



**Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting  
September 22, 2020**

**Minutes**

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**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Sam Peden (I), Philip O'Dell (II), Jurell Byrd, Secretary (III), Bill Teague, Vice Chairman (IV), Susan Curry, Treasurer (V), John McMurray, (VI), Ted Davenport, Chairman (VII), and Doug Hendrick (Municipal)

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Jeff Field, Executive Director  
Steve Griffin, Construction Manager  
Damas Mattison, Regulatory Compliance and Operations Manager  
Angie Nelson, Director of Administration and Customer Service  
Wendy Medlock, Director of Finance  
KC Price, Engineering Manager

**ATTORNEY:** Allen M. Wham

**PRESS:** Clinton Chronicle

**GUESTS:** N/A

**Call to Order**

**Invocation**

**Approval of August 25, 2020 Minutes**

**Chairman Remarks**

**Executive Director Remarks**

**LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary**

**LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary**

### **New Business**

1. Accelerated USDA Loan Closing Discussion
2. Water Capacity, Management, Operations, Maintenance (CMOM) Annual Report
3. Sewer Capacity, Management, Operations, Maintenance (CMOM) Annual Report

### **Old Business**

1. Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Update

### **Executive Session**

*Upon returning to open session, the Commission may take whatever action deemed appropriate on matters discussed in executive session.*

1. Contractual Matter Related to Greenville Water System

### **Other Business**

### **Adjourn**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 8:18am in the Training Rooms of the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission.

Invocation was given by Commissioner McMurray.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any additions or corrections to the August 25, 2020 minutes, as submitted to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Hendrick MOVED *that the minutes be accepted as submitted.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Byrd. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

### **CHAIRMAN REMARKS**

Chairman Davenport welcomed the Commissioners and the press to the meeting. In addition, he noted that Commissioner Peden and Commissioner McMurray celebrated their birthdays yesterday.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS**

Mr. Field thanked Ms. Nelson and Mrs. Medlock for everything they have done while filling in for the vacant Executive Assistant position.

## **LCWSC MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

The monthly financial summary was presented to the Commissioners. A copy of the summary can be found in the Commissioner Board Packet.

As of August 31, 2020, LCWSC had a total of \$7,154,761 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$5,876,433 this time in FY20.

Mr. Field discussed the highlights for Water Distribution, Wastewater, Lake Rabon, and the Town of Gray Court. He also provided the percentage breakdown for operating revenue, operating expenses, capital revenue, and capital expenses by department as well as the overall combined percentage for each.

Mr. Field also discussed the contributed capital received to date from grants, customer and developer paid line extensions, and industrial projects. Mr. Field noted that the \$750,000 A-line sewer rehab CDBG project discussed at previous Board meetings was approved with a local match of \$120,000.

## **LCWSC MONTHLY OPERATIONS SUMMARY**

The monthly operations summary was presented to the Commissioners. A copy of the summary can be found in the Commissioner Board Packet.

Mr. Field reported 28 new services were installed in the month of August.

Mr. Mattison discussed water purchased and water loss for the system, which includes the percent unaccounted and the percent audited. For the month of August, the total water loss was 24.5% of which 16.4% was unaccounted for through background leaks in the system. The rolling 12-month average for unaccounted water loss is 15.4%. The target is 18.00%.

There were 7 active service line leaks and 3 active main line leaks.

Line extensions, including completed, in progress, and upcoming, were also discussed. Mr. Griffin stated we just finished Sandy Springs Road and are currently working on Wasson Gin Road. In addition, we just had a customer pay yesterday for an additional line extension on Hanks Road.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Accelerated USDA Loan Closing Discussion**

Mr. Field noted that we would usually close on our USDA loans at 90% complete which would be probably be June or July of 2021. He noted that the rate for the first four loans was 2.25%, the fifth loan was 3.125%, and the sixth loan was 2.75%. However, the current USDA rate was 1.50%. Therefore, if we closed by September 30, 2020, LCWSC will save about \$264,000 per year for a total of about 10 million dollars in interest over the 40-year loan.

