



Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission

Board of Commissioners Meeting

October 24, 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 September 26, 2023, Minutes

Chairman Remarks

Executive Director Remarks

LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary

LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary

New Business

1. Capital Project Update
2. 2023 Water CMOM Report
3. Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Project Resolution

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

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

Delivered by Commissioner Curry.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any additions or corrections to the September 26, 2023, minutes as submitted to the Commissioners. None being submitted.

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOVED *that the minutes dated September 26, 2023, are approved as submitted.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young; MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Chairman Davenport thanked everyone in attendance.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Field thanked all in attendance and mentioned that students from Clinton High School toured the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility on Friday, October 20, 2023. Joining the tour are LCWSC Commissioner Lumus Byrd, Former County Councilmen Mr. Joe Wood and Mr. David Pitts.

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 September 30, 2023, LCWSC had a total of \$7,513,817 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$9,482,226 at this time in FY23. As of September 30, 2023, LCWSC is awaiting an Economic Development Administration (EDA) reimbursement of \$646,060; including the reimbursement due, LCWSC would have a total cash balance of \$8,159,877.

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 September 30, 2023, LCWSC has received \$125,014 in contributed capital grants for Clinton/Joanna, \$899,488 for Wastewater Collection, and \$3,055 for Water Distribution. A total of \$1,027,557 in contributed capital grants have been received thus far for FY24.

Year to date paid line extensions for FY24 total \$12,320 from customers or developers that are not grant funded. Paid year to date line extensions include Creekfield Road and Porter Road.

Mr. Griffin gave an update for line extension projects. In progress are Porter Road, Bethel Church Road, and Thompson Road. Future upcoming projects not listed in any specific order are Hwy. 14, Pitts Road, 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 September was 151 GPD. On average, each customer uses 134 GPD over a 12-month period.

Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph noting that September FY24 precipitation was 2.75 inches which is 0.38 inches below that of September 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. Mattison reviewed the work order summary for the current month reporting that thirty-six new water taps, and eleven new sewer taps were installed in the month of September 2023. A total of 110 water taps, and 51 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 August 2023, the total in non-revenue unaccounted water is 12,068,506 gallons. The monthly goal for non-revenue unaccounted water is *less than* 19,500,000 gallons. The information is on a 60 day delay due to the data metrics.

In September 2023, there were five main line leak work orders, all were closed within two weeks. There were twelve lateral line leak work orders, four were closed within two weeks, five closed within two to four weeks, and three closed later than four weeks.

Mr. Price gave an update for Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility stating that the facility continues to operate well. In September 2023, the facility pumped a total of 70.513 MG of raw water and treated a total of 62.262 MG of water. Due to the high quality of the raw water, fewer chemicals have been needed to produce the potable water. Operators cleaned the #2 clarifier. The filter modification continues, the purpose of the modification is to gain filter operation uniformity.

Mr. Price shared that the tour that was held on October 20, 2023, with LCWSC Commissioner Byrd, Former Laurens County Council member Mr. Joe Wood and Mr. David Pitts, in addition students from Clinton High School was a huge success. The students asked a lot of intelligent questions; their teachers, Ms. Davenport, and Mr. Hucks, had been instructing them how raw water is converted into drinkable (potable) water.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Capital Project Update

Mr. Field, Executive Director and Mr. Mattison, Regulatory Compliance and Operations Manager shared a power point presentation detailing an update that is either in design or construction at this time.

Water Projects Under Construction:

- Metric Rd. Elevated Tank and Waterline:
The project consists of two main components.
1 Million Gallon Elevated Water Tank
5.3 Miles (29,500 ft) of 16-inch waterline
Estimated Construction Start: August 2024
Projected Completion: December 2026
Estimated cost: \$14,384,000
GO Bond \$5,100,000
EDA \$5,425,000
LC ARPA \$759,000
USDA Loan \$3,100,000

- Hospital Zone Water Improvements:
Project consists of the following: 1.0 MG Elevated Water Tank
Two new Booster Pump Stations (BPS)
2000 Gallon Per Minute (GPM) Cross Hill BPS
1200 Milam Rd BPS
5800 ft of 12" waterline on Hwy 76
1100 ft of 6" waterline on Medical Ridge Road
Estimated Construction Start: August 2024
Projected Completion: December 2026
Estimated Cost: \$9,321,000
SCIIP Funding (Awarded: April 24, 2023) \$7,922,850
LCWSC Funds \$1,398,150

Sewer Projects Under Construction:

- ISO Parkway Sewer System Upgrade

Upsize the existing 125 GPM lift station to 350 GPM (Expandable to 500 GPM) lift station.
12,000 ft 8" force main.

Projected Completion: March 2024

Project Cost: \$4,061,250

(85% funded through multiple agencies/industry)

LCWSC Funds: \$656,354

- Clinton/Joanna Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids Upgrade

Sludge handling/land application improvements. Will allow for facility expansion.

