



Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission

**Board of Commissioners Meeting
May 24, 2022**

Minutes

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 April 26, 2022, Minutes

Chairman Remarks

Executive Director Remarks

LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary

LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary

New Business

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 9:08 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 April 26, 2022, minutes, as submitted to the Commissioners. None being submitted.

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

CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Chairman Davenport welcomed the Commissioners, staff, and everyone in attendance to the meeting. He shared his appreciation for all of the LCWSC associates, the employees that were recognized for their years of service, and the newest employees of LCWSC that were honored at the Employee Recognition Breakfast that was held prior to the Board of Commissioners meeting. He thanked Mr. MacDonald for attending the Employee Recognition Breakfast the meeting.

Chairman Davenport is pleased and proud of the growth of LCWSC over the last few years and is grateful to Mr. Field and the LCWSC Directors that put a great deal of time into staffing, daily operations, troubleshooting, and putting all of the items that are voted on by the Board of Commissioners into motion.

It has been a good year for LCWSC, and for the construction of the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility was timed perfectly being that the cost of goods and services have increased significantly in a short period of time. Chairman Davenport thanked Mr. Price for the integral role that he has had in making sure that the Water Treatment Facility is functional as well as efficient.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Field also welcomed all in attendance and thanked everyone that contributed to making the Employee Appreciation Breakfast a success. He expressed his appreciation to all Board of Commissioner members and all members of LCWSC team. Mr. Field stated that he and everyone at LCWSC feels the appreciation expressed by the members of the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Field said that gathering this morning for the Employee Appreciation Breakfast felt good to have all team members together as a whole and looks forward to the next LCWSC employee get-together.

He emphasized that the main goals of LCWSC are to continue to improve as an organization and to build upon all previous successes.

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 April 30, 2022, LCWSC had a total of \$7,873,297 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$9,602,088 at this time in FY21. As of April 30, 2022, LCWSC is awaiting an EDA reimbursement of \$377,849; LCWSC requested repayment from EDA of \$361,728 on March 8, 2022. The EDA reimbursement balance of \$16,121 will remain outstanding until the Milam Road project is complete. Including all reimbursements due, LCWSC would have a total cash balance of \$8,251,146.

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 \$5,304,548 in contributed capital grants during FY22. Year to date paid line extensions for FY22 total \$157,530 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, Robin Drive, Jackson Road, and Michaela Street.

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 noted that the average gallons per day per active residential tap for the month of April was 110. On average for the year, each customer uses 134 gallons per day. Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph noting that April 2022 precipitation was 4.26 inches, which is 2.71 inches above that of April 2021 and 2.03 inches above the norm. 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 thirty-three new water taps and ten new sewer taps were installed in the month of April 2022. A total of 462 water taps and sixty-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 an equal 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 April 2022, the unaccounted total is 16,556,641 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 April 2022. There were eleven main line leak work orders closed; nine were repaired within two weeks, zero was repaired within two to four weeks, and two were repaired later than four weeks. There were nine lateral line leak work orders closed; seven were repaired within two weeks, two were repaired within two to four weeks, and zero were repaired later than four weeks.

Mr. Griffin gave an update for the line extension projects. He stated that line projects are steady at this time. Currently, in progress is the Hunter Industrial Park Road project, expected completion date is within two weeks. Upcoming projects are Robin Drive, Michaela Street, and Jackson Road.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility Update

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

All LCWSC customers are being serviced by Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility except for the upper portion of Laurens County. Since adding the remainder of customers the flow rate has been increased. The goal is to learn the delicate balance of keeping the tanks at a certain level and determine when to produce more water. Mr. Price compared operating a water treatment facility to that of an air traffic controller; making sure that everything is going where and when it should.

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 Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility is performing well although there remains an issue with the filters maintaining consistency. 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 recently met a contractor that is an expert in the field of filter operations in the water treatment industry. The desire is to discuss our individual operation in the near future.

The ozone system is working extremely well and is highly effective. The rate that phosphate is being fed into the system has been adjusted; the system is set-up to pace off of the flow of the high service pumps.

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).

On May 23, 2023, coliform proficiency sampling was conducted. A third party will process the samples, this is part of certification of the lab. Once the lab is certified, the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility will have the ability to process coliform (microbacteria) routine sampling in house with results being known within eighteen hours versus waiting for the results from a third party.

As built drawings have been requested from Goodwin| Mills| Cawood to include in the permit to operate operating manual.

Operators at the facility are doing well; the final operator is expected to join the team soon.

All construction is complete at the Raw Water Intake and at the Water Treatment Facility. Punch list items and warranty repair items continue to be addressed by Harper Construction. A high service pump that is under warranty is being repaired at this time. The repair has taken longer than expected due to staff changeover at the company that determines if the repairs fall under the warranty guidelines.

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.

One year of data for all four seasons is needed to determine if a water treatment facility is categorized as a high-rate production facility. The study for Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility will begin in the fall. DHEC requires that 80% of the facility capacity is utilized for one month consistently. Additional distribution improvements are needed to maximize the water treatment facility capacity

The Milam Road tank is painted with the LCWSC logo. The water tank has a 500,000-gallon capacity. Mr. Griffin's crew will level the gravel at the site. The electrician continues to address an issue with repairing the outside light. 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 O'Dell **MOVED** that the Board of Commissioners ***enter into Executive Session at 10:15 am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

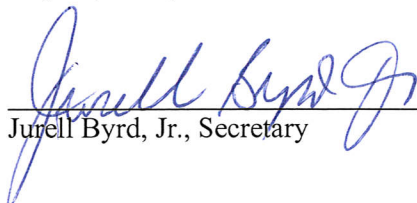
Commissioner Curry **MOVED** that the Board of Commissioners ***return to Regular Session at 10:51am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS,

ADJOURN

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

There being no further business the Commission adjourned at 10:53 am.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on May 24, 2022, also that the minutes were approved at the meeting held on June 28, 2022.


Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary