

**I - Call to Order**

**II - Invocation**

**III - Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV - Citizens to Be Heard**

**V - Minutes**

**M 1** Approval of the June 13, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes

**Moved by Chairman Hawkins/Mr. Good; Second by Mr. Brooks- Motion Carried**

**M 2** Approval of the June 20, 2022, Special Board Meeting Minutes

**Moved by Chairman Hawkins/Mr. Good; Second by Mr. Brooks- Motion Carried**

**VI - Consent Agenda**

**CA 1** List of Invoices to be Paid

- Chairman Hawkins applauds his and GSG staff for having invoices paid and accounts reconciled accurately and on time.

**Moved by Chairman Hawkins/Mr. Good; Second by Mr. Brooks- Motion Carried**

**CA 2** Other Items

**VII - Finance and Administration**

**FA 1** Finance Report: YTD Budget vs. Actuals through 06/30/2022

- Melvin Martinez, GSG, presented the operating expenses as of June 30, 2022. The budget is on track, other operating expenses had a small overage, but the operating management and professional services covered the difference.

**FA 2** Grant Closeout and Follow-up

- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, had Karen Shaw and Sara Hand for the closeout and follow-up agenda item.
- Melvin Martinez, GSG, presented the project budget allocation and expenses. He explained the available balance for Melvin Engineering and US Water – Material & Pump; these balances pertain to canceled work orders/work authorizations not approved by the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). The available balance for NGN is based on an estimated 1% of the total award of the net grant amount. The unobligated amount total is over \$92,000. Washington County has an additional disbursing package #5 by Karen Shaw stated this will be over \$480,000. This concludes the grant side for submitting the reimbursement packages.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, asked Karen Shaw and Sara Hand if they had any questions for Melvin Martinez.
- Karen Shaw and Sara Hand confirmed they understood what Melvin Martinez presented to the board.
- Commissioner Good, Holmes County, had some concerns and questions about the available balance for Melvin Engineering.
- Melvin Martinez, GSG, explained that the open balances are funds not utilized for the Work Authorization approved by the Board but denied by DEO.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, clarifies the available balance is money owed back to DEO.

**FA 3 Revenue Sharing Agreement for Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

- Melvin Martinez, GSG, discussed the April workshop, where the board discussed the Washington County and Holmes County revenue sharing agreement to pay the Authority \$60,000 for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, asked Commissioner Good, Homes County, where they stand with this agreement.
- Commissioner Good, Holmes County, stated has not brought this agreement to the Homes County Board for a vote.
- Evan Rosenthal, NGN, informed the Board that this agreement is different from the long-term agreement.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, asked Commissioner Good, Holmes County, and Councilman Brooks, City of Bonifay, for approval of the Revenue Sharing Agreement for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 so it can be presented to the Washington County and Holmes County BOCC for approval.

**Moved by Chairman Hawkins/Mr. Good; Second by Mr. Brooks- Motion Carried**

**FA 4 Other Items**

**VIII. - Operations**

**OP 1 Final Construction Update**

- Jerry Connolly, Venture Mechanical, stated the final startup of the equipment went well. US Water, Cliff Knauer from Dewberry Engineering, and Jake Mathis from Melvin Engineering were there. We had a little hiccup with an electric component, but that was resolved. Then we did start up on the lift stations. Everything is operational and ready for customers.
- Councilman Brooks, City of Bonifay, asked about the master meter.
- Trey let Councilman Brooks know the meter is good to go.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, asked about the meters' minimal flow detection.
- Trey Barbee, City of Bonifay, answered the meter would detect as little as ten gallons of water.
- Jerry Connolly, Venture Mechanical, stated GCUCU and Melvin Engineering were great.

**OP 2 Other Items**

**IX. - System Manager**

**SM 1 The Highway 79 Corridor Authority Celebration**

- Robert Sheets, GSG, wants to celebrate the project completion.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, agreed and would like it to be sooner rather than later. He prefers the end of July or mid-August.
- Commissioner Brooks, City of Bonifay, wants to give a special thanks to Ted Everett and Jim Town for starting this project nine years ago.

**SM 2 Customer Services and Billing**

- Robert Sheets, GSG, notify the Board that this is the continuation with US Water. When the initial agreement was approved, it was only approved for the operation and maintenance. We need to amend the agreement and add the customer service and billing component so the customers

can contact US Water with any complaints, questions, or concerns. GSG will bring this amendment to the next meeting for review and discussion.

**SM 3 Other Items**

**X.- General Counsel**

**GC 1 Revenue Sharing Interlocal Agreement Between the Authority, Washington, and Holmes Counties**

- Evan Rosenthal, NGN, wants to clarify that there are two revenue-sharing agreements. This agreement is separate from the agreement presented by Melvin Martinez. This agreement was in discussion at the April workshop meeting.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, stated he thought both boards agreed on this at the workshop, but the Homes County Board has some concerns. He asked Commissioner Good to explain these concerns.
- Commissioner Good, Holmes County, responded that he brought this to his Board, but they have some concerns with the \$60,000 and giving up ad valorem from 2019 and above.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, explained that the funds do not stay with the Authority. The remaining funds will be returned to the counties when the Authority is fully funded.
- Evan Rosenthal, NGN, explained that the \$60,000 this for the upcoming fiscal year 2022-2023. The interlocal agreement will not take effect until the following fiscal year, 2023-2024. The intent to implement the funding approach was first to use the utility revenue and grant to fund the authority. After that, it shifts down to any ad valorem increases over 2021. Anything you are receiving this year will continue. Anything after will contribute to the development of the Corridor area, or it must come through the Corridor first. If the project generates more funding through the increment than the Authority needs, the money can go back to the counties.
- Commissioner Good, Holmes County, expressed his concerns that there is not much going towards the Board because there is no growth right now. There is no business on either side right now. But theoretically, by year 5, Holmes County could be spending millions a year on this.
- Chairman Hawkins, Washington County, explained to Commissioner Good that the Authority is a standalone entity.
- Joe Rone, Holmes County, said that he could understand Commissioner Good point of view because he does not understand it either. He asked if a piece of property is getting \$2,000 yearly in taxes. Two years from now, it has gone up to \$400,000 a year in taxes. The \$398,000, where does or what county or city get this money?
- Chairman Hawkins stated that the funds would go towards the Corridor, which is \$120,000, and the rest will be returned to the county at the end of the fiscal year; the remaining funds will go back to the counties.
- Evan Rosenthal, NGN, told the Board he would update the agreement to say funds will automatically go back to the counties at the end of the fiscal year.
- Councilman Brooks, City of Bonifay, asked Evan Rosenthal if he could amend this agreement so the board could take a vote.
- Evan Rosenthal, NGN, told the Board he would amend the agreement, and the Board could vote on the agreement subject to that change at the next board meeting
- Commissioner Good, Holmes County, stated he would like to have another workshop with the updated agreement to represent to explain clearly.

**GC 2** Other Items

**XI. - Board Items**

**BD 1** Other Items

**Adjourn - Chairman Hawkins offered a motion to adjourn.**

August 8, 2022  
Date Minutes Approved