Estimated Construction Start: December 2023

Projected Completion: December 2024

Budget: \$4,048,423

SRF Grant: \$1,000,000

CDBG: \$1,500,000

CDBG Additional: \$850,000

LCWSC Funds: \$698,423

- Clinton Area Sewer Improvements

Millers Fork – 1,400 GPM @ 145-FT TDH (pump upgrade)

Sand Creek - 800 GPM @ 274-ft TDH (pump replacement and wet well rehabilitation)

11,000 LF of force main replacement w/ 16-inch (Millers Fork)

Replacement of Comminutor with Automated screening.

Estimated Construction Start: October 2024

Project Completion: December 2025

Estimated Cost: \$3,894,500

USDA Loan: \$3,900,000

- Proposed 0-5 Year Water Projects (Not Listed in order of Priority)

- 1 MG Elevated Water Tank on Stagecoach Road

- 0.75 MG Clearwell and associated piping at Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility

Budget: \$8.9M

- Install 11,200 ft of 12" DIP along Hwy 418 as Phase II of Bethany DMA improvements.

Budget: \$1.5M

- Proposed 0-5 Year Sewer Projects (Not Listed in order of Priority)

- Phase I: New 500 GPM lift station, 6" force main and 8" gravity to serve main street in Gray Court.

- Phase II: Provide sewer on Hwy 101

Budget: \$2.6M (EDA Grant, Gray Court and LCWSC Reserve Funds)

- Connexial 15,400 ft of 24" gravity sewer to provide sewer capacity for Connexial Industrial Park; combined with ReWa's 36" gravity sewer will serve 9,000 homes. Project was on the fast track until County Council revised subdivision ordinance, currently the project is 5-10 years out.

Budget: \$8.7M (Funding Source TBD)

- Projects in the Study/Planning phase
 - Clinton-Joanna Wastewater Facility Expansion
 - Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility Expansion
 - New Wastewater Treatment Facility- South of Gray Court

2. 2023 Water Capacity, Management, Operation, and Maintenance (CMOM) Report

Mr. Mattison displayed a presentation exhibiting the FY 2023 Water Distribution CMOM Report. He stated that water quality and capacity have improved tremendously since operations began at Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility.

Current Water Assets include 876 miles total active water lines in the system, 12 elevated tanks, 3 pump stations, 1,035 fire hydrants, 298 post hydrants, 4788 system valves, 593 blow offs, 29 auto flushers, 18 pressure reducing valves (PRV)/control valves.

There has been a total of 63,621,624 gallons of routine flushing for dirty water complaints and leaks. The total includes flushing at Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility prior to going into full operation.

Seventy-Eight (78) valve maintenance repair or replace work orders were created, forty-seven (47) were closed and thirty-one (31) remain open.

Mr. Mattison stated that LCWSC meets quarterly with the fire department to discuss hydrant flow tests. Seventy-two (72) flow tests have been completed in the last six months of FY 2023. Flow tests are performed during normal business hours.

LCWSC is required to perform weekly inspections on each elevated water tank (EWT) in our system; these inspections are performed by LCWSC operators. An outside contractor performs a more substantial maintenance, during FY 2023 the following maintenance was performed.

- Tank Washouts: Hickory Tavern (Old Tank) and Joanna
- Visual Tank Inspections: Bethany Road, Waterloo, Cross Hill, Joanna, Maddens, Odell and New Owings.
- Hickory Tavern EWT (New) was put into service on September 21, 2023.
- Upcoming during FY2024
 - Tank Washouts: Waterloo, Bethany, New Owings
 - Visual Tank Inspections: Odell, Hospital, and Milam

3. Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Project Resolution

Mr. Field shared a copy and explained in detail the purpose of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Project resolution. He stated that the resolution is an acceptance of certain loan assistance monies, Principal Forgiveness Funding, in the amount of \$1.0M from the SC Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority for the project. The funds do not have to be paid back if LCWSC follows all the guidelines set forth in the loan documents.

Commissioner Young MOVED the Board of Commissioners ***Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Project Resolution***. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Curry MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

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

Commissioner Hollingsworth MOVED that the Board of Commissioners ***enter Executive Session at 10:08 am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner J. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

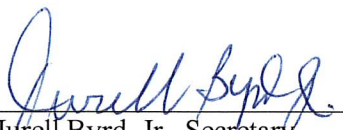
Commissioner Curry MOVED that the Board of Commissioners ***return to Regular Session at 10:06 am.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Hollingsworth. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

ADJOURN

Commissioner O'Dell MOVED ***to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting.*** MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

There being no further business the Commission adjourned at 10:32 am.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on October 24, 2023, also that the minutes were approved at the meeting held on November 28, 2023.



Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary