



**Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting**

**February 27, 2024**

**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), Lumus Byrd, Jr. (VI), Ted Davenport, Chairman (VII), and Jimmy Young (Municipal)

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF:** Jeff Field, Executive Director  
Paula Bullard, Executive Assistant  
Angie Nelson, Director of Administration and Customer Service  
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:** Brown Patterson, Chairman, Laurens County Council  
Corey Graydon, Land Acquisition Manager, LyonJay

**Call to Order**

**Invocation**

**Approval of January 23, 2024, Minutes**

**Chairman Remarks**

**Executive Director Remarks**

**LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary**

**LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary**  
**Old Business**

1. Strategic Planning Update

**New Business**

1. Greenshades Platform

**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**

1. SC State Ethics Commission Annual Statement of Economic Interest Filing
2. Employee Recognition Day
3. American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of SC 2023 Engineering Excellence Award  
State Finalist

**Adjourn**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m. in the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission's training rooms.

**INVOCATION**

Delivered by Commissioner Curry.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any additions or corrections to the January 23, 2024, minutes as submitted to the Commissioners. None are being submitted.

Commissioner Hollingsworth MOVED *that the minutes dated January 23, 2024, are approved as submitted.*  
MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr.; MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0

**CHAIRMAN REMARKS**

Chairman Davenport welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked Mr. Brown Patterson, Chairman of Laurens County Council, and Mr. Corey Graydon, Land Acquisition Manager at LyonJay, a real estate development firm.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS**

Mr. Field welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked Mr. Brown, Chairman of Laurens County Council, and the council members for the work they do regularly. Mr. Field added that LCWSC appreciates the council members' support.

Mr. Brown invited everyone in attendance to the Laurens County Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan Input Session on March 12, 2024, at 6 pm, at The Ridge.

## **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 January 31, 2024, LCWSC had \$7,133,274 in cash for operating and reserve funds compared to \$9,171,159 in FY23. As of January 31, 2024, LCWSC is awaiting an Economic Development Administration (EDA) reimbursement of \$723,929 and a reimbursement from HEPACO (fuel spill) of \$134,471. On February 8, 2024, LCWSC received the #2 EDA reimbursement totaling \$557,867. Including the reimbursements due, LCWSC would have a total cash balance of \$7,991,674.

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 January 31, 2024, LCWSC had received \$267,465 in contributed capital grants for Clinton/Joanna, \$1,906,259 for Wastewater Collection, and \$3,055 for Water Distribution. Thus far, in FY24, a total of \$2,176,779 has been received in contributed capital grants.

Year-to-date paid line extensions for FY24 total \$30,400 from customers, developers, or industries that are not grant-funded. Paid year-to-date line extensions include Creekfield Road, Porter Road, Egret Lane, and Ben Lanford Road.

Mr. Griffin shared an update on the line extension projects; Ben Lanford Road #2 is in progress.

## **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 January 2024 was 113 GPD. On average, each customer uses 134 GPD over a 12-month period.

Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph, noting that in January FY24, the rainfall was 7.71 inches, which is 0.47 inches above January 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, reporting that forty-six new water taps and thirty-two new sewer taps were installed during January 2024. During FY24, 248 water taps and 126 sewer taps have been installed. 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 non-revenue unaccounted water; the current month's data is added as the one-year-old data is removed.

For December 2023, non-revenue unaccounted water is 12,335,842 gallons, a *decrease* of 2,144,535 gallons over the previous 12-month average. The monthly goal for non-revenue unaccounted water is *less than* 19,500,000 gallons. Due to the data metrics, the information is on a 60-day delay.

In January 2024, there were ten main line leak work orders; nine leaks were repaired within two weeks, and one was repaired later than four weeks. There were ten lateral line leak work orders: eight were closed within two weeks, and two were repaired later than four weeks.

Mr. Mattison provided an update on the Lead Survey. Twelve thousand taps have been tested, and six thousand taps remain to be tested before the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) deadline of October 2024.

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility, stating that it continues to operate well. In January 2024, the facility pumped 70.121 MG of raw water and treated 59.173 MG. Viola, Inc. has completed the modification on Filter D. The engineers are confident in the modification. Mr. Price will provide a video at the next meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Strategic Planning Update**

Mr. Field gave an update on the LCWSC Strategic Planning Project.

- Held a half-day kick-off workshop
- Interviewed all members of the management team
- Interviewed seven of the eight members of the Board of Commissioners
- Held three employee focus groups

The following steps include external stakeholder engagement and awareness building, specifically with elected officials, key stakeholders, customers, and the general public.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Greenshades Platform**

Ms. Medlock reported that LCWSC will begin using Greenshades HR and Payroll Platform software. The Greenshades platform works well with the accounting system that LCWSC currently uses. LCWSC's anticipated date of going "live" is March 16, 2024, which will coincide with the April 3, 2024, payroll. Ms. Medlock has scheduled training sessions for managers and several sessions for employees.

## **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 Commission of Public Works**

Commissioner Young MOVED that the Board of Commissioners *enter Executive Session at 9:28 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 10:15 am*. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0.

## **BUSINESS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **1. SC State Ethics Commission Annual Statement of Economic Interest Filing**

Ms. Medlock shared that the Annual Statement of Economic Interest Filing is due. She is available after the meeting to assist those available today; please contact her to schedule an appointment for those who are not.

#### **2. Employee Recognition Day, March 26, 2024**

Ms. Bullard announced that the Employee Recognition Day with the Board of Commissioners is planned for Tuesday, April 23, 2024. The event recognizes employees' years of service, achievements, and certifications completed.

#### **3. American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of SC 2023 Engineering Excellence Award State Finalist**

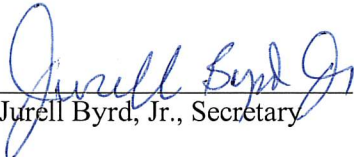
On February 7, 2024, the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility and Raw Water Intake projects were recognized as an ACEC State Finalist Award Winner in Engineering Excellence in collaboration with Harper General Contractors and Goodwyn Mills Cawood. Mr. Field received the award at the ACEC Awards Dinner held at the Columbia Museum of Art.

## **ADJOURN**

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

There being no further business, the Commission meeting adjourned at 10:19 am.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on February 27, 2024, and that the minutes were approved at the March 26, 2024, meeting.

  
Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary