



Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission

**Board of Commissioners Meeting
August 24, 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 July 27, 2021, Minutes

Chairman Remarks

Executive Director Remarks

LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary

LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary

New Business

1. Election of Officers
2. Committee Appointment
3. Resolution Honoring Steve Brown, Former Chairman of Greenwood County Council
4. Resolution To Authorize Economic Development Administration Application Submission and Execution of Grant Award for project “Laurens County Industrial Water and Sewer Improvements”

Old Business

1. Lake Rabon Algae Discussion
2. 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.

Other Business

Adjourn

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 8:20 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 July 27, 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 in attendance to the meeting. He also restated that while awaiting final notification of formal appointment from the SC Governor's Office, votes taken on official actions will not reflect participation of the newest commissioner appointed to the Board of Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission, Mr. Jimmy Young.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Jeff 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 July 31, 2021, LCWSC had a total of \$9,415,553 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$7,429,587 this time in FY21. As of July 31, 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 \$9,562,649. Mr. Field noted that at this time revenue appears above average due to the start of the financial fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2021, and water usage is typically elevated in the summertime.

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. He noted that all budgetary areas are on target.

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 July was 151. The target is 134 gallons per day. Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph for FY2022 and noted that July precipitation was 4.28 inches, which is 0.86 inches above that of July FY2021. 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 reporting that 55 new taps were installed in the month of July. LCWSC is staying busy due to the growth in the county.

Mr. Mattison presented the full water audit slide and explained why it looks different from what has been seen in the past. The information includes the totals for amounts purchased, sold, audited, and unaccounted water. The full water audit formula is recommended by American Water Works Association (AWWA) and is the industry standard tool for conducting the annual water audit and using the results to guide a program for cost-effective water loss control and revenue recovery.

Mr. Mattison stated that the formula is a rolling 12-month average for unaccounted water loss; the current month data is added as the one-year-old data is removed to determine the average. For the month of July, the unaccounted total is 16,915,001 gallons. The target is less than 19,500,000.

There were seven main line leaks; six of the line leaks were repaired within two weeks and one leak was fixed within two to four weeks. There were twenty lateral line leaks; eighteen were repaired within two weeks and two were repaired within two to four weeks.

Mr. Griffin gave the update for line extensions, including completed, in progress and upcoming. Rest Road Project will begin in approximately one week as soon as DOT clarification is received. Dean Wood and Phillips Lane projects will begin as soon as permits are received from Greenville County, the process takes about six to eight weeks to receive.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers

Chairman Davenport turned this portion of the meeting over to LCWSC Attorney, Allen M. Wham, for the purpose of electing officers.

Mr. Wham informed the board that the following officers are presented for election or re-election:

- *Chairman:* Commissioner Ted Davenport
- *Vice Chairman:* Commissioner Bill Teague
- *Treasurer:* Commissioner Susan Curry
- *Secretary:* Commissioner Jurell Byrd

Commissioner Davenport asked if there were any suggestions for any questions to discuss prior to voting on the election or re-election of officers. None was brought forward.

Commissioner O'Dell made the motion *to re-elect the current slate of officers for another term.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner McMurray. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 5; NAYS,

2. Committee Appointments

The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners appoints the Board Committee Members. Commissioner Davenport appointed the following to serve on the Committees:

- *Budget Committee:*
 - Commissioner Davenport
 - Commissioner McMurray
 - Commissioner Curry
- *Capital Improvements Committee:*
 - Commissioner Davenport
 - Commissioner Teague
 - Commissioner O'Dell

- *Policy Committee:*
 - Commissioners Byrd
 - Commissioner Young
 - District 1 Representative (when position filled)

3. Resolution Honoring Steve Brown, Former Chairman of Greenwood County Council

Mr. Field presented the resolution to the Board of Commissioners, stating that Mr. Brown was a strong but humble leader, never allowing a political agenda to motivate his actions; he always put the public interest first when making decisions. Mr. Brown’s role as the Chairman of the Greenwood County Council was crucial during the important time of gaining support from Greenwood County Council for LCWSC’s Raw Water Intake on Lake Greenwood. Mr. Brown recognized the valuable and mutually beneficial relationship both Laurens and Greenwood County shared and that such a relationship would strengthen once both counties relied on Lake Greenwood as its primary source of drinking water. Mr. Field ended by saying that Mr. Brown was a great negotiator showing tremendous respect for everyone that he encountered.

Commissioner Davenport spoke kindly of Mr. Brown stating that he had a down to earth personality, that he was influential in the community, and respected by the Greenwood County Council Board. He said that Mr. Brown’s passing was a tremendous loss to the Greenwood and to the community.

Commissioner Byrd MOVED *that the Board approve the Resolution Honoring Steve Brown.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Curry. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 5; NAYS, 0

4. Resolution To Authorize Economic Development Administration Application Submission and Execution of Grant Award for project “Laurens County Industrial Water and Sewer Improvements”

Mr. Field presented the resolution to the Board of Commissioners stating that LCWSC has submitted a request to the Economic Development Administration for funding under its Public Works and Economic Facilities Program for the project entitled Laurens County Industrial Water and Sewer Improvements.

Commissioner Byrd MOVED *that the Board approve the Resolution to Authorize Economic Development Administration Application Submission and Execution of Grant Award for project “Laurens County Industrial Water and Sewer Improvements”* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner McMurray. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 5; NAYS, 0

OLD BUSINESS

1. Lake Rabon Algae Update

Mr. Price shared that DHEC gathered samples from Lake Rabon approximately two weeks ago, all samples are reported as low. There must be two consecutive rounds of samples taken and returned as low before DHEC will give an all-clear report. Samples were taken again on August 25, 2021, if the report is good, at that time all signage can be removed from Lake Rabon.

2. Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility Update

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility. He presented an aerial photo of the Water Treatment Facility and updated photos of the exterior of the Administration Building, the catwalk at the rapid mixer, the splitter box located at the rapid mixer, the upload clarifier, interior of the ozone building, high service pump area, and the interior of the break room.

Landscaping of the raw water intake site is ongoing; plants and shrubs are being established. The concrete wall was installed in front of the Administrative Building, curbing of the sidewalks, and paving the parking lot will begin soon.

The stairs are in place at the rapid mix area, the grates have been installed for the walkway; however, all are not bolted in completely at this time. In the high service pump area, the piping is in place; testing should begin in approximately one month.

The breakroom appliances will be installed soon. Incremental changes are occurring in the ozone area on a regular basis. Chris Lee with Clearwater Solutions has begun preparing the lab.

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.

One of the Milam Rd. pumps are being reworked after testing did not perform as expected, and painting of the Milam Road elevated tank is expected to begin soon.

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 O'Dell MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners Go into Executive Session at 10:03 am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner McMurray. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 5; NAYS, 0

Commissioner Byrd MOVED that the ***Board of Commissioners Come Out of Executive Session at 10:49 am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Teague. 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 10:51 am

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on August 24, 2021, and that the minutes were approved at the meeting held September 28, 2021.

Jurell Byrd, Secretary