

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Joint Work Session at the Polk County Middle School Media Center 321 Wolverine
Trail Mill Spring, NC
September 24, 2019 - 5:30 PM
R. Jay Foster Hall of Justice - Womack Building
Columbus, NC
MINUTES

Polk County Board of Commissioners (PCBOC)

Chairman Tommy Melton
Vice-Chairman Myron Yoder
Commissioner Paul Beiler
Commissioner Ray Gasperson
Commissioner David Moore
County Manager Marche Pittman
County Attorney Jana Berg

Broad River Water Authority (BRWA)

Chairman Mickey Bland
Vice-Chairman Doug Barrick
Treasurer, Rob Bole
Secretary, Danny Searcy
Stan Clements
Steve Garrison
General Manager Maria Hunnicutt
Attorney John Crotts

Inman Campobello Water District (ICWD)

Vice-Chairman David Gibson
Secretary Jeff Mitchell
Commissioner Mike Ravan
Treasurer Lane Wilson
General Manager Jeff Walker

1. Call to Order Joint Work Session

A. Chairman Melton, PCBOC called the joint work session to order with the consensus of Chairman Bland, BRWA, and Vice-Chairman Gibson, ICWD.

2. Report on the Water Regionalization Study

John Kersten Vice President Arcadis Consulting Engineers gave a power point presentation reviewing the report. A copy of which is hereby incorporated by reference into these minutes.

Mr. Kersten had each manager give a brief review of their systems history and

viability.

He then went through the report sharing the background, the process, and the options.

Each manager discussed further collaboration with the gains, barriers, and ideals for each system and what they would like to accomplish.

Mr. Kersten said there's a need for a legal opinion, then once it is determined this can be done, the details will be determined.

3. Joint Discussion

The Boards discussed the report, and the options presented. They all agreed it would need to be mutually beneficial for each agency. They discussed some advantages of a joint water system. BRWA and ICWD would have a long term plan, with access to the Green River; and Polk County would have a managed system with reasonable rates for citizens. Everyone agreed it would be equally favorable if the County maintained ownership of Lake Adger.

The discussion led to the possibility of other water systems joining in the future. It was mentioned that Columbus and Tryon are already interconnected, and Saluda has a connection that is not currently operational. However, to fully utilize these connections to serve the towns, the system would need to be greatly enhanced.

The consensus of the three boards was a long term solution is needed that makes sense for all three groups, and to have the managers continue the discussion, seeking legal advice on the best option for everyone.

4. Adjournment

A. Chairman Melton, Polk County Board of Commissioners adjourned the joint work session to order with the consensus of Chairman Bland, Broad River Water Authority, and Vice-Chairman Gibson, Inman Campobello Water District.

Attest:

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

Ange High
Clerk to the Board

Tommy W. Melton
Chairman