



Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission

Board of Commissioners Meeting

April 23, 2024

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: None

STAFF: Jeff Field, Executive Director
Paula Bullard, Executive Administrative 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:

Call to Order

Invocation

Approval of March 26, 2024, Minutes

Chairman Remarks

Executive Director Remarks

LCWSC Monthly Financial Summary

LCWSC Monthly Operations Summary

Old Business

1. Update on Highway 14 / Metric Road Waterline Project

New Business

1. Renew Statement Regarding Conflict-of-Interest Policy

Executive Session

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

1. Contractual Matter related to Laurens CPW Raw Water Contract
2. Contractual Matter related to The Town of Gray Court Water System

Other Business

Adjourn

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m. in the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission's training rooms.

INVOCATION

Delivered by Commissioner Curry.

CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Chairman Davenport thanked everyone for their attendance and expressed gratitude to all of the employees who have served and continue to serve LCWSC after more than twenty-five years. He also thanked all who contributed to the success of The Employee Recognition Breakfast, which is a tremendous success every year.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Field welcomed everyone. He stated that it is a pleasure and joy to work with the LCWSC employees and to have the Board of Commissioners' support.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March 26, 2024, minutes as submitted to the Commissioners. None were submitted.

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOVED *that the March 26, 2024, minutes be approved as submitted.* SECONDED by Commissioner Young. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0.

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, 2024, LCWSC had \$7,266,356 in cash for operating and reserve funds, as compared to

\$8,741,792 this time in FY23. LCWSC was awaiting an Economic Development Administration (EDA) reimbursement of \$733,334 and a State Revolving Fund (SRF) reimbursement of \$6,000. Including all reimbursements due, the total cash balance would be \$8,005,690. On April 18, 2024, LCWSC received \$543,915 of the outstanding EDA reimbursement.

Mr. Field discussed the highlights for Water Distribution and Treatment, Wastewater Treatment, Wastewater Collection, 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 and the overall combined percentage for each.

Mr. Field noted that as of March 2024, LCWSC had received \$505,165 in contributed capital grants for Wastewater Treatment, \$2,693,785 for Wastewater Collection, and \$3,055 for Water Distribution. Thus far, in FY24, a total of \$3,202,005 has been received in contributed capital grants.

The total number of paid line extensions for FY24 totals \$33,120 from customers, developers, or industries that are not grant-funded. Paid line extensions include Creekfield Road, Porter Road, Egret Lane, and Ben Lanford 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 March 2024 was 110 GPD. On average, each customer uses 134 GPD over a 12-month period.

Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph, noting that in March FY24, the rainfall was 6.40 inches, 3.85 inches above March 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, reporting that forty-six new water taps, and eighteen new sewer taps were installed in March 2024. During FY24, 321 water taps and 182 sewer taps were installed. Mr. Field presented a map indicating the distribution of all new taps installed throughout the county.

Mr. Mattison discussed water purchase and shared the water audit report. The report captures the rolling average water audit in gallons for the system, which includes revenue (sold), non-revenue (unaccounted), and non-revenue authorized consumption (audited) versus the amount purchased. The rolling twelve-month average for non-revenue (unaccounted) water is 13,801,280 gallons, which is a decrease of 260,530 gallons from the previous average. The monthly goal for non-revenue (unaccounted) water is less than 19,500,000 gallons.

In March 2024, there were twelve main line leak work orders; ten were repaired within two weeks, one was repaired within two to four weeks, and one was repaired later than four weeks. There were eleven lateral line leak work orders: seven were repaired within two weeks, two were repaired within two to four weeks, and two were repaired later than four weeks. As of March 2024, there was one active service line leak, and three active main line leaks open over two weeks old.

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility, stating that it continues to operate well. In March 2024, the facility pumped 68.145 MG of raw water and treated 57.550 MG.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on Highway 14 / Metric Road Waterline Project

Mr. Field presented the Highway 14 / Metric Road Waterline Project update, stating that nine bids were received for the waterline. He presented a PowerPoint of the project, including the project objectives, the updated budget and funding, a map displaying the location of the Elevated Water Tank and the waterline, and a project summary.

Project Budget

Estimated Capital Cost (Including Engineering):	\$14,094,000
Actual Cost (Bids received April 9, 2024):	\$11,693,445
1.0 MG Elevated Water Tank (Caldwell Tanks, Inc.):	\$4,823,000
5.6 miles of 16-in waterline (McClam & Associates):	\$6,326,945
Engineering (Goodwyn Mills Cawood, LLC)	\$ 543,500

Project Funding

EDA Grant:	\$5,422,800
USDA Loan (GO Bond):	\$5,100,000
County ARPA Funds:	\$ 184,403

Net Funding Needs:	\$986,242
Paid to date:	\$299,850
Project Balance to Fund:	\$686,392*

*Original Plan was a \$3.1M USDA Revenue Loan.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Renew Statement Regarding Conflict-of-Interest Policy

Ms. Medlock distributed and discussed the conflict-of-interest policy with the commissioners. She also offered to assist in completing the document if needed.

Executive Session

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

1. Contractual Matter related to Laurens CPW Raw Water Contract
2. Contractual Matter related to The Town of Gray Court Water System

Commissioner J. Byrd, Jr. MOVED that the Board of Commissioners enter Executive Session at 10:07 a.m. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Young. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0.

Commissioner Curry MOVED that the Board of Commissioners return to the Open Session at 11:16 a.m. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Hollingsworth. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0.

BUSINESS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. LCWSC and Gray Court Agreement about Provision of Water, Sewer, and Annexation of Designated Territory

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any questions. None are being submitted.

Commissioner Hollingsworth MOVED to *approve the LCWSC and Gray Court Agreement about the Provision of Water, Sewer, and Annexation of Designated Territory*. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0.

2. Water Utility Asset Agreement – Gray Court

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any questions. None are being submitted.

Commissioner Hollingsworth MOVED to *approve the Water Utility Asset Agreement*. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 7; NAYS, 0.


OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. 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 meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on April 23, 2024, and that the minutes were approved at the May 28, 2024, meeting.



Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary