the Transition Period, was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of Draft 2016 Financial Plan

Mr. Rich presented a brief summary on CAW's Operating Expenses.

Mr. Mascagni presented a draft of the 2016 Financial Plan and stated that no action was required at this meeting. He said that the final version of the plan would be presented for consideration at the November Board Meeting.

Proposed Increase in the Watershed Protection Fee

Mr. Haas, representing the Audubon Society of Central Arkansas along with the Sierra Club-Central Arkansas Group and Coalition of Greater Little Rock Neighborhoods, presented a request to increase the WPF by fifteen cents per month, from forty-five cents to sixty cents per month, to demonstrate ratepayer support for increased funding to acquire watershed land, secure conservation easements, and other water quality protection purposes. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Rich stated he would meet with Mr. Haas and members of supporting groups, before the November Board Meeting, to further discuss this request. No action was required at this meeting.

CONTRACTS/PURCHASE

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Smith, and seconded by Commissioner Miller, after due consideration and discussion, a contract in the amount of \$128,228 with Carollo Engineers to inspect the intake structures at Lake Winona, Lake Maumelle, and the Jackson Reservoir, was unanimously approved.

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Kendall, and seconded by Commissioner Braune, after due consideration and discussion, a total project cost in the amount of \$52,144.82 to install energy efficient LED light fixtures at the Clearwater Maintenance Facility was approved. All Electric Supply, Inc. submitted the lowest bid on the fixtures, \$38,947.32, and Eagle Electric submitted a low bid of \$13,197.50 for installation.

Commissioner Hartman abstained from this discussion and vote due to a conflict of interest.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Customer Relations and Public Affairs

Mr. Tynan provided an update on utility public affairs and customer relations.

Water Quality & Operations

Ms. Lawson provided an update on matters pertaining to the watershed.

Regionalism

Mr. Kimbrow had no updates on matters pertaining to regionalism.

Finance

Mr. Mascagni provided a year-to-date financial update on utility operations.

BOARD BRIEFING

Mr. Rich provided an update on the following:

- Lake Maumelle is 2.8 feet below the spillway and Lake Winona is 5.5 feet below the spillway.
- Reiterate that we will ask for approval of the 2016 Financial Plan and tentatively plan to present rates for 2017, 2018, and 2019, at the November Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Powell, and seconded by Commissioner Braune, the meeting was adjourned.



Jay Hartman, Secretary/Treasurer