



**Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting  
April 26, 2022**

**Minutes**

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**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Dime Hollingsworth (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 Jimmy Young (Municipal)

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** None

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

**ATTORNEY:** Allen M. Wham

**PRESS:** Clinton Chronicle

**GUESTS:** None

**Call to Order**

**Invocation**

**Approval of March 22, 2022, Minutes**

**Chairman Remarks**

**Executive Director Remarks**

**LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary**

**LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary**

## **New Business**

1. Renew Statement Regarding Conflict-of-Interest Policy

## **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

## **Other Business**

## **Adjourn**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

Invocation given by Commissioner McMurray.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March 22, 2022, minutes, as submitted to the Commissioners. None being submitted.

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

## **CHAIRMAN REMARKS**

Chairman Davenport welcomed the Commissioners, staff, and everyone in attendance to the meeting. He congratulated Mr. Vic MacDonald for his recent promotion to Publisher of the Clinton Chronicle. Chairman Davenport announced the passing of Mr. E.L. Mason and spoke fondly of him and his countless contributions to LCWSC throughout his many years of service as a commissioner.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS**

Mr. Field also welcomed all in attendance. He shared that the funeral service of Mr. E.L. Mason was incredibly special. He stated that Mr. Mason was small in stature but walked tall in the Joanna community. Mr. Field spoke of learning from Mr. Mason what was meant by the phrase "The Joanna Way." At the funeral service Mr. Field shared with Mr. Mike Mason, the son of Mr. E.L. Mason a photo of the plaque at the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility that bears the name of Mr. E.L. Mason as a Commissioner Serving During the Project Implementation.

## **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 March 31, 2022, LCWSC had a total of \$8,430,913 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$8,736,501 at this time in FY21. As of March 31, 2022, LCWSC is awaiting a CPST reimbursement for \$2,500. In addition to an EDA reimbursement of \$371,328; LCWSC requested repayment from EDA of \$361,728 on March 8, 2022. The EDA reimbursement balance of \$9,600 will remain outstanding until the Milam Road project is complete. Including all reimbursements due, LCWSC would have a total cash balance of \$8,808,334.

Mr. Field discussed the highlights for Water Distribution, Wastewater, Lake Rabon, and the Town of Gray Court. He also supplied 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 \$4,350,202 in contributed capital grants during FY22. Year to date paid line extensions for FY22 total \$149,600 from customers or developers. The year-to-date line extensions include Rest Road, Phillips Lane, Clyde Road, Herman Road, Jerome Bailey Road, Twin Branch Road, Hunter Industrial Park Road, and Robin Drive.

Mr. Field stated that LCWSC's planned projects may come in over budget due to the fact that bids were submitted and accepted approximately two years prior to the current change in the economy and the supply chain. The current market increase is between 30%- 40%.

## **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 average gallons per day per active residential tap for the month of March was 111. On average for the year, each customer uses 134 gallons per day. Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph noting that March 2022 precipitation was 5.62 inches, which is 2.68 inches above that of March 2021. The precipitation 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 reviewed the work order summary for the current month reporting that 101 new water taps and twenty-eight new sewer taps were installed in the month of March 2022. A total of 429 water taps and fifty-five sewer taps have been installed in FY22. Mr. Field presented a map indicating the distribution of all new taps installed throughout the county in FY22. He added, there is a good distribution of services throughout the county.

Mr. Mattison discussed water purchased and the water audit. The water audit compares the water purchased to the water sold, water audited, and water unaccounted. The formula used is a rolling 12-month average for unaccounted water loss; the current month data is added as the one-year-old data is removed. For the month of March 2022, the unaccounted total is 15,143,389 gallons. The monthly goal for unaccounted water is *less than* 19,500,000 gallons.

Mr. Mattison also shared the information regarding line leak work orders for March 2022. There were thirteen main line leak work orders closed; ten were repaired within two weeks, one was repaired within two to four weeks, and two were repaired later than four weeks. There were eleven lateral line leak work orders closed; seven were repaired within two weeks, three were repaired within two to four weeks, and one was repaired later than four weeks.