Payments for the new loans would be due the 28<sup>th</sup> of every month starting in October 2020. Mr. Field stated that we will use the Water Treatment Plant reserve budget number to pay for the loan. For the given year while we pay for the USDA loans and continue to purchase water, our bond coverage is estimated to be 1.46%, which is still good.



Chairman Davenport noted that Mr. Field started pursuing this and he thanked him for looking out for LCWSC. He also thanked Theo DuBose, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, and Debi Green, USDA. The Board of Commissioners will have a called meeting Friday, September 25, 2020 to approve the six resolutions.

## **2. Water Capacity, Management, Operations, Maintenance (CMOM) Annual Report**

Mr. Mattison provided the Water CMOM Annual Report and noted that the report now includes the Town of Gray Court. The presentation included the current water assets, flushing, valve maintenance, hydrant flow tests, elevated tank maintenance, and water quality complaints.

The FY 2020 flushing total was 20,067,794 gallons for routine flushing, dirty water complaints, and leaks. There were 421 annual valve exercising work orders completed for valve maintenance in FY 2020; with 9 work orders to replace existing valves that no longer work properly. Mr. Mattison noted that 165 flow tests out of the 931 hydrants were performed in FY 2020. Hydrant flow tests are on a 3-year schedule which began in July 2019. Weekly inspections, performed by our operators, are required on each elevated tank in our system. Our operators also check all pump station equipment and monitor chlorine. If more substantial maintenance is required, it is performed by an outside contractor.

Outside contractors performed the following in FY 2020:

- Interior / Exterior Renovation: Greenpond
- Visual Inspections: Hospital, Joanna, Owings, and Gray Court

Upcoming maintenance scheduled during 2020/2021 calendar year includes:

- New Owings washout
- Waterloo washout
- Joanna washout
- Hickory Tavern inspection
- Maddens interior / exterior renovation

Mr. Mattison discussed dirty water complaints and water quality tracking information for 2019 through 2021. He stated that there was a total of 249 system wide water quality complaints in FY 2020 with most of our problems in the summer months; 124 water quality complaints in July FY 2020.

Mr. Mattison closed with the following notables:

- Installed new altitude valve and flow meter at Hwy 252
- Installed new altitude valve at Cross Hill
- Installed CL17 meter at Raider Road
- Installed delta grounding grid at Raider Road pump station, Fountain Inn pump station, Hickory Tavern tank, and Clinton pump station
- Completed Unregulated Contaminated Monitoring Rule (UCMR) 4 sampling with DHEC

## **3. Sewer Capacity, Management, Operations, Maintenance (CMOM) Annual Report**

Mr. Mattison provided the Sewer CMOM Annual Report. The presentation included closed-circuit TV (CCTV) inspections of gravity mains, force mains and air release valves (ARV) inspections, right of ways (ROW) maintenance, manhole maintenance and inflow and infiltration (I&I) results.

Crews cleaned and CCTV 5,829 feet of gravity collection lines that are part of the Joanna basin and CCTV 43,024 feet of gravity collection lines in the ReWa and North Creek basins. CCTV found 4

root intrusions, 1 large crack, and defective tap in the North Creek basin. CCTV found 1 encrustation and scale, 1 settled deposit, and 1 water level greater than 20% in the pipe in the ReWa basin.

Force mains and ARV work included visual inspections of 30.7 miles of force main, 67 ARV inspections, and 12 ARV replacements. Johnson Detention Center ARV needs to be replaced and Sand Creek needs a manhole repaired.

ROW work included mowing and clearing of 118 acres, repairing creek crossings at Woodfield, Hwy 25, and North Creek, and removing 15 fallen trees. In addition, a new contractor, Kevin Hawkins, removed 33 beavers from ROWs. ROW work still needed includes cutting of overhang tree limbs, repairing/replacing 5 gates, and removing more beaver dams.

