

UPPER OCONEE BASIN WATER AUTHORITY  
NEGRC HEADQUARTERS  
E.H. CULPEPPER CONFERENCE ROOM  
JANUARY 26, 2011  
9:30 A.M.

MINUTES

Members Present:

Melvin Davis  
Elton Collins  
Eric Klerk  
Hunter Bicknell  
Bob Snipes  
Chris Thomas  
Myron Garrett  
Danny Yearwood

Alternates Present:

Gary Duck  
Harry Sims\*  
Jim Luke  
Mark Whiddon

\*Representing Mayor Nancy Denson

Others Present:

Jim Dove, NEGRC Executive Director  
Mott Beck, NEGRC Executive Assistant  
Evans Brinson, NEGRC Comptroller  
Kirby Atkinson, Atkinson & Cullen  
Hill Baughman, JJG Services, Inc.  
Ken Moore, JJG Services, Inc.  
Charles Mann, JJG Services, Inc.  
Gina Mitsdarffer, Jackson County  
Ricky Sanders, Jackson County

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2010 MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Melvin Davis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2010 meeting. Such a motion was made by Mr. Bob Snipes and seconded by Mr. Harry Sims. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

At this time, NEGRC Comptroller Evans Brinson gave the financial report. The total liabilities and fund balance for the month ending December 31, 2010 were \$63,393,818. A motion to approve the financial report as presented was made by Mr. Elton Collins and seconded by Commissioner Hunter Bicknell. The motion passed unanimously.

## **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

At the December meeting, Operations Committee members discussed the feasibility of installing Solarbee circulators in the reservoir. They would be beneficial at all times, but especially during a drought. Staff has been in touch with the manufacturer, and additional information will be presented at the February meeting.

Operations Committee Chairman Chris Thomas advised the Authority that Oconee County will be renewing its contract to sale water to Walton County. This water is taken from County wells and does not impact the Bear Creek Reservoir.

## **REPORT ON A RECREATION RELATED MATTER**

At this time, Recreation Committee Chairman Jim Luke advised the Authority of a recent request received via e-mail. Mr. Ron Ellwood, a competitive swimmer, requested that the Authority consider issuing a Special Permit that would allow him to have a "one-time swim" across the Reservoir. Legal Counsel researched documents, specifically the Reservoir Management Plan as approved by EPD, and they all state that swimming will not be allowed in the Reservoir. Furthermore, honoring this request could jeopardize the Authority's permit. It is the recommendation of the Recreation Committee to deny the request, and Authority members affirmed the recommendation by consensus. NEGRC Executive Director Jim Dove will forward a letter to Mr. Ellwood advising him of the Authority's decision.

## **YEAR-END REPORT – BEAR CREEK BOATING AND FISHING**

The next item on the agenda was a year-end report by Jackson County Recreation Director Ricky Sanders on Bear Creek boating and fishing. In 2010, there were 2,706 boats that entered the recreation area, and 4,393 visitors. Total revenues for the year totaled \$19,721.00, and the total operating cost for 2010 was \$24,045.86. This resulted in a deficit of \$4,254.31, and each County will forward \$1,063.58 to Jackson County to cover this deficit. Mr. Sanders feels that the increase in fees for boating and fishing will alleviate future deficits (as approved by the Authority at its November 17, 2010 meeting). On a related matter, participating counties have approved the construction of a walkway and small dock at the recreation area; and when Legal Counsel completes the amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement for Recreation Management, Jackson County will begin construction on this project.

## **OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT**

Staff advised that operations of the facility are normal and in compliance with EPD rules and regulations. The reservoir level continues at full pool, and the average treated water flow is 6 MGD. Mr. Hill Baughman introduced Mr. Charles Mann, a new operator at the treatment plant. All routine maintenance has been completed; and annual bids for cost of chemicals are at or below last year. Mr. Baughman commended staff for their cooperation and performance during the recent ice storm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At this time, a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation was made by Mr. Collins and seconded by Mr. Harry Sims. The motion passed unanimously.

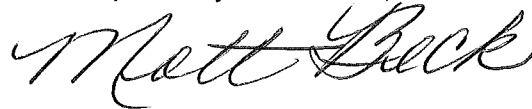
**OTHER BUSINESS**

After General Session resumed, Chairman Davis advised that the next meeting will be held on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. No action was taken in Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martha Beck".

Martha "Mott" Beck  
Executive Assistant