Mr. Mattison stated that he, Mr. Griffin, and Ms. Nelson recently attended the Waterloss Workshop hosted by the South Carolina American Water Works Association (SCAWWA), held in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Ms. Nelson is a member of the Waterloss Committee for the State of South Carolina.

At the workshop, they learned a lot on the topic of controlling system pressure. When the system is maintained at an ideal pressure, there is a greater opportunity to determine the location of background leaks as well as the additional benefit of placing less fatigue on the PVC piping. Reduced pressure affects flow and revenue. Finding the perfect balance is an evolving process.

Mr. Griffin gave an update for the line extension projects. Whelon Road project sampling is complete, only need to tie it in at Dean Drive to finish out the project. The upcoming projects are Jackson Road, Michaela Street and Robin Drive.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Renew Statement Regarding Conflict-of-Interest Policy**

Mr. Field stated that it was time to renew the Statement Regarding Conflict-of-Interest Policy that LCWSC adopted in 2016. He reminded everyone that the policy is a requirement of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Letter of Conditions. The policy applies to all Commissioners, the Executive Director, and the Finance Director. He stated that one of the many goals at LCWSC is to keep all policies up to date and current.

Highlights of the policy include:

- Duty to Disclose
- Recusal of Self
- Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists
- Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest
- Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy

A signature is required by all parties mentioned to affirm that each person:

- Has received a copy of the conflicts of interest policy,
- Has read and understands the policy,
- Has agreed to comply with the policy, and
- Understands the Commission is subject to the Ethics Act.

A signature was received by all parties required.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility Update**

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility.

The Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility is performing well although there remains an issue with the filters maintaining consistency. SUEZ Water Technologies has provided the LCWSC with the ability to backwash at another flow rate and time interval .

This has been helpful, but it did not completely solve the issue. It is important that the backwash procedure is accurate to ensure that a clean wash process is consistently repeatable.

Though the filters are producing good water that are within regulatory guidelines, Mr. Price remains determined that the filters can perform even better once LCWSC team optimize the backwash process. Mr. Price stated that there are not any pressing issues at this time; however, with any new treatment facility it is a learning process the first six months or so.

The ozone system has been currently running for ten days. The rate that phosphate was being fed into the system had been adjusted; the system is set-up to pace off of the flow of the high service pumps.

Water was recently collected from Lake Greenwood at the Raw Water Facility; the results indicate that there are low levels of Methyl-Isoborneol (MIB) and Geosmin. Geosmin and Methyl-Isoborneol (MIB) are naturally occurring taste and odor (T&O) producing organic compounds found in drinking water supplies. They impart an earthy odor to water. In a couple of weeks LCWSC will collect water from Lake Greenwood at the Raw Water Facility and will then evaluate the water after it has been processed through the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility.

A tracer study will be conducted at a later date. Tracer studies are used to measure the time that a given volume of water is retained in a tank to ensure LCWSC receives appropriate credit for disinfectant contact time (CT Credit).

There will be two public information press releases to bring awareness to all consumers that Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility will begin using chloramine. The press release will occur once all Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) are in place at Raider Road Pump Station and functioning as expected. Chloramines are disinfectants used to treat drinking water. Chloramines are formed when ammonia is added to chlorine to treat drinking water. Chloramines provide longer-lasting disinfection as the water moves through the distribution system.

Harper Construction is continuing to address items on the punch list. A retainage of \$160,000 is being held by LCWSC until all punch list items are complete and the Permit to Operate from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control is received at the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility.

The Milam Road tank is painted with the LCWSC logo; it looks nice. The water tank has a 500,000-gallon capacity. The project is expected to be completed within the next 30 days.

### ***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 Byrd MOVED that the Board of Commissioners ***enter into Executive Session at 9:35 am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

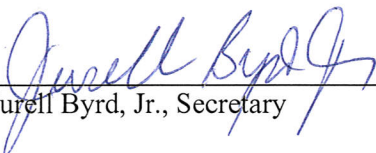
Commissioner Byrd MOVED that the Board of Commissioners to ***return to Open Session*** at 9:56 am. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS,

**ADJOURN**

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

There being no further business the Commission adjourned at 9:59 am.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on April 26, 2022, also that the minutes were approved at the meeting held on May 24, 2022.

  
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Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary