



MINUTES
PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
September 10, 2024

The Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority (PTRWA) met Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 12:00 noon in the PTRWA Conference Room, 7297 Adams Farm Road, Randleman, NC. Chairman Rich Glover called the meeting to order.

Present: Mr. Rich Glover
 Mr. John Bencini
 Mr. Robert Bald
 Mr. Lewis Dorsett
 Ms. Melissa Blalock
 Mr. David Parrish
 Mr. Thomas Phillips
 Mr. John Thomas
 Mr. Dennis Mabe

Absent: Mr. Darrell Frye

Welcome, by PTRWA Chairman Rich Glover

Mr. Glover welcomed the PTRWA Board members.

1. Approval of August 13, 2024 PTRWA minutes

Mr. Glover asked if there were revisions to be made in the August 13, 2024 minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Bald, and carried unanimously to approve the August 13, 2024 PTRWA minutes as presented.

**2. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Advertisement by Electronic Means
Gregory Flory, Executive Director**

Mr. Flory presented the attached resolution that would allow the use of electronic advertisement as an alternative to advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation when the Executive Director determines that it is the most effective and efficient method of obtaining competition for a contract.

When electronic advertisement is used, information about the bid solicitation shall be made available to the public either by published notice, posting in a place in which similar notices are placed, or electronically on the official website of the Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority.

Motion was made by Mr. Bencini, seconded by Mr. Bald, and carried unanimously to adopt the resolution authorizing advertisement by electronic means.

**3. Approval of Evaluation Criteria for Laboratory Equipment Purchase
Gregory Flory, Executive Director**

The attached evaluation criteria is an excerpt from the Request for Proposals for Lab Equipment LC/MS and GC/MS to analyze emerging compounds.

Motion was made by Mr. Bencini, seconded by Mr. Bald, and carried unanimously to approve the evaluation criteria for laboratory equipment purchase.

**4. Executive Director's Report
Gregory Flory, Executive Director**

Mr. Flory provided a brief overview and explanation of the Authority's financial report for the periods of July 2024-August 2024. He also provided an update on the following items:

Randolph County Subaward ARPA Grant- Randolph County approached Mr. Flory in regard to serving as a subrecipient for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant that they have been awarded to install a waterline to Asheboro that would interconnect to PTRWA. The waterline would run from the end of Island Ford Rd to the connection with the Asheboro system which is near Pineview Rd. The county has entered into a contract with The Wooten Company to design the line, but in order to meet the commitment deadline for ARPA the county has to award the construction contract by December 31, 2024.

If PTRWA were to accept the subrecipient terms for the grant, all of the expenditures related to the waterline would have to be complete by December 31, 2026. Mr. Flory's recommendation would be, in order to promote regionalism, for PTRWA to consider becoming the subrecipient of the grant for Randolph County. In order to accommodate the additional workload a currently vacant administrative position at PTRWA would most likely need to be filled.

Mr. Flory asked the Board if they were interested in becoming a subrecipient of the grant funds and the consensus is to proceed with negotiations with the goal being to protect the Authority from assuming any risks.

Administration- PTRWA is updating the website and emails. The domain name has changed to triadncwater.gov. The .gov domain gives more security than the .org domain. PTRWA will take updated Board pictures at the next meeting to add to the website.

PTRWA received a draft of the wastewater permit renewal from the State in August and Mr. Flory is developing comments to submit back to the State. A flow limit has now been applied to the permit. The flow limit could be met currently, however once expansion is online the flow limit will most likely be too low.

Operations- PTRWA is currently fully staffed with certified operators. PTRWA recently hired two new certified operators to fill vacant positions. The current open positions are for Lab Manager, Administration role, and Maintenance. Mr. Flory is expecting to present a recommendation at the next meeting for an update to the current pay plan to address pay gaps between PTRWA and surrounding municipalities.

Randolph County is working on a promotional piece for the entire county. They sent their Tourism Coordinator to PTRWA with a film crew to get some footage of the facility and the dam that may be use in the promotional video.

