

MINUTES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 21, 1994

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a special called meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Henderson County Office Building.

Those present were: Chairman Vollie G. Good, Vice-Chair Renee Kumor, Commissioner J. Michael Edney, Commissioner Hugh D. Randall, Commissioner William McKay, County Manager David F. Thompson, Assistant County Manager David E. Nicholson, and Clerk to the Board Elizabeth W. Corn.

Also present were: Utilities Director Jim Erwin, Utilities Secretary Cindy Wrenn, Easement Representative Doyle Freeman and County Planning Director Matt Matteson.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Good called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. Chairman Good stated that the purpose of the meeting was a work session on Wastewater Issues.

COUNTY MANAGER'S STATEMENT

David Thompson reminded the Board that they would need to go in and out of the Mud Creek Water and Sewer District and the Cane Creek Water and Sewer District for action.

He commended Jim Erwin, Doyle Freeman and Cindy Wrenn for the work they put into this presentation.

WASTEWATER MASTER PLAN PRESENTATION

Jim Erwin gave a brief outline of Henderson County's two water and sewer districts. Henderson County only provides sewer service at this time.

Doyle Freeman showed the boundaries of each of the two districts on maps.

Mud Creek Water and Sewer District

Established in 1988.

Covers 27,000 acres and has 7 miles of sewer line.

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Customers include 16 Commercial and 100 Residences.
Wastewater is treated at the Hendersonville Wastewater Treatment Plant.
Hendersonville has agreed to treat up to 500,000 gpd.
Current discharge is 54,000 gpd.
Henderson County currently holds 3 NCDES Permits.

Cane Creek Water and Sewer District

Established in 1981.
Covers 4,260 acres and has 25 miles of sewer line.
The District includes the entire town of Fletcher.
Customers include 6 Industrial, 37 Commercial, and 477 Residences.
Wastewater is treated at the Metropolitan Sewage District (MSD) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).
MSD has agreed to treat up to 1.35 million gallons a day (mgd).
Current discharge is 285,000 gallons per day (gpd).

Since the first sections of both the Cane Creek and Mud Creek sewer systems were completed, the County has regularly received requests to extend service to new area. The County is often asked to pay all or some of the cost. It has been difficult to judge the merits of one project vs. another and to determine how each project would affect the County's long term needs.

Last year Hendon Engineering was authorized to prepare a Master Plan. The Master Plan is now finished.

Summary of the Master Plan

Jim Erwin stated that based on the Comprehensive Land Use Plan projected growth rate of 19.76% and based on the assumption that we would have 100% of the population connected to the county system in the subject areas, our Master Plan projects 2040 wastewater flow per drainage basin. It also calculates the interceptor sewer sizes that would be needed to handle the flow in 2040. They provided the information to show us what the picture would be if that happened. Based on topography of each drainage basin, the Master Plan also recommends the location of where all the interceptors would need to be constructed.

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When they got to the point of recommending the pipe sizes that we would actually need, they based it on the assumption that the collector and interceptor sewer construction cost would be so high that it would prohibit the county from serving 100% of the population. The size of the pipe at 2040, based on the growth rate in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, would result in much reserve or excess capacity for many years. Therefore, the Master Plan recommends what pipe sizes that we would need for 2020 flows which the County could afford to capture.

Based on the expected long-term advantages of moving toward regionalism and also on the excellent relationship that Henderson County has had with Metropolitan Sewerage District and the high cost for Henderson County to construct its own treatment plant, the Master Plan recommends that Henderson County contract with MSD for long-term wastewater disposal needs.

David Thompson reminded the Board that we do not have numbers yet on how much the City of Hendersonville will charge us for capacity at their new plant on the French Broad River or how much money upfront they would want Henderson County to contribute. Staff recommended that we keep this option open. Staff could not make a recommendation at this time whether to build an interceptor line to MSD because the Hendersonville numbers aren't available for evaluation.

The Master Plan identified the Cane Creek and Greater Mud Creek Basins as the two areas where Henderson County should establish the backbone of its County-wide sewer system. It was recommended that we continue to serve Cane Creek through our existing arrangement with MSD. Most of the balance of the Master Plan concerns the Greater Mud Creek Basin which includes North Mud Creek, Clear Creek, Devil's Fork Creek, Bat Fork Creek, and the South Mud Creek basins.

In order to show the magnitude of the costs, the Master Plan included a stand-alone plan for the North Mud Creek, Devil's Fork and Bat Fork basins:

STAND ALONE PLAN EXAMPLE

COST OF FACILITIES BY 2005:

\$15 million for interceptors, and collectors

\$ 4 million for a wastewater treatment plant on the
French Broad River

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STAND-ALONE PLAN ASSUMED:

- (a) All new potential residential customers would be forced to connect and pay \$1,000 impact fee.
- (b) All new potential non-resident customers would be forced to connect and pay \$5.00 per gallon impact fee.
- (c) Developers would construct \$9 million of collectors and give them to the County.
- (d) A \$2,000,000 grant would be available.

