



Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission

Board of Commissioners Meeting

May 28, 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), and Ted Davenport, Chairman (VII)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Jimmy Young (Municipal)

STAFF: Jeff Field, Executive Director
Steve Griffin, Construction Manager
Damas Mattison, Regulatory Compliance and Operations Manager
Wendy Medlock, Director of Finance
Angie Nelson, Director of Administration and Customer Service
KC Price, Engineering Manager
Mary-Wallace Riley, Executive Administrative Assistant

ATTORNEY: Allen Wham

PRESS: None

GUESTS: None

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 8:25 a.m. in the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission's training rooms.

INVOCATION

Delivered by Commissioner Curry.

CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Chairman Davenport welcomed Mary-Wallace Riley to LCWSC as the new Executive Administrative Assistant and stated that we were excited to have her join the team.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Field welcomed everyone and reiterated that he was excited to have Ms. Riley join the LCWSC team. He stated that her skills and experience make her an excellent fit for the team.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Commissioner J. Byrd, Jr. MOVED *that the April 23, 2024, minutes be approved as submitted.* SECONDED by Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 6; 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 April 30, 2024, LCWSC had a total of \$7,838,193 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$8,592,557 this time in FY23. LCWSC was awaiting an EDA reimbursement of \$243,382, which will be outstanding until the project is completed. Including this reimbursement, the total cash balance would be \$8,081,575.

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 April 2024, LCWSC had received \$600,834 in contributed capital grants for Wastewater Treatment, \$2,944,583 for Wastewater Collection, and \$3,055 for Water Distribution. Thus far, in FY24, a total of \$3,548,471 has been received in contributed capital grants.

The total number of paid line extensions for FY24 totals \$75,520 from customers, developers, or industries that are not grant-funded. Paid line extensions include Creekfield Road, Porter Road, Egret Lane, Ben Lanford Road, Lyons Drive, Brissy Rock Road, Zig Zag Drive, Barksdale Road, and Patterson Plant 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 April 2024 was 116 GPD. On average, each customer uses 134 GPD over a 12-month period.

Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph, noting that in April FY24, the rainfall was 1.92 inches, 2.75 inches below April 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 fifty-six new water taps, and twenty-two new sewer taps were installed in April 2024. During FY24, 377 water taps and 204 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 15,710,828 gallons, which is an increase of 1,909,548 gallons from the previous average. The monthly goal for non-revenue (unaccounted) water is less than 19,500,000 gallons.

In April 2024, there were nine main line leak work orders; all repaired within two weeks. There were five lateral line leak work orders: all repaired within two to four weeks. As of April 2024, there were no active service line leaks, and one 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 April 2024, the facility pumped 70.681 MG of raw water and treated 60.405 MG.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Cross Connection Control Program Policy Update

Mr. Mattison stated that backflow testing is not just a regulatory requirement, but a crucial aspect of ensuring the safety, reliability, and quality of the water supply system. It protects public health, ensures compliance with regulations, and mitigates risks associated with water contamination. The current Cross Connection Control Program Policy states that a non-compliant customer meter is locked until the customer provides acceptable proof that a certified tester is scheduled to test and/or repair the device. Mr. Mattison stated that LCWSC prefers to avoid cutting water off to our businesses and that our main goal was to keep the distribution system safe. Therefore, the updated policy states that LCWSC will schedule a certified tester of their choosing to perform the required testing with a distribution operator observing instead of locking the non-compliant customers. He presented the Non-Compliant Backflow fees that will be added to the non-compliant customer's next bill. Then if the customer does not pay the fees in full, LCWSC will proceed to lock the meter.

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOVED *that the Cross Connection Control Program Policy be approved as submitted.* SECONDED by Commissioner Hollingsworth MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 6; NAYS, 0.

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

Commissioner O'Dell MOVED that the Board of Commissioners enter Executive Session at 9:24 a.m. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner Curry. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 6; NAYS, 0.

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOVED that the Board of Commissioners return to the Open Session at 9:54 a.m. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner J. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 6; NAYS, 0.

OTHER BUSINESS

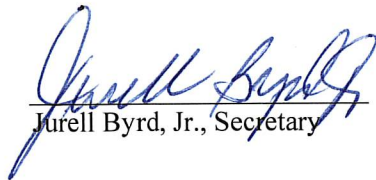
Mr. Field reminded the Budget Committee of their meeting on May 29, 2024. He also shared that the bid opening for the SCIIP Hospital Area Water Systems Improvements would be June 6, 2024.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Curry MOVED *to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting*. MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner J. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 6; NAYS, 0.

There being no further business, the Commission meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on May 28, 2024, and that the minutes were approved at the June 25, 2024, meeting.


Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary