**Hart County Water & Sewer Authority**

**Board of Directors Meeting September 15, 2014**

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met September 15, 2014, in the Hart County Cooperative Extension Service Building. Chairman Hugh Holland called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with Vice Chairman Wade Carlton, Member Mike MacNabb, Member Jerry Cannady, Director Pat Goran, Legal Counsel Walter Gordon, and Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Breffle present. Also present were Lake Morris of The Hartwell Sun, Russ Brink and Jerry Hood of EMI, and Hart County residents Patti Brown and Kenny York. Member Larry Haley was absent.

Approval of agenda

Mr. Holland asked to reorder “Request for water service—Mt Hebron Road chicken farmer(s)” to the first item of Old Business. Mr. MacNabb made a motion to approve the amended agenda and Mr. Cannady seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of August 18th regular meeting minutes

Mr. Cannady asked to amend the minutes to include “Mr. Cannady abstained because he was not present at the July meeting”. Mr. MacNabb made a motion to approve the amended minutes and Mr. Cannady seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

Financial report

Mr. Goran presented the financial report. After some discussion, the Board requested the financials presented to them to represent only operating cash flow of HCWSA.

Old business

Request for water service – Mt. Hebron Road chicken farmer(s)

The farmers on Mt. Hebron Rd agreed to purchase a total of 1,250,000 gallons per year for a minimum of 5 years once the waterline is extended to their property. Mr. York and the Board agreed to his needing a 2” water meter.

Nancy Hart School Road Area 2013 CDBG project

Mr. Goran updated the Board that he was still working on completing this project with the final few private roads and the necessary easements.

Lightwood Road project

Mr. Goran reported that this project was complete except for two residential water taps. Mr. Goran stated that this was the last time this item would be on the agenda.

Airline area water tank / connector project

Mr. Goran updated the Board that EMI and he were still designing the booster pumps but should be out to bid soon. He further stated that he was still waiting on information from Hartwell Railroad. Mr. Terrell Partain, Hart County EMS director, had installed all necessary brackets for any future Hart County EMS communication antennas on the Airline Tank. The Board asked Mr. Goran to investigate the possibility of renting space on the tank for other antennas.

Additional connection to City of Hartwell's water system near trestle bridge

Mr. Goran informed the Board that the connection was complete and that he had set the PRV slightly below the City of Hartwell’s pressure so water from Lavonia would only be used during fire flows or high demand times. He further stated that this item would be removed from future agenda and that the booster pump station would be reported under Airline area water tank/connector project.

2014 GEFA project

After discussions about the terms of the loan, Mr. MacNabb made a motion to proceed with a maximum of a $2 million loan with a maximum of $500,000 principal forgiveness at an interest rate of .52% for 10 years. Mr. Cannady seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

2015 Community Development Block Grant application – potential target areas

Mr. Goran suggested proceeding with this application with a target area along Reed Creek and some of the side roads with 98 potential homes. Mr. Goran asked for an engineering quote from EMI for both the application work and for the entire project.

Proposed fiscal year 2015 operating budget

Mr. MacNabb made a motion to approve offering employees vision, dental, and life insurance through Hart County’s current policy.

Mr. Cannady made a motion to accept the proposed FY15 budget and Mr. MacNabb seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

Review and discussion of Authority rates and policies, including residential tap fees

Mr. Cannady made a motion to reduce the ¾” residential tap fee to $1100 and $900 during construction. The motion died for lack of a second.

New business

Request for water service – Griffin Road / Roper Road chicken farmers

Mr. Goran explained that some residents in the area had contacted him regarding this. The Board directed him to remove from the agenda until they contacted the Board.

Consideration of radio-read meters on new line installations

Mr. Cannady asked the Board to consider the possibility of installing radio read meters in the future on all new waterlines. In addition, he offered to investigate the options and let the Board know his findings.

Discussion of sewer master plan

Mr. Cannady asked for Hugh Holland, Pat Goran, and he meet to discuss the possibility of a sewer agreement with the City of Hartwell and the City of Royston. They also agreed to discuss the possible capacity from each. Mr. Goran agreed to present their ideas at the next meeting.

Discussion of in-house pipe-laying crew

Mr. Cannady informed the Board that he had met with Hart County Sherriff Mike Cleveland regarding finding used equipment. He further informed the Board that after speaking with Hart County Administrator Jon Caime that Mr. Caime agreed to assist HCWSA to find the funding needed to purchase waterline pipes for the crew to install.

Discussion of options for out-of-service Royston Highway elevated water tank

Mr. Goran agreed to present at the next meeting some cost estimates regarding removing the tank.

Public comments

None

Director’s comments

Mr. Goran informed the Board that there are currently over 1400 active water meters. Mr. Goran informed the Board that HCWSA had to spend approximately $4600 to replace the leaking test header for the fire pump on Winfield Drive.

Members’ comments

Mr. Cannady commented about the City of Hartwell’s fire flow issues off Ridge Road.

Executive session – real estate

Mr. Cannady made a motion to move into executive session and Mr. MacNabb seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. MacNabb made a motion to exit executive session and Mr. Carlton seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Carlton made a motion to authorize Mr. Goran to negotiate a price for land for the booster pump station on Bowersville Hwy. Mr. MacNabb seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

Adjournment

Mr. Carlton made a motion to adjourn and Mr. MacNabb seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

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Hugh Holland, Chairman Kathy Breffle, Secretary/Treasurer

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