



Post Office Box 788  
Lawndale, NC 28090

Regular Called Meeting  
October 11, 2011

Present at the meeting were Chairman Don Melton, Treasurer Pete Pedersen, Secretary Bill Cameron and Commissioners Amy Elliott-Bridges, Jerry Self, and John Taylor also in attendance were General Manager Butch Smith and Attorney Tim Moore.

Call Meeting to Order (0.00)

Commissioner Melton called the meeting to order and welcomed guests. The Board requested prayer and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda (1.27)

Treasurer Pedersen made the motion to approve the agenda with changes, seconded by Commissioner Self, motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes (1.45)

Secretary Cameron made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Self, motion carried.

Public Comment (2.00)

A. Ron McCollum

Ron McCollum thanked the Board for allowing him to speak and also thanked Secretary Cameron and Commissioner Elliott-Bridges for responding to his letter. Mr. McCollum explained to the Board that he was there in remembrance of his grandmother who had lost their family farm to the government by some greedy men.

Mr. McCollum presented questions to the Board. Did the Board agree with comments made by General Manager Smith to the Shelby Star concerning legal action if the reservoir permit is denied? Mr. McCollum also questioned a lack of accountability concerning the reporting of the reservoir.

Mr. McCollum referenced a letter he received from Brian Tompkins about General Manager Smith addressing the nuclear power plant. The purpose of the reservoir was to provide cooling water for Duke Energy nuclear plant. Mr. McCollum presented concerns about the John Cline Reservoir being built for cooling water instead of drinking water.

Mr. McCollum reported that the river is not dead, if CCW floods the watershed that the river will be destroyed. Mr. McCollum's son floated the river and saw blue heron and fish jumping.

B. Byron McMurry (6.40)

Mr. McMurry thanked the Board for allowing him to speak. Mr. McMurry told the Board that he is a 5<sup>th</sup> generation farmer and a customer of CCW with 5 water taps of which 3 are agricultural, and pays a healthy bill. Mr. McMurry has a biest opinion because he grew up in the upper end of Cleveland County. Mr. McMurry works for Water and Soil Conservation. In 2009, with \$ 75,304,209 Cleveland County was ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> in the state for agriculture sales. Mr. McMurry told the Board that a reservoir of this size would consume agriculture land. Mr. McMurry is aware that CCW needs water and understands that in the 1980's the drought was hard on agriculture. The cost of community service from a tax expenditure, Mr. McMurry feels that CCW would have to sell a lot of taps and have \$ 200 million in reserve.

C. David Leonhardt (11.20)

Mr. Leonhardt addressed the Board by telling them that he had not planned on speaking but as the meeting progressed he felt that maybe we were losing perspective. Mr. Leonhardt feels that decisions concerning the reservoir need to be made based on economics. The Board has a lot of studies concerning the reservoir dating back to the 1980's, Mr. Leonhardt feels the issue has been studied to death. Mr. Leonhardt told the Board that these decisions should not be based on emotion but rather economics. In comparison to the demolition of the old Fallston School and Auditorium, Mr. Leonhardt was not happy about the decision, but knew that it was better. It should be based on economics, not emotion. Mr. Leonhardt mentioned that perhaps the public could be educated on the economics of the reservoir. Mr. Leonhardt has friends who are on both sides of the opinion on the reservoir. Mr. Leonhardt does not wish to make any enemies, but feels that the decision for a reservoir needs to be based on economics and figures.

Old Business (13.02)

No old business was discussed.

New Business (13.09) Note: All new business must be approved prior to the agenda.

A. Comments on letter sent to the CCW Commissioners

Commissioner Bridges asks Attorney Moore to respond to all the questions on the letter.

Attorney Moore responded that he would address all questions one at a time.

Attorney Moore has been out of the country and has not had the opportunity to respond to the letter.

Attorney Moore explained the questions concerning conflict of interest with the legislation on the bill for the reservoir. Representative Hastings introduced the bill for the vote on the reservoir. Attorney Moore responded that he did not vote on the bill and excused himself from the voting.

The North Carolina House of Representatives passed the bill for the vote to be on the election ballot. There was a lack of communication in the North Carolina Senate and the bill was not presented for a vote.

North Carolina open laws do not affect any commissioner, as long as there is not a quorum, if a quorum is present, no discussion concerning CCW business is allowed.

Commissioner Elliott-Bridges interjected that any meeting and especially concerning the reservoir with the Federal & State agencies are always posted in the newspaper or

announced in the Board meetings. Even the teleconference calls are announced with 24 hour notice.

The questions concerning land speculators, the District was not contacting real estate agencies. The reservoir is still a work in progress; with CCW in the EIS stage until the permit is issued no one knows that final outcome.

Addressing the question concerning how to obtain board minutes and budget information, the CCW General Manager can provide this information.

#### Dedication of the Holding Pond (19.30)

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on October 28, 2011 at 11:00 at the holding pond. Secretary Cameron made the motion to name the holding pond after General Manager Clyde E. Smith Jr. (Butch) Holding Pond, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, motion carried.

#### Discuss Company Picnic (23.30)

Commissioner Elliott-Bridges reported that only 10 employees attended the company picnic and maybe CCW should do something different.

#### Water Requests (25.45)

Durham Johnson needs an emergency line for a well that has gone dry.

#### Finance Report (28.13)

General Manager Smith gave the report.

#### Engineer Report (29.39)

General Manager Smith showed HB 609 and SB 781 to start the EIS process again plus work on the 401 permit. Treasurer Pedersen made the motion to complete the EIS, seconded by Commissioner Elliott-Bridges, motion carried.

#### Operations Report (35.52)

General Manager Smith distributed the operations report, which is provided by the Water Plant Manager, Lanny Ollis.

#### Closed Session

No closed session was required.

#### Meeting Adjourn

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to adjourn the regular scheduled meeting of the Cleveland County Water Board, seconded by Commissioner Elliott-Bridges, motion carried.

C.C.W. Board of Commissioners