

**Joint Engineering/Operations Committee Meeting  
UPPER OCONEE BASIN WATER AUTHORITY  
Bear Creek Water Treatment Plant Conference Room  
October 12, 2016  
1:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Wayne Haynie  
Eric Klerk  
Joey Leslie  
Mike Renshaw  
Frank Stephens

**Members Absent:**

Joe Goodman  
Mark Saxon  
Blaine Williams

**Alternates Present:**

**Others Present:**

Chip Ferguson, Atkinson Ferguson  
Bob Snipes, Owner's Representative  
Brad Lanning, Jacobs  
Chris Adams, Jacobs

**CALL TO ORDER**

Engineering Committee Chairman Wayne Haynie called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. He advised that the purpose of the meeting was to a) discuss and make recommendations related to the October update to the Water Supply Model, b) discuss and make recommendations related to permit applications, from Bridget & Jim Millar, for activities within the Reservoir Shoreline Area adjacent to 438 Bear Cub Way, c) reservoir area code enforcement, and d) water demand forecasts for Oconee County and the Bear Creek Treatment Plant capacity.

**DISCUSSION OF UPDATED WATER SUPPLY MODEL FOR OCT- DEC 2016**

Committee Chairman Haynie asked that Bob Snipes and Chris Adams review the updated Water Supply Model for the October – December time period. This review noted that the Model indicates that the Drought Severity is currently at Stage C1. However, the Model did not indicate a need to implement water use reduction measures given that the reservoir is projected to remain approximately 85% plus full through the drought protection period.

**After review of the Water Supply Model outputs and related discussion, the Joint Committee unanimously approved the following recommendations to the Authority:**

- a) Accept the Model outputs regarding the Drought Severity Stage and projected minimum reservoir level, and**
- b) No public declaration of the current Drought Severity Stage is necessary in consideration of the previous action by the Authority and that no water use reduction is called for by the Model.**

### **REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS TO CONDUCT ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE RESERVOIR SHORELINE AREA**

On September 23, 2016, Jim and Bridgett Millar, of 438 Bear Cub Way, submitted applications for a “Specific Act Permit” to 1) remove several fallen trees, 2) remove 2 dead trees, 3) to remove a tree that will experience root damage as a result of the construction of a septic tank, and 4) construct an unpaved footpath from the yard of the residence to the reservoir and a “Project Shoreline Area Use Permit” for 1) periodic maintenance of the unpaved footpath, and 2) periodic minor limbing up trees and maintenance of underbrush.

**After review and discussion of the permit applications, the Committee unanimously approved a motion by Frank Stephens, and seconded by Mike Renshaw, that the Authority approve both permit applications with the following special conditions:**

#### **Specific Act Permit (Permit No. 2016-1)**

- a) All work must be completed within 120 days from the date of approval by the Authority.
- b) The footpath cannot be of an impervious surface.
- c) All limitations on activities within the Reservoir Shoreline Area as outlined in Section 9.04 – Specific Land Use Practices of the Reservoir Management Plan, other than those specifically authorized by this permit, continue to apply.

#### **Shoreline Area Use Permit (Permit No. 2016-2)**

- a) Permit will expire 3 years from the date of approval by the Authority. If approved by the Authority at the November 16, 2016 meeting, the subject permit will expire on November 15, 2019.
- b) All limitations on activities within the Reservoir Shoreline Area as outlined in Section 9.04 – Specific Land Use Practices of the Reservoir Management Plan, other than those specifically authorized by this permit, continue to apply.

## **DISCUSSION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT IN AREAS ADJACENT TO RESERVIOR**

Brad Lanning asked that he be advised of the proper agency that should be contacted in the event treatment plant/reservoir management staff note code violations in areas adjacent to the reservoir. He noted that this topic had not been discussed since he has been in his current role as the "Contractor's Representative".

Eric Klerk and Joey Leslie of the Jackson County Water & Sewer Authority, along with Authority Attorney Chip Ferguson, advised the Committee that the Jackson County government had agreed to handle code enforcement in areas adjacent to the reservoir. **After discussion of this topic and identification of the proper Jackson County staff to contact regarding such concerns, the Committee took no further action on this topic.**

## **FUTURE SOURCES OF TREATMENT PLANT CAPACITY FOR OCONEE COUNTY**

Wayne Haynie opened discussion on this topic by reviewing the Oconee County water use forecasts that have been developed as part of that County's planning process. He noted that these projections indicate that Oconee County may be approaching that County's entitlement share of the treatment plant capacity in the near future. In fact, at times in the summer of 2016, Oconee County approached its 4 MGD allocation.

Further, he noted that it may be of mutual benefit for members of the Water Treatment Intergovernmental Agreement to consider an arrangement that would allow Oconee to acquire under the terms of the IGA, perhaps through a leasing arrangement, treatment plant capacity from Barrow and/or Jackson County for a defined duration of time. He noted that such an arrangement might assist Barrow and Jackson Counties in meeting their debt service payments by using lease payments from Oconee County until such time that an expansion of the treatment plant capacity might be useful to all participants.

**After discussion of this topic, the Committee unanimously approved a motion by Mike Renshaw, and seconded by Eric Klerk, to recommend to the Authority that more detailed consideration of such a proposal would be appropriate to determine the possible level of interest by member counties and to more specifically identify and evaluate the parameters of a possible amendment to the Water Treatment Intergovernmental Agreement. The Committee also agreed to recommend to the Authority that it authorize the Authority's Attorney, Owner's Representative, and other appropriate staff to participate in discussions of this topic and possible preparation of related documents.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Snipes, P.E.  
Owner's Representative