

**MINUTES OF THE GETTYSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL
WORKSHOP MEETING**

February 19, 2018

The duly advertised Workshop Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gettysburg Municipal Authority ("GMA") was called to order at 4:30 p.m. at the GMA office, 601 E. Middle Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325, by Ms. Dorothy Puhl, Chairman. Present were Ms. Dorothy Puhl, Chairman; Ms. Susan Naugle, Vice Chairman; Dr. Timothy Good, Secretary; Ms. Susan Cipperly, Treasurer; Mr. Max Felty, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Mr. Mark Guise, Utilities Manager; Mr. Paul Gross, P.E., of Buchart Horn, Inc. Authority Engineer; Ms. Diana Young, P.E., of Buchart Horn, Inc. Authority Engineer; Mr. Bernie Yannetti, Authority Solicitor; Ms. Amy Smith, Finance Director and Ms. Karen Rabine, Recording Secretary.

Public attending: Mr. Todd Eaby, representing the SRBC; Ms. Bicky Redman, Mr. Mike Shestok, Mr. Paul Kellett, Ms. Christine Kellett, Mr. John Lawver, Mr. Jim Paddock, Mr. Joseph Breighner, Mr. Charles Teague, Mr. Patrick Naugle, Ms. Chris Goodacre, Mr. Rodger Goodacre, Ms. Janet Powers, Ms. Pam Haze, Mr. John Messeder, Ms. Helen Cook, Mr. Marty Qually, Mr. Bruce Neylon, Ms. Jeanne Neylon, Mr. Dale Molina, Ms. Vicky Daskivich, Ms. Gloria Yohe, Mr. Harry Winsheimer, Mr. Ernest Shriver & Mr. Jim Hale, representing The Gettysburg Times was in attendance.

Opening Comments:

Chairman Puhl opened the workshop by stating that GMA scheduled this informational workshop meeting because a lot has changed since the 2006 application to the SRBC such as projected development in the residential areas that has not occurred and the water capacity available to GMA has also changed.

Summary Review and Update:

In the mid 2000's a surge in housing and commercial development caused a large number of requests for water service from GMA. Discussions began between GMA and the York Water Company possibility of extending the York Service from New Oxford to Gettysburg. In 2006 GMA submitted application to PADEP and SRBC for approval to transfer up to 3 million gallons of water per day out of the Susquehanna River Basin and into the Potomac River Basin via the connection to the York Water Company. The transfer would initially involve a lower quantity of water with the option of increasing to 3 mgd in the future. The intention was to provide redundancy for current water sources and to expand capacity to serve existing and future customers.

The issue was revisited in 2013 when projected water needs were reevaluated and revised submittals were sent to PADEP and SRBC for a reduced quantity of 2 million gallons per day. The PADEP and SRBC determined that they would not act on the request until comprehensive planning was completed by Adams County for Gettysburg Borough, Cumberland and Straban Townships.

Mr. Gross and Ms. Young of Buchart Horn stated projected water demands are to exceed GMA's current available capacity. For GMA to provide redundancy they would need to drill additional wells. Wells #4 and #5 are decommissioned; the Andrews well is not permitted at this time and will take approximately \$3 million to prepare for its use. Mr. Gross also stated that with the geology of the Gettysburg area, the

constraints of the National Park and the Westinghouse Superfund site, they are challenging obstacles in finding new groundwater sources.

The connection with York Water Company would require a considerable length of pipe construction costing approximately \$3 million along Rt. 30 east which is within a designated growth area, while a connection heading west to the Chambersburg system would cost up to \$15.8 million.

Rock Creek is designated as impaired so its ability to supply a reliable quantity of water was eliminated.

Construction of a reservoir was studied by Gannett Fleming in 1977. At that time it was concluded that groundwater sources were the most feasible alternative, therefore the reservoir was not pursued.

For GMA to do nothing would not stop growth. A developer could drill wells or establish a new water company without GMA's involvement which could potentially interfere with GMA's already established wells.

Questions From The Board:

Ms. Naugle stated that the engineers used state-recommended capacity formulas that require leaving out GMA's largest source, the water treatment plant on Marsh Creek, should that source become contaminated or fail. Ms. Naugle also stated that reducing leakage in the system should be considered along with low flow appliances. She suggested delaying a decision five (5) years or so and revisit the need at a later date.

Dr. Good stated that redundancy needs to be the main part of their decision.

Public Comment:

Mr. Paul Kellett gave calculations challenging the York connection. He stated that with water supply being adequate, the York connection could trigger a huge increase in rates.

Mr. Charles Teague questioned the possibility of a reservoir.

Mr. Patrick Naugle asked if the Board should review Act 220, the State Water Plan which could assist in identifying critical water planning areas.

Ms. Christine Kellett asked the Board to consider how a rate increase would affect low income people and the businesses that depend on them to help clean hotel rooms, work in restaurants and others.

Mr. Marty Qually requested that the Board to delay their decision until the 2020 census is in hand.

Mr. Mike Shestok asked the Board to delay their decision with the York connection understanding the need for redundancy but called it "expensive insurance".


Ms. Janet Powers stated that she was concerned about an increase in the water rates.

Mr. Jim Paddock asked why developers aren't drilling wells and possibly looking into managing our water capacity.

Adjournment:

At 5:45 p.m. Chairman Puhl adjourned the special workshop with the regular GMA Board of Directors meeting to begin at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Karen Rabine
Recording Secretary