Henderson County staff agreed with the interceptors and the baseline information in the Master Plan but realized that we cannot go it alone. It would be cost prohibitive.

Jim Erwin stated that if the County makes the decision to secure additional treatment capacity from others and to use the County's limited resources to gradual and steadily enlarge the County's interceptor and collector system, the following should be considered:

1. Move aggressively to protect the integrity of our Districts.
2. Secure additional treatment allocation from MSD and/or Hendersonville.
3. Establish a priority list of the areas to be served. (The Master Plan identifies the North Mud Creek, Bat Fork Creek, and Cane Creek basins and portions of the other basins that drain to Mud Creek as the areas of highest priority.)
4. Develop a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) which includes project costs, the funding mechanisms, and a priority ranking and schedule.
5. Revise Sewer Use Ordinance.
6. Adopt service delivery policies.
7. Simplify procedures and update the information system.
8. Secure funding and proceed with construction according to the CIP.

Action

Commissioner Edney made the motion that the Board accept the Master Sewer Plan as presented as a Resource Document to base further planning on. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Action

Vice-Chair Kumor made the motion that the Board adopt the statement that Henderson County's goal is to provide a gravity sewer system

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as outlined in the Master Plan and that this goal will be worked toward under the conditions, terms, plans, and schedules found acceptable to the Board of Commissioners. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

MUD CREEK WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

Vice-Chair Kumor made the motion for the Board to go into the Mud Creek Water and Sewer District. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Action was taken. See Mud Creek minutes for details.

Commissioner Edney made the motion for the Board to go out of Mud Creek Water and Sewer District. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

CANE CREEK WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

Commissioner Edney made the motion for the Board to go into the Cane Creek Water and Sewer District. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Action was taken. See Cane Creek minutes for details.

Commissioner Edney made the motion for the Board to adjourn as Cane Creek Water and Sewer District and reconvene as the Henderson County Board of Commissioners. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS

Jim Erwin reminded the Board that any appropriations approved in MCWSD and CCWSD must also be approved in regular open session of the Henderson County Board of Commissioners meeting for any appropriations to come out of the general fund.

Commissioner Edney made the motion to appropriate \$482,309.00 from fund balance to Mud Creek enterprise fund for the Naples project. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Vice-Chair Kumor made the motion to transfer \$106,000.00 from the Utilities budget to the Mud Creek enterprise fund for the Waddell/Quattlebaum project. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

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BILL TO CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE FOR WATERLINE PURCHASE

Doyle Freeman informed the Board of the calculations of the value of the Mud Creek Water and Sewer District Phase I Section 2 sewer project as of September 30, 1994, when the City of Hendersonville annexed a portion (Brookland Manor and an area along Brooklyn Avenue) of this project into their City limits.

The total value of this project is divided between facilities now located in the city limits and those that remain outside the city limits.

Under the terms of the 1986 agreement which the County entered into with the City of Hendersonville for wastewater treatment, the City is required to purchase any sewer lines installed by Henderson County in annexed areas within one year of annexation. The annexed area includes a substantial part of Mud Creek Phase I, Section 2. Therefore, the City must purchase the subject sewer facilities from the County. Based upon the calculations of the Utilities Department, the cost to the City should be \$518,313.41 (less depreciation). The residents of Brookland Manor will remain County customers until such purchase is made.

Staff's recommendation

Staff requested that the Board of Commissioners take the following actions:

1. Authorize the Utilities Department to send the City of Hendersonville a bill for \$518,313.41 for the purchase of the annexed portion of Mud Creek, Phase I, Section 2.

Action

Commissioner McKay made the motion to approve staff's recommendation as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

David Thompson requested that the letter and bill be open-ended. He would want authorization to negotiate the cost of transmission through that line.

Commissioner Edney moved that the letter be left open-ended as requested by the County Manager above. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

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APPOINTMENTS TO HENDERSONVILLE WATER AND SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman Good informed the Board of a letter received from Mayor Niehoff requesting that Henderson County appoint two persons to serve on an advisory board. There are 11 members with two to come from Henderson County.

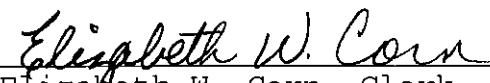
Action

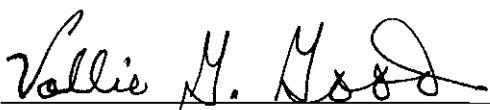
Following discussion, Commissioner McKay made the motion to appoint the sitting Chairman and the County Manager to serve as representatives from Henderson County. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Commissioner McKay made the motion to adjourn at approximately 9:40 p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

ATTEST:


Elizabeth W. Corn, Clerk


Vollie G. Good, Chairman

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