The water treatment plant is experiencing high TMPs (the amount of pressure it takes to pull the water through the membrane) out of Membrane #6. This membrane was installed a couple of years ago to compare against the Memcor membranes installed in the other cells. The high TMP is generally an indication that it is not getting clean during backwashing or that it is developing fouling. PTRWA called the manufacturer regarding the issues, no solution has been provided at this point. It may be that the Suez membranes installed in membrane # 6 are not as ideally suited to PTRWA's source water as the Memcor membranes, this would limit PTRWA's options when soliciting for replacement membranes when the current ones require replacement.

Greensboro had a couple plant shutdowns over the past couple months. The next shutdown is scheduled for tomorrow. As a result, Greensboro has requested all of their contracted daily water capacity (7.836 MGD) for several days plus some of the Randolph County's allocation (1.25 MGD) that they contracted to sell on an as needed while it is available basis. Finance is working through the invoicing for the extra water.

Regionalism- Randolph HUB reported on the joint meeting of the Randolph County Commissioners and the Asheboro City Council that was held to discuss the waterline that Randolph County is asking PTRWA to be a subrecipient on and to work out the ownership of that waterline. Mr. Flory stated that based on his observations from the meeting it seemed like all the parties involved are interested in working together to move forward for the entire region.

PTRWA will be hosting a meeting with the TREBIC (Triad Real Estate and Building Industry Coalition) Steering Committee that was formed to focus on tying the Federal and State delegation into assisting in developing a regional solution to the water and wastewater capacity needs in the region.

The Request for Qualifications for Professional Engineering Consulting Services for the Regional Water and Wastewater Utility Master Plan for PTRWA will be advertised this week with statements of qualifications due the first week of October. The goal is to have a recommendation for award of the contract at the next board meeting.

Construction- The pilot plants started the first of this month, PTRWA has one full-time employee dedicated to the pilots. There are issues with all of the pilots that are being worked through.

Energy issues are the biggest topic at the moment. Consistent and reliable energy is critical to our facility especially as PTRWA looks to quadruple the electrical load. A backup or redundant power source needs to be a top priority moving forward.

The 30% design drawings have been submitted by HDR. Staff's goal is to have comments back to HDR this week. There are a number of fine details in the design that need to be worked out.

Financing for the expansion and advanced treatment is moving forward. Randleman and Randolph County approved the BAN resolutions at their Council meetings. Jamestown and Archdale have Council meetings coming up in which Mr. Flory will attend for any questions. Greensboro and High Point stated that the approvals should go through with no issues.

Mr. Flory and Adam Conn, Engineering Manager, attended a Meeting with NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) regarding the expansion and the advance treatment concepts. NCDEQ did not mention any concerns regarding the expansion, however, the disposal of the RO concentrate and plan to potentially recycle it will clearly take a lot more discussion and education to get the required buy in from the regulatory community.

Mr. Flory had a meeting with the Army Corp of Engineers to discuss the installation of the new raw water line and the potential impacts in the 200-foot buffer around the lake. PTRWA is going to work with Crowder and HDR to minimize disruption of the buffer as much as possible.

Treatment- Greensboro had a half a million-gallon wastewater spill in the last week. PTRWA increased chlorine to mitigate any potential issues. PTRWA has not seen any direct impact from the spill.

Deep River State Trails (DRST)- NC Wildlife is developing the design of the kayak launch and road that will lead to the proposed launch site below Randleman dam. The design of the road came back significantly more expensive than PTRWA's design of the road at \$183,000. A different grant is now being pursued. The documentation for the new grant, the "Great Trails Grant" is due in November. Mr. Flory will follow-up with Randolph County's Deep River Trail coordinator and NC Wildlife on the next steps.

5. Old Business

There was no old business.

6. New Business

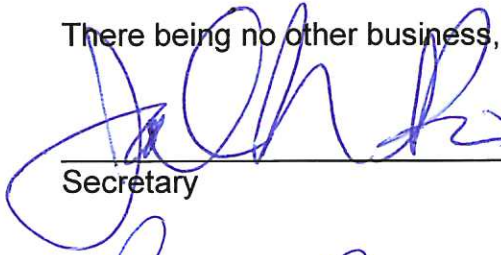
There was no new business.

7. Next PTRWA annual meeting date – Tuesday, October 8, 2024


The next annual meeting date was set for Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 12:00 noon in the PTRWA conference room.

8. Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.



Secretary



Recording Secretary