

June 10, 2024

The Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in a special session at the Flint Creek Project Site at Georgetown Lake for the Annual Inspection (FERC) with Commissioner McLure and Commissioner Adler attending. Also attending were Commissioner's Assistant, Billie Ann Kulaski; Granite County Public Health & Safety Coordinator, Jackie Bolster; FERC Project Engineer Kareem Bynoe; Granite County Dam Tender, Jarrod Kruger; Flint Creek Hydrodynamics Operator, Paul Tallon; Flint Creek Hydrodynamics Engineer, Ben Singer; and Great West Engineering Project Engineers, Jonathan Weaver and Ben Windour. The public was also allowed to attend in person and provide comment. Local resident, Elena Gagliano joined the group for the inspection.

The Inspection commenced with introductions and Kareem Bynoe reviewing upcoming items the County needed to be aware of, including the Comprehensive Analysis that is due to FERC in 2027. This process will include a new PFMA and Risk Assessment. Jackie Bolster inquired about the Public Safety Plan, as many of the signs around the area have faded and need replaced. Kareem Bynoe noted that the County is required to send in an updated Public Safety Plan in 2026; and the signs can be replaced as long as they are in alignment with how the signage is outlined in the current plan. Commissioner Adler noted that cement barriers could be brought into the area to prevent cars from driving down the embankment and deter people from the area. Public comment was received from Elena Gagliano inquiring about the pilings that were discussed when the FERC license was originally applied for. Kareem Bynoe responded that this would potentially be looked at during the comprehensive analysis, but that the pilings are likely fine.

The group reviewed how documentation and communication is coordinated between all of the stakeholders. Then checked the piezometers, noting that at the end of the summer, the area around the piezometer caps will likely need additional cold patch applied to protect the caps during the winter months (snowplowing). The group walked the project. Kareem Bynoe noted that he had concerns over the vegetation around the project and growing on the face of the dam. He noted that the vegetation needs to be removed from the dam face, and that any vegetation with a large root base needs to be taken care of so they don't impact the stability of the grounds. He emphasized the importance of reviewing the vegetation management plan within the license agreement to ensure alignment when removing such vegetation. Kareem Bynoe noted that the dam face is bowing a bit and the group reviewed the survey points utilized annually. Kareem Bynoe reviewed items the Dam Tender needs to measure and keep an eye on pertaining to the project; and report to the Chief Dam Safety Engineer as necessary. Kareem Bynoe also noted that the drainage from the water on the roadway is washing away the sediment and draining onto the spillway. The group descended down the vault to the gates to ensure they are in operable condition; and completed a full cycle inside of the vault. Then they accessed the outlet works at the toe of the dam where concrete deterioration was documented during the 2021 Part 12D inspection and evaluated by Great West. Following the inspection at the dam, the group went to the Power House with Flint Creek Hydrodynamics to review operations and ensure the current EAP was posted.

The Inspection was completed at 1:45 p.m.