

# WATER AND SEWER EXPANSION AUTHORITY FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 8, 2006 Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall, Committee Room A

Attending Members: Al Sinclair, Chair Lawrence Jones

Chair Sinclair called the meeting to order / quorum determined.

## <u>McGlothlin/Buttercup project – bonding issues:</u>

As discussed last month, the McGlothlin/Buttercup project is currently on hold due to the contractor's inability to bond. The finance committee requested financial information from the contractor in order to consider allowing a personal guarantee on the work in lieu of a bond. However, the information was not received in time for this month's meeting. The committee decided to give the contractor one more month and if no response is received, the project will be cancelled.

#### **Amount allowed for financing connection costs:**

Originally, the WSEA Board decided to allow homeowners the opportunity to finance up to \$5,000 of connection costs. As of January 1, 2006, JEA has established a new growth main capacity fee of \$1,695. This fee has increased the average connection cost of \$5,000. Mr. Sinclair and Mr. Jones agreed that \$7,000 would be a reasonable amount for homeowners to finance connection costs and will bring it to the board's attention for approval.

### **Approval process for non-residential projects:**

Currently, applicants fill out a financing application and the estimates aren't always 100 percent accurate because the design is not always executed by an engineer. This creates more staff and council time approving inaccurate applications. Mr. Jones, Mr. Sinclair and the WSEA staff discussed mandating an application fee which would vary depending on the size of the project. A project under \$100,000 would pay a non-refundable \$2,000 fee and any project exceeding \$100,000 would pay 5 percent of entire estimate. If project goes forward, all fees will be included in total amount of project. Mr. Sinclair will seek approval of fees at the WSEA board meeting.

#### **Meting Adjourned**