

**Water Treatment Plant
Presentation of the Facts
Public Meeting
July 15, 2003**

**Taylor High School Cafeteria
3101 N. Main St.
Taylor, Texas**

Minutes

City staff, City Council members, and staff from the Brazos River Authority (BRA) were on hand at 5:30 pm to meet with citizens to discuss the water treatment plant. Mayor Donald Hill called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. All council members were present.

City staff attending included City Manager Frank Salvato, Finance Director Charles Cunningham, Director of Public Works Casey Sledge, and Executive Assistant Susan Brock.

Mr. Salvato introduced city staff, council members, and BRA staff including John Baker, David Collinworth, Jim Forte, and Chris Smalley. Mr. Baker led the meeting with an introduction to what the BRA is, how their organization is structured, and future projections for water needs and growth in the Williamson County area as well as within the state.

Following Mr. Baker, Mr. Sledge led the staff presentation by giving an oversight of the current water treatment plant situation and details of the BRA proposal to the city. Mr. Cunningham followed with details on the financial aspect of the situation, with a closing statement by Mr. Sledge. Mr. Salvato summarized the facts and opened the meeting for questions at 7:00 pm.

Questions were received from the public for the next ninety minutes. A list of the questions and names of those in attendance are attached. The need for a second meeting and the perspective date of such a meeting was not determined at this point. With no further questions, Mayor Hill adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Donald R. Hill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Barbara S. Belz, City Clerk

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QUESTIONS:

1. With the \$5.1 million received from the BRA, will this money be used to reduce the debt? Or will it be spent on something else?
2. Under our current commitment for 8,525 acft, could we sell the "extra" water to someone else? Is there a market for that water?
3. If we sell the plant to BRA, will it affect our current contracts with Hutto? Are these contracts protected?
4. If we sell the plant to BRA, would our bond rating be affected?
5. Under the current contract, would the revenue change from our arrangements with Hutto?
6. What were the original costs of building the water treatment plant? What is the current value? What would be the replacement costs?
7. Could you please explain the "buy back" clause in the contract?
8. If our current costs per 1,000 gal is \$2.04, and we will be paying BRA \$1.20 per 1,000 gal, where will that extra difference in money go? Will our rates be lowered? Or will the money be used for other projects?
9. Are we selling an asset to pay for other projects?
10. What was the income from the water treatment plant last year? Over the last five years?
11. Will we be selling water to Hutto at a profit?
12. How is the "buy back" cost determined?
13. Under the BRA contract, what happens to the ownership of our ground water?
14. Under the BRA contract "buy back" clause, what does the term "unanimous vote" refer to?
15. You said that the existing well water needs treating; do we currently have the ability to do that? If not, could we?

16. If our current raw water purchase is for 8,525 acft, what is the capacity at Lake Granger? Is there any water left to buy from Lake Granger?
17. If the BRA needs more water than what is available from Lake Granger, where do they get it from?
18. If the BRA takes the water treatment plant over, will Taylor ever go to water rationing?
19. What about the Carrizo Wilcox Springs ground water? Do we have access to that water?
20. Is there any grant money available for Taylor to use to expand the water treatment plant? Could you present a plan with more detail to keep the plant?
21. If we are still paying on 1993 bonds to pay for the wastewater improvements, can we lower the interest rate or extend the payout?
22. Does the sewage output go back to the BRA? Would it ever be possible to recycle that water?
23. If BRA buys the plant, will our water still smell bad and taste bad when the "lake turns over"?
24. Does the BRA contract allow Taylor to use ground water?
25. How does the BRA determine their water rates?
26. Since the TCEQ says we have to expand our water treatment plant, what would happen if we didn't?
27. If we were to use the ground water/wells and build the new treatment plant for the ground water, wouldn't the costs be about the same as buying the water from the BRA?
28. Does the BRA maintain the conservation level of Lake Granger?
29. As a downstream landowner, I have concerns over water release issues. Is there any protection offered for my livestock?
30. Are the surface water and the ground water treated differently?
31. What happens if the sedimentation level in Lake Granger gets too high? Would a change in water source cause an increase in our water rates?
32. Does BRA have contracts with any other communities?

33. Does BRA currently provide water from Lake Georgetown to Leander? If not, would they ever consider this?
34. In the price quoted for the purchase of water from BRA, what is the actual cost to the consumer?
35. I heard that Dallas also has foul smelling water, what is causing this problem?
36. If the BRA agreement is completed, what happens after five years?
37. What is it costing us to provide water to Hutto?
38. Who is responsible for fire hydrants? Will Taylor have access to the water for the fire hydrants on the transmission line between Lake Granger and Hwy 95? There is a hydrant on CR409 that has never been repaired.
39. If the City does not enter into the new BRA agreement, what is the city's timeline to expand the water treatment plant?

QUESTIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE MEETING:

From Donald Stauffer, 1305 Lexington, 365-8767

1. How much has the City of Taylor (meaning the citizens of Taylor) paid into the water plant? By this I mean how much has been spent on principal and interest for the bonds issued to build the plant and water line. If that amount is more than \$5.1 million, then I feel the BRA should at least pay the city that amount, if not more.
2. Has the water treatment plant appreciated or depreciated in value since it was built? What did it cost to build and what is its appraised value today?
3. Is the BRA a non-profit entity?

COMMENTS

From Tim Mikeska

1. Very good presentation
2. Charles was brief and "to the point"
3. The handouts were easy to read and very helpful
4. Casey had a jacket on!
5. Very interesting report from Bobby Clark that I plan on reading...
6. I would be happy to donate my water in my well located on Johnson Drive to the City of Taylor.
7. Jerry Frankeny was upset, he felt Frank made "fun of him".

Anonymous comment:

"Please pass on my thanks for a very professional, helpful presentation."

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