

MINUTES

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HENDERSON**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 6, 1995**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners met for a special-called meeting on various sewer issues on Thursday, July 6, 1995 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the County Office Building.

Present were: Chairman Renee Kumor, Vice-Chairman Vollie G. Good, Commissioner J. Michael Edney, Commissioner Robert D. Eklund, Commissioner Don Ward, County Attorney Don Elkins, Acting Clerk Avalina B. Merrill, County Manager David F. Thompson, Assistant County Manager David E. Nicholson, Staff Attorney Angela Skerrett, Utilities Director Jim Erwin and Easement Representative Doyle Freeman. Also present were: Mayor Robert S. Parrish of the Town of Fletcher, Mayor Arthur Harrington of the Town of Laurel Park and Mayor Cyrus Highlander of the Village of Flat Rock.

Charles Willis of Willis Engineering in Charlotte was also present. Mr. Willis had been hired as a consultant on the development of the Wastewater Master Plan.

Absent was Clerk to the Board, Elizabeth W. Corn.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chairman Kumor called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

DISCUSSION

County Manager David F. Thompson stated that the basis of this work session was a commitment that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners made to the City of Hendersonville through Chairman Kumor at the Water and Sewer Advisory Board meeting. That commitment was that the County would give the City of Hendersonville some real numbers as to the participation of the County in the City's wastewater treatment plant either the current site or wherever else that capacity would be created. Mr. Thompson requested that the Board give direction to staff as to the final numbers and scenarios as they wanted to transmit to the City of Hendersonville as to what the costs would be to the County and to the City to provide the wastewater treatment. The second part of the work session was to seek Board direction for the staff as to what wastewater capacity is projected to be needed by the County and with whom the Board wanted staff to negotiate for this capacity.

Utilities Director Jim Erwin reviewed the County's Wastewater Master Plan. Henderson County has (2) Water and Sewer Districts, Mud Creek and Cane Creek. Mr. Erwin gave this review of Mud Creek Water and Sewer District:

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- ▶ Established in 1988
- ▶ Covers 27,000 acres and has (7) miles of sewer line.
- ▶ Customers include 16 commercial, 100 residences
- ▶ Wastewater is treated at the Hendersonville wastewater treatment plant.
- ▶ Hendersonville has agreed to treat 500,000 gallons per day for Henderson County.
- ▶ Henderson County currently discharges 54,000 gpd into the Hendersonville Wastewater system.

Mr. Erwin gave this review of the 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; (477) residences
- ▶ Wastewater is treated at the MSD Wastewater Treatment Plant
- ▶ MSD has agreed to treat 1.35 million gallons gpd for Henderson County
- ▶ Henderson County currently discharges 285,000 gpd into the MSD Wastewater System.

Mr. Erwin reviewed the primary reasons for a Wastewater Master Plan:

- ▶ Since the first sections of both the Cane Creek and Mud Creek systems were completed, Henderson County has received requests to extend sewer service to new areas.
- ▶ The County is usually asked to pay all or some of the cost.
- ▶ Merits of one project versus another were difficult to judge.
- ▶ Difficult to determine how a project would affect Henderson County's long term needs.
- ▶ Hendon Engineering was authorized to prepare a wastewater master plan and it is now completed.

The Master Plan in summary:

- ▶ Divides the County into drainage basins.
- ▶ Based on topography of each basin.
- ▶ Identifies the locations of all the interceptor sewers which Henderson County will need to construct.
- ▶ Based upon the assumptions that the Land Use Plan's growth rate of 19.76% will continue indefinitely and that construction costs will prohibit serving 100% of the population in the foreseeable future. Recommends interceptor sizes needed for 2020 flows.
- ▶ Based on the existing population, projected growth rates, topography, and availability of other improvements such as water service and transportation:
- ▶ Identifies the Cane Creek and Greater Mud Creek basins as the County's top priorities for sewer service.

- ▶ Based on:

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- a. The expected long term cost advantages of a regional approach to providing sewer service.
 - b. The excellent relationship between Henderson County and the MSD.
 - c. The high cost to construct a Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- ▶ Recommends that Henderson County continues to serve Cane Creek basin through our existing treatment contract with MSD.
 - ▶ Recommends expanding our treatment contract with MSD to include the entire Mud Creek basin.

As discussed in the master plan, serving 100% of the population is unrealistic in the near future because of the high cost of constructing all of the interceptor and collector sewer lines which would be required to capture 100% of the flow. The master plan estimates the County will construct 100 feet of collector sewer line for each new customer and that construction cost will be \$65 per foot. Based on this cost, it is projected that the County will average adding 100 new customers each year in each of the County's (2) districts.

Based on the assumptions that the County will average 100 new customers per year per district and that each new customer will generate 280 gallons of wastewater per day, Mud Creek Water and Sewer District will generate an additional 700,000 gpd by 2020 (100 new customers/year X 280 gallons per day/customer x 25 years - 700,000 gpd).

Cane Creek Water and Sewer District will generate an additional 700,000 gpd by 2020 (100 new customers/year x 280 gallons per day/customer x 25 years - 700,000 gallons per day).

Mr. Erwin presented charts depicting allocation needs for the County by year 2020. The total additional treatment allocation needed was 1,100,000 gpd.

The staff of the Utilities Department recommended to the Board:

1. Secure the additional 1,100,000 gpd of treatment allocation from MSD and/or Hendersonville.
2. Concentrate on constructing interceptor and collector sewer lines with Henderson County's limited funds.

For implementation of the Wastewater Master Plan, the Utilities Department staff recommended the Board consider these steps:

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 as the areas of highest priority).
4. Develop a capital improvement program (CIP).

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5. Secure funding and proceed with construction according to the CIP.

County Manager Thompson suggested that before the Board makes any commitment to the City of Hendersonville for wastewater treatment, the Board should have actual commitments that there will be system development charges up front or commitment within so much time for some much capacity. Also, there must be some commitment or guarantee from the municipalities to the County about wastewater treatment allocation.

The Board of Commissioners agreed to continue discussion on the wastewater master plan in another work session. A date for the next work session would be set at the mid-July Board of Commissioners meeting.

No action was taken by the Board of Commissioners. The work session was adjourned by Chairman Kumor.

APPROVED BY:

**RENEE KUMOR, CHAIRMAN
HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

ATTEST:

AVALINA B. MERRILL, ACTING CLERK