



Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission

**Board of Commissioners Meeting
February 23, 2021**

Minutes

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
Wendy Medlock, Director of Finance
Angie Nelson, Director of Administration and Customer Service
KC Price, Engineering Manager

ATTORNEY: Allen M. Wham

PRESS: Clinton Chronicle

GUESTS: None

Call to Order

Invocation

Approval of January 26, 2021 Minutes

Chairman Remarks

Executive Director Remarks

LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary

LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary

New Business

1. Bush River Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Land Application Project

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 Laurens CPW

Other Business

Adjourn

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 8:23am 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 January 26, 2021 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.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Field also welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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 January 31, 2021, LCWSC had a total of \$8,607,737 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$6,323,891 this time in FY20 and was awaiting reimbursements totaling \$734,771 from CDBG, EDA, and SCDOT.

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 noted that LCWSC has received \$1,800,249 in contributed capital grants and \$36,875 for customer paid line extensions for FY21.

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 stated that the gallons per day per active residential tap for the month of January was 122. The target is 134. Mr. Field discussed the work order summary for the current month and for FY21 and reported 22 new services were installed in the month of January.

Mr. Mattison discussed water purchased and water loss for the system, which includes the percent unaccounted and the percent audited. For the month of January, the total water loss was 20.6% of which only 13.1% was unaccounted for through background leaks in the system. The rolling 12-month average for unaccounted water loss is 15.9%. The target is 18.00%.

There were 14 active service line leaks and 6 active main line leaks.

Line extensions, including completed, in progress, and upcoming, were also discussed. Mr. Griffin noted that they are working on Boyds Mill Pond Road. He noted that the Old Plantation Road line extension, Bucks Point, Easy Road will be next.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Bush River Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Land Application Project

Mr. Mattison provided photos of existing drying beds and stated that LCWSC currently uses drying beds to dewater sludge prior to disposal at a landfill. LCWSC currently has thirty-four beds which are 80 ft long by 20 ft wide. He stated that LCWSC has regulatory issues with the drying beds as DHEC has written LCWSC up regarding the vector (flies) problem. In addition, Mr. Mattison noted the rising cost of removing the sludge from the drying beds and disposing of it at a landfill. He also noted the possibility of landfills starting to reject municipal sludge which caused LCWSC explore landfill alternatives.

Next, Mr. Mattison discussed the proposed Land Application Agreement with Synagro, a private company that will manage the Land Application Program. He stated that this project has two phases.

Phase 1 would be a Decant Pump and Tanker Loading Station which has an initial cost estimate of \$120,000. Mr. Mattison noted that each tanker truck carries about 6,000 gallons and Synagro has located about 300 acres of land that would be used for this land application. The land would be used to grow hay. Mr. Mattison stated that it would be sampled once a quarter to ensure that it meets DHEC standards and noted that land application was more regulated than landfill disposal.

Phase 2 would include two 750,000-gallon Digesters with positive displacement blowers or floating aerators and piping. This phase is estimated at \$1,500,000 and Mr. Field noted that we would seek grants to help cover much of this project cost.

There was a lengthy discussion after the presentation and several Commissioners had questions about the potential environmental impacts related to land applying sludge from a municipal wastewater treatment plant. Chairman Davenport recommended that the project be referred to the Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Committee for further discussion. He also requested that a representative from Synagro attend the CIP meeting to answer any questions the Committee members may have.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Lake Greenwood WTP Update

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood WTP. He provided photos from the February 2020 Commission Meeting to show how far the project has progressed in a year. He provided photos of the intake building, the completed seawall, the water treatment plant, the generators, and the under drain.

Next, Mr. Price provided photos of the Milam Road elevated tank including pictures of the contractor's view of the construction process and of the completed erected elevated tank. He stated that the elevated tank was completely erected and will not be paint until it gets warmer.

Mr. Price also noted that Payne, McGinn, and Cummings were back onsite and have completed all of the road bores for the raw waterline.

Finally, Mr. Price noted the Water Treatment Plant Chief Operator position has been posted on several websites and we have received two applications thus far.

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 Laurens CPW

Commissioner Hendrick MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners Go into Executive Session at 10:02am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Byrd. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

Commissioner Hendrick MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners Come Out of Executive Session at 11:05am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Peden. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

OTHER BUSINESS

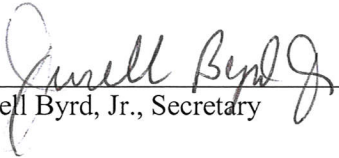
Mrs. Medlock reminded the Board of Commissioners and officers to file the 2021 Statement of Economic Interests reports with the State of South Carolina State Ethics Commission. She noted that the filing deadline is March 30, 2021.

ADJOURN

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

There being no further business the Commission adjourned at 11:07am.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on February 23, 2021 and that the minutes were approved at the meeting held March 23, 2021.



Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary