

**RESOLUTION STATING BRUNSWICK COUNTY'S POSITION FOR THE
PROVISION OF UTILITY SERVICES WITHIN BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Brunswick County Public Utilities provides potable water and wastewater services to wholesale, retail and industrial customers within Brunswick County; and

WHEREAS, Brunswick County, North Carolina is approaching over 135,000 residents who occupy over 1,000 square miles of land; and

WHEREAS, the supply of potable water and wastewater services is essential to support the public health and sanitation of the community, as well as the environment; and

WHEREAS, over the last 30 years Brunswick County has taken the leadership to finance and construct treatment systems and infrastructure and has soundly managed operations to provide for the unprecedented growth that has occurred in the county; and

WHEREAS, the Brunswick County Board of Commissions have taken the necessary steps to implement advanced treatment of water for the entire county and engage in litigation to hold those responsible for unregulated contaminants discovered in the raw water.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT:

1. The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners, has determined, based on information supplied by consulting engineers, that the Cape Fear River is the only viable source of raw water that will provide an adequate and reliable supply of raw water to meet the County's long-term residential, commercial and industrial needs;
2. Advanced Water Treatment through a Low-Pressure Reverse Osmosis system provides the highest available, effective, and resilient treatment for a broad range of unregulated and regulated contaminants;
3. Water Treated through Reverse Osmosis sourced by the Cape Fear River is of the same high standards as water sourced by an aquifer treated by Reverse Osmosis;

4. The most cost-effective means to provide potable water using advanced treatment technology to all Brunswick County customers is by upgrading and expanding the existing facilities at the 24 MGD Northwest Water Treatment Plant;
5. The County will provide an adequate supply of water that has been treated with advanced processes, continuous testing, monitoring, and transparent reporting of water quality;
6. The County will meet existing demand and support growth in the county, including industrial opportunities that present;
7. The County has staff experienced to manage, finance, and construct water and treatment facilities;
8. Economies of scale and lower costs for rate payers are achieved in the long run when entities combine resources to construct and operate infrastructure projects;
9. The County will set the lowest possible rate structure and prudently manage operations and resources;
10. The County will continue to provide transparent and accurate rate, cost, and operating information to all wholesale, industrial and residential customers;
11. The County will construct a 54-inch parallel raw water main in coordination with Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer, Cape Fear Public Utility, and Pender County, with Brunswick County's portion of the cost estimated to \$42.4 million;
12. The 54-inch parallel raw water main project will commence in December of 2019 with completion in April 2022 and will provide a stable redundant source of raw water to meet the County's anticipated needs through 2060 that is adequate water to support Low Pressure Reverse Osmosis Treatment Processes that are more raw water intensive;
13. After a careful study and evaluation of alternatives to treat existing and emerging contaminants, the County determined to implement Low Pressure Reverse Osmosis at the Northwest Water Treatment Facility;
14. The County is nearing completion of the design of a 24 MGD conventional expansion estimated at \$47.5 million to the Northwest Water Treatment Plant to facilitate 36 MGD of Low-Pressure Reverse Osmosis treated water; and the Low-Pressure Reverse Osmosis system with an estimated cost of \$89.5 million;
15. Federal WIFIA financing was awarded for 49% of the Northwest Water Treatment Plant expansion and advanced treatment project. The WIFIA and Revenue Bond Debt for the projects will be issued in early 2020;

16. Construction of the Northwest Water Facility expansion and Low-Pressure Reverse Osmosis project will begin April 2020 with distribution of advanced treated water in December 2021;
17. Retail, Wholesale and Industrial Water Rates will be established by the AWWA M1 Manual in fairness to all customer classes with the first impact to customers in 2022;
18. Support of the regional wholesale customers of the County's expansion of the Northwest Water Treatment Plant and implementation of low-pressure reverse osmosis advanced treatment is the best option for meeting current and future water demand in the county;
19. There may be strategic benefits to the proposed Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer H2Go treatment plant, and the County proposes that the regional wholesale providers along with the County engage firms to provide the decision-makers and the public with updated independent studies and associated construction and life cycle operational costs;
20. The County proposes that the County provide all potable water for the entire county and is amenable to acquiring water and wastewater systems for those wholesale customers desiring to turn their system over to another entity;
21. The County encourages regionalization and consolidation of systems and encourages water utility providers to seek consolidation grants to assist in regionalization costs and improving the overall system;
22. The County has received the draft permit to expand the Northeast Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant by 2.5 MGD and will bid and finance the construction in October 2019 with completion in December 2021;
23. The County and participants must work together to maintain wastewater collection systems and manage flow between the Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer H2Go Plant and Northeast Plant to prevent further moratoriums.

Adopted this the 23rd day of July, 2019.

Frank L. Williams, Chairman
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Andrea White, NCCCC
Clerk to Board