



Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission

Board of Commissioners Meeting

August 22, 2023

Minutes

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Dime Hollingsworth (I), Philip O'Dell (II), Jurell Byrd, Secretary (III), Bill Teague, Vice Chairman (IV), Susan Curry, Treasurer (V), Lumus Byrd, Jr. (VI), Ted Davenport, Chairman (VII), and Jimmy Young (Municipal)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

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

ATTORNEY: Allen Wham

PRESS: Clinton Chronicle

GUESTS:

Call to Order

Invocation

Approval of July 25, 2023, Minutes

Chairman Remarks

Executive Director Remarks

LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary

LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary

New Business

1. Election of Officers
2. Drought Response Plan
3. Saluda River Basin Council Update

Old Business

Executive Session

Upon returning to open session, the Commission may take any action deemed appropriate on matters discussed in executive session.

1. Contractual Matter related to Laurens CPW
2. Contractual Matter related to the Town of Gray Court
3. Contractual Matter related to the City of Fountain Inn

Other Business

Adjourn

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 8:19 am in the Training Rooms of the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission.

INVOCATION

Delivered by Commissioner Curry.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any additions or corrections to the July 25, 2023, minutes as submitted to the Commissioners. None being submitted.

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOVED *that the minutes dated July 25, 2023, are approved as submitted.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Hollingsworth; MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Chairman Davenport thanked everyone for their attendance.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Field thanked all in attendance of 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, 2023, LCWSC had a total of \$8,471,859 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$9,118,152 at this time in FY23.

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 as of July 31, 2023, LCWSC has received \$6,000 in contributed capital grants for Wastewater Collection. A total of \$6,000 in contributed capital grants have been received thus far for FY24.

There have not been any paid line extensions year to date for FY24.

Mr. Mattison gave an update for line extension projects. In progress is the Cooley Road project. The next upcoming project is Thompson Road. Future upcoming projects not listed in any order are Hwy. 14, Porter Road, Pitts Road, Bethel Church Road, South Harper Street Extension, Creekfield Road, and Smiths Village Road.

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 (GPD) per active residential tap for the month of July 2023 was 147 GPD. On average, each customer uses 134 GPD over a 12-month period.

Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph noting that July FY24 precipitation was 2.13 inches which is 1.95 inches below that of July FY23. The precipitation data is a county average derived from rain gauges at Brighton Meadows, Bush River Wastewater Treatment Plant, Clinton Pump Station, and Lake Rabon.

Mr. Field reviewed the work order summary for the current month reporting that thirty-seven new water taps, and nineteen new sewer taps were installed in the month of July 2023. A total of thirty-seven water taps, and nineteen sewer taps were installed thus far during FY24. Mr. Field presented a map indicating the distribution of all new taps installed throughout the county in FY24.

Mr. Mattison shared the water audit report. The water audit compares the water purchased to the water sold, water audited, and non-revenue unaccounted water. The formula used is a rolling 12-month average for unaccounted water; the current month data is added as the one-year-old data is removed.

For the month of July 2023, the total in non-revenue unaccounted is 10,687,519 gallons. The monthly goal for non-revenue unaccounted water is *less than* 19,500,000 gallons.

In July 2023, there were six (6) main line leak work orders, five (5) closed within two weeks and one (1) closed later than four weeks. There were thirteen (13) lateral line leak work orders, ten (10) were closed within two weeks, one (1) closed within two to four weeks, and two (2) closed later than four weeks.

Mr. Price gave an update for Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility stating that the facility is operating well. In July 2023, the facility pumped a total of 79.779 million gallons of raw water and treated a total of 69.253 million gallons of water. A filter modification is in process, the purpose of the modification is to gain filter operation uniformity. Lagoon #1 is currently out of service to dry out for cleaning.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers

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

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 or any questions prior to voting on the election or re-election of officers. None were brought forward.

Commissioner O'Dell MOVED that the Board of Commissioners ***re-elect the current slate of officers for another term.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0.

2. Drought Response Plan

Mr. Price provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the current Drought Response Plan and proposed changes to the Plan to incorporate the new Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility and the additional capacity provided by Lake Greenwood. The goal of the plan is to achieve the greatest public benefit during a drought event.

Commissioner J. Byrd, Jr. MOVED that the Board of Commissioners ***accept the Drought Response Plan as presented.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0.

3. Saluda River Basin Council Update

Mr. Price presented an update for the Saluda River Basin Council; Laurens County is in the Saluda River Basin as determined by the SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR). The goal of each Basin Council throughout the state is to develop a River Basin Plan no later than March 2025; the plan will be actionable, logical, and address or prevent challenges with a level of detail to be cost accountable guided by the best available science.

Saluda River Basin Council Vision Statement:

A resilient and sustainably managed Saluda River Basin that balances human and ecological needs.

Additional goals of the Saluda River Basin Council are:

1. To perform a review and update the plan every five years at a minimum or sooner should a significant event occur requiring a plan update.
2. Develop and implement an education and communication plan to promote the strategies, policies, and recommendations developed for the Saluda River Basin.
3. Apply science-based resource management and conservation strategies that consider resource availability and allocation.

Mr. Price currently serves as Chairman of the Saluda River Basin Council. The Council meets monthly; the July meeting included a tour of Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility.

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 Commission of Public Works**
2. **Contractual Matter related to the Town of Gray Court**
3. **Contractual Matter related to the City of Fountain Inn**

Commissioner Young MOVED that the Board of Commissioners *enter Executive Session at 10:00 am.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Hollingsworth MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

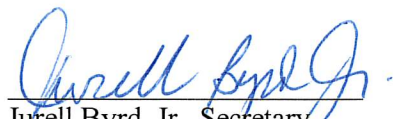
Commissioner O'Dell MOVED that the Board of Commissioners *return to Regular Session at 11:20 am.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

ADJOURN

Commissioner J. Byrd, Jr. MOVED *to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Curry MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

There being no further business the Commission adjourned at 11:22 am.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on August 22, 2023, also that the minutes were approved at the meeting held on September 26, 2023.



Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary