



Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission

**Board of Commissioners Meeting
July 27, 2021**

Minutes

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: 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 Jimmy Young (Municipal)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Vacant (I)

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

ATTORNEY: Allen M. Wham

PRESS: The Clinton Chronicle

GUESTS: None

Call to Order

Invocation

Approval of June 22, 2021, Minutes

Chairman Remarks

Executive Director Remarks

LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary

LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary

New Business

1. Introduction of New Commissioners
2. Lake Rabon Algae Discussion

Old Business

1. Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility 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.
2. Contractual Matter related to Water Treatment Facility Operations.

Other Business

Adjourn

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 8:17 am 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 June 22, 2021, minutes, as submitted to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Byrd MOVED *that the minutes be accepted as submitted.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Curry. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 5; NAYS, 0

CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Chairman Davenport welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Mr. Jimmy Young, the newest commissioner appointed to the Board of Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission. While awaiting final notification of formal appointment from the SC Governor's Office, votes taken on official actions will not reflect participation of Commissioner Young.

Chairman Davenport also wished Happy Birthday to Commissioner Teague and Commissioner Byrd; both celebrate their birthday in the month of July.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Field also welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Mr. Young for serving on the LCWSC Board of Commissioners. Mr. Field presented to the Commissioner's the gift to be presented to the widow (Lynn) of John Samuel Peden, former member of the Board of Directors for LCWSC. The gift is a photo of the 2019 Board of Commissioners and the Resolution of Commendation for John Samuel Peden framed and matted together.

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 June 30, 2021, LCWSC had a total of \$9,510,859 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$7,779,508 this time in FY20. As of June 30, 2021, LCWSC is awaiting an EDA reimbursement totaling \$147,096; the reimbursement will be outstanding until the Milam Road project is complete. With the EDA reimbursement, the total cash balance would be \$9,657,955.

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 \$2,121,864 in contributed capital grants and \$48,925 for customer paid line extensions, developer line extensions, or industrial projects (not grant funded) 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 June was 149. The target is 134 gallons per day. Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph for FY21 and noted that June precipitation was 5.69 inches, which is 2.93 inches above that of June FY20. The data is a county average derived from rain gauges at Lake Rabon, Bush River Wastewater Treatment Plant, Bethany Tank, and the Clinton Pump Station.

Mr. Field discussed the work order summary for the current month and for FY21 and reported 54 new taps were installed in the month of June: a total of 472 new taps for FY21.

Mr. Field stated that income for LCWSC is increasing due to community housing growth and the purchase of water taps. Revenue for LCWSC has increased due to the increased amount of water sold. He also shared that the agreement with LCWSC and the Town of Gray is working well. The discussion of agreement future plans will continue in preparation of the current agreement expiration date.

Mr. Mattison discussed water purchased and water loss for the system, which includes the percent unaccounted, and the percent audited. For the month of June, the total water loss was 30.8% of which 22.4% was unaccounted for through background leaks in the system.

Mr. Mattison stated that the water loss is partially related to the two-day difference between our purchase of water from vendors and our billing from customers.

The rolling 12-month average for unaccounted water loss is 15.6%. The target is 18.00%. There are 3 active main line leaks; there are not any active service line leaks.

Mr. Griffin gave the update for line extensions, including completed, in progress and upcoming. Hunter Farm Road is complete. Whelon Road line extension, an in-house project, is on hold until the easement is resolved. Rest Road will begin within two weeks.

Mr. Griffin mentioned that PVC piping has become difficult to locate, especially 3" pipe. LCWSC is currently waiting on PVC piping ordered for Dean Woods Road and Phillips Lane. The delay in receiving the PVC piping may create future project delays.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction of New Commissioners

Commissioner Davenport formally introduced Commissioner Young giving a brief biography of his background.

Commissioner Young is the Municipal representative for LCWSC ; he resides in Clinton and is a lifelong resident of Laurens County. He is retired from the Army National Guard. Commissioner Young has a background in Management of Feed and Fertilizer dealerships. He has previously served on the Clinton City Council, and the Clinton/Newberry Natural Gas Authority Board. Commissioner Young is a current member of the Board of United Ministries.

2. Lake Rabon Algae Discussion

Mr. Mattison presented a power point detailing Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB), the algae that has been detected at Lake Rabon through SCDHEC sampling of six sites on July 15, 2021. LCWSC was notified by DHEC of the finding of Microcystin greater than 8 ug/L, on July 16, 2021. LCWSC acted quickly in notifying the community by giving a public notice advisory, notifying homeowners living around Lake Rabon via telephone, posted a notice on the LCWSC website, and Facebook page.

LCWSC placed SCDHEC provided signage at the Lake Rabon Park, and all known public access points on the lake. SCDHEC was provided with links to our website page for placement on their website. SCDHEC will resample various Lake Rabon sites until there are two consecutive samplings less than 8 ug/L of Microcystin found. LCWSC will continue to display signage and educate and inform the community through the website and Facebook page as updates occur.

Mr. Price stated that SCDHEC has begun sampling of lakes around South Carolina during the months of May - October. If there is a concern, the sampling becomes weekly until the issue is resolved.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility Update

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility. He presented updated photos of the exterior and interior of the Administration Building, Intake Structure, High Service area, interior of the ozone building, the chemical feed pumps on elevated skids, the catwalk located at the rapid mixer, and the interior of the Lab.

The awning has been installed above the front doors at the Administrative Building, the centerpiece statement wall is progressing and is a very nice focal point in the reception area. Pipes are being installed from the main line to the Administrative Building as part of the fire protection system.

All tops have been installed on the counters and island in the Lab area. The Lab floors will be stained within the week. At the Intake Structure the black top paving is complete, the fencing is 95% complete, and with weather permitting the landscaping will begin soon. The Chemical Feed area is complete.

Mr. Price noted in the ozone system that the welding test on the stainless-steel piping received good results. Incremental changes are occurring in the ozone area on a regular basis.

The High Service area is completely plumbed in, testing of the backwash pumps will begin in September 2021. The completion date of the concrete pad for the Oxygen system is within one month.

Mr. Price added that walkway grates are continuing to be installed at the Rapid Mix area as soon as the walkway is fully complete the staircase and railing will be ready for installation. Once the walkway, staircase and railing are fully installed a tour of the facility is planned for the Board of Commissioners and the Directors of LCWSC.

Suez Manufacturer was onsite last week and this week to run several tests that included the filter underdrain system; all testing went well. Water was successfully pumped from the lake; a pressure test will be performed at a later date.

Waterloo Booster Pump Station is 92% complete. The Milan Rd. Elevated Tank remains unpainted, painting is expected to begin soon, but no schedule has been submitted.

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.**
- 2. Contractual Matter related to Water Treatment Facility Operations**

Commissioner O'Dell MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners Go into Executive Session at 10:12 am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Byrd. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 5; NAYS, 0

Commissioner McMurray MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners Come Out of Executive Session at 11:53 am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Curry. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 5; NAYS, 0

BUSINESS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Contractual Matter related to Water Treatment Facility Operations

Commissioner Byrd MOVED *to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Clear Water Solutions to perform operations at the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility; the contract is not to exceed \$50,000 per month.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Curry. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 5; NAYS, 0

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Davenport asked if there was any other business to discuss. None was brought forward.

ADJOURN

Commissioner O'Dell MOVED that the *Board of Commissioners meeting be adjourned.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Byrd. MOTION CARRIED. AYES,5 ; NAYS, 0

There being no further business the Commission adjourned at 11:57 am.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on July 27, 2021, and that the minutes were approved at the meeting held August 24, 2021.

Jurell Byrd, Secretary