

Citizens Advisory Council of Prichard (CACP) Meeting Summary June 20, 2024, 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

A.J. Cooper Municipal Complex
216 E. Prichard Ave, Prichard, AL 36610

PRESENTERS: John Young, Jr., Court-Appointed Receiver
Prichard Water Works and Sewer Board (PWWSB)

Andy Koester, Moonshot Missions

ATTENDING: Jessica James, City of Chickasaw (Representing Mayor's Office)
Severia Morris, United Concerned Citizens of Prichard
Carletta Davis, President, We Matter
Rusty Murdaugh, District 98
Dr. Beatrice Morse, District 97

PUBLIC

COMMENT: Beulah Scott, 4242 Everett Road

MODERATING: Jim Gilliland

ABSENT: Pastor Chris Williams, County Commission
Katie Davis, District 2 (showed up as meeting was ending)
Clifford Bryant
Mayor Jimmie Gardner, City of Prichard

Updates

The status of the various studies was reviewed.

- The Asset Management Study (Hazen & Sawyer) is completed, posted on the website (www.FixPrichardWater.com), and submitted to ADEM.
- The Source of Supply Study (Hazen & Sawyer) will be sent to the Citizens Advisory Council members by the end of June 2024 and will be submitted to the Court as part of the draft Master Plan in July 2024.
- The Affordability/Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) (Rothstein Galardi Group).study will be completed in July 2024 and submitted as part of the draft Master Plan. The study's conclusions will not change from previous presentations, which acknowledge the financial burden associated with high water bills and the need for third-party funding for the CAP due to a lack of revenue among the current customer base.
- The design of three ADEM-funded projects (tank improvements, Morris WWTP improvements, and Lovejoy Loop pipeline replacement) is progressing. Over the next

few weeks, bids will be solicited for the tank improvements. Requests for Qualifications are being requested for the SCADA project.

Alternative Analysis

Both the Receiver Order and the ADEM Consent Order require the completion of an Alternative Analysis/draft Master Plan by the end of July 2024. This report will evaluate the various ownership, governance, operating, and water supply options available to Prichard and Chickasaw (combined or individually) and recommend a structure to promote the utility's long-term sustainability.

Options

During May 2024 and June 2024, input was solicited from stakeholders to better define the ownership, operation, and financial options. While the City of Chickasaw prefers an option that includes ownership of their assets within Chickasaw, the City of Prichard supports a return of the existing Water Board with a Concession contract. MAWSS continues its due diligence of PWWSB and has not committed to pursuing a future ownership role of the system. Currently, the options being evaluated are:

- Return to the PWWSB ownership with a Concession contract
- MAWSS ownership and operation
- PWWSB ownership with a Concession contract for the City of Prichard with the Utility Board of Chickasaw purchasing and operating the system's assets that serve their customers.

Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria for the Alternative Analysis are currently being developed with the assistance of Moonshot Missions (MM), a 501c3 non-profit entity dedicated to clean and healthy water and waterways in underserved communities.

MM made a presentation to the Citizens Advisory Council, which described their work and mission, their role in the Alternative Analysis, the proposed ownership, governance and operating alternatives, and potential evaluation criteria.

Their proposed evaluation criteria included:

- Protection of human health and the environment
- Cost and affordability
- Management experience and capacity
- Community impacts

The Citizen Advisory Council reviewed an issue with operating licenses. Options are being reviewed to meet future ADEM licensing requirements.

Next Meeting

The Receiver will confer with Moonshot Missions regarding the timing of their additional analysis, and then contact each member of the Advisory Council to set a date for a virtual Workshop Meeting in mid-July to discuss the Alternatives Analysis.

The Advisory Council Meeting will still meet on Thursday, July 18 for its standing meeting.