Mr. Mattison discussed manholes and I&I. Out of the 102 manhole inspections performed, 17 need coating. 37 manholes were checked during rain events for inflow and infiltration; none were under water, 13 manholes in asphalt were found to have some water entering, none were surcharging, and 4 were above the normal flow line.

Mr. Mattison also discussed the following other notables for FY 2020:

- Responded to 52 service requests (26 check service to see if usable)
- 16 work orders associated with service connections; most associated with blockages
- Began construction on Lydia Mill, Connexial Center Industrial Park, and Winterbrook off-site projects,
- Applied for Hwy 56/76 CDBG

Mr. Mattison noting the following work still needed:

- GPS cleanouts and service connections
- Repair access roads at Hwy 25, Bush River (2<sup>nd</sup> half), Millers, and Johnson Detention Center
- Complete the updating of the LCWSC sewer specs

Mr. Mattison closed with the following maintenance performed:

- Replaced a total of 7 pumps: Miller's Fork PS, Norbord PS, Whitten PS1, Whitten PS2, and two at WWTP return activated sludge (RAS) PS.
- Replaced a total of 9 electrical components: 2 soft starts at Bush River, ultrasonic level controller at Johnson Detention Center, phase converter at Hwy 25, new panel stand at Norbord, new transfer switch at Gray Court A, sump pump control panel at WWTP Influent, and new signature flow meter at Shell Creek
- Replaced or installed piping at 2 locations: bypass suction line at Miller's Fork and Sand Creek

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Lake Greenwood WTP Update**

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood WTP. He provided photos of the intake structure, the water treatment plant, the water distribution line work, the Milam Road Tank project, and Waterloo Booster Pump Station.

Next, Mr. Price noted that the intake was completely closed in now, the floor was poured at the WTP, and the back wall was constructed.

Mr. Field stated that Mrs. Medlock would reach out to each Commissioner and set up the tours of the WTP and intake site within the next two weeks.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Upon returning to open session, the Commission may take whatever action deemed appropriate on matters discussed in executive session.*

#### **1. Contractual Matter Related to Greenville Water System**

Commissioner Hendrick MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners Go into Executive Session at 10:23am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner O'Dell. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

Commissioner Byrd MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners Come Out of Executive Session at 11:08am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Hendrick. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

### **BUSINESS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

#### **1. Contractual Matter Related to Greenville Water System**

Mr. Field stated there was a small area in Greenville County around Hwy 418 currently served by LCWSC that Greenville Water System (GWS) would like to serve. The Commission has undersized waterlines in this area and provides service to 191 existing residential customers. The GWS is installing a 16-inch waterline along Hwy 418 and would like to serve these customers and the undeveloped property on this road moving forward. Mr. Field and the General Manager for the GWS have been negotiating a solution for the last several months and are now prepared to offer an Agreement for consideration by both Boards. The Agreement as currently proposed, will transfer LCWSC assets and allow GWS to serve customers in the small area along Hwy 418; in return, GWS will pay the LCWSC \$1,203,161 and sign an Intergovernmental Agreement that identifies the remaining area in Greenville County LCWSC will continue to serve in perpetuity.

Commissioner O'Dell MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners approve the offer from Greenville Water System and authorize Chairman Ted Davenport and Executive Director Jeff Field to sign the Agreement pending Greenville Water System Board Approval.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Byrd. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Nelson noted that we will have our Annual Customer Appreciation day via the drive-thru on October 23, 2020.

Mr. Field stated that on October 27, 2020, we will have a Drive-Thru United Way Day breakfast starting at 7:30 am so the Commission Meeting will start at 8:30am.




Mrs. Medlock mentioned that LCWSC would be hosting a Flu Shot Clinic in the training room on October 8, 2020 from 7:30am until 8:15am and to see her to sign up.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Hendrick MOVED that the *Board of Commissioners meeting be adjourned.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Peden. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

There being no further business the Commission adjourned at 11:16am.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on September 22, 2020 and that the minutes were approved at the meeting held October 27, 2020.

  
Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary