



## LAURENS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

## MINUTES

Board of Commissioners Meeting  
3850 Highway 221S, Laurens, SC 29360  
May 27, 2025

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### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Dime Hollingsworth (County Council District I)  
Philip O'Dell (County Council District II)  
Jurell Byrd, Jr. Secretary (County Council District III)  
Susan Curry, Treasurer (County Council District V)  
Lumus Byrd, Jr. (County Council District VI)  
Ted Davenport, Chairman (County Council District VII)  
Jimmy Young (Municipal)

### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

Bill Teague, Vice Chairman (County Council District IV)

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Jeff Field, Executive Director  
Steve Griffin, Construction Manager  
Damas Mattison, Regulatory Compliance & Operations Manager  
Wendy Medlock, Director of Finance  
Angie Nelson, Director of Administration & Customer Service  
K.C. Price, Engineering Manager  
Mary-Wallace Riley, Executive Administrative Assistant

### **ATTORNEY:**

Allen Wham

### **PRESS:**

The Clinton Chronicle

### **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. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

### **INVOCATION**

Delivered by Commissioner Curry.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Davenport asked if there were any additions or corrections to the April 22, 2025, minutes as submitted to the Commissioners. None were submitted.

Commissioner Young **MOVED** *that the April 22, 2025, minutes be approved as submitted.* **MOTION SECONDED** by Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. **MOTION CARRIED.** AYES, 6; NAYS, 0.

#### **CHAIRMAN REMARKS**

Chairman Davenport opened the meeting by welcoming everyone including Vic MacDonald from The Clinton Chronicle expressing his appreciation to Mr. MacDonald for his coverage of LCWSC. Chairman Davenport then expressed his gratitude to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our Country and recognized Commissioners J. Byrd, Jr. and Young for their service to our Country.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS**

Mr. Field welcomed everyone as well.

#### **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, 2025, LCWSC had a total of \$7,445,492 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$7,838,193 this time in FY24. As of April 30, 2025, LCWSC was awaiting RIA reimbursement of \$7,670 and an LCDC reimbursement of \$6,668. This means the total cash balance would be \$7,459,830.

Mr. Field discussed the highlights for Water Distribution and Treatment, Wastewater Treatment, Wastewater Collection, and Lake Rabon. 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 also noted that the wastewater treatment operating expenses are elevated due to the disaster recovery expenses related to Hurricane Helene.

Mr. Field noted that as of April 2025, LCWSC had received \$58,046 in contributed capital grants for Administration, \$1,736,983 for Wastewater Treatment, \$50,000 for Wastewater Collection, and \$3,357,146 for Water Distribution. Thus far, in FY25, a total of \$5,202,175 has been received in contributed capital grants. Future grant funds that are committed are for the following projects: Water and Sewer Infrastructure Master Plan RIA project, WWTP Sludge CDBG project, Metric Road Elevated Water Tank EDA project, SCIIP Hospital Area Water System Improvements project, and RIA Milam Road Booster Pump Supply Line Improvements project.

As of April 2025, there was \$90,241 in customer paid line extensions.

#### **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 2025 was 122 GPD. On average, each customer uses 134 GPD over a 12-month period.

Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph, noting that in April FY25, the rainfall was 2.87 inches which is 0.95 inches above that of April FY24, 1.80 inches below that of April FY23, and 0.64 inches above the norm for April. This 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 reported that eighty-one new water taps, and fifty-five new sewer taps were installed in April 2025. 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 including the revenue (sold), the non-revenue (unaccounted), and the non-revenue authorized consumption (audited) versus the purchased. The rolling 12-month average for non-revenue (unaccounted) water is 15,920,659 gallons, which is a decrease of 141,369 gallons over the previous 12-month average. The target for unaccounted water is less than 19,500,000 gallons.

In April 2025, there were nine main line leak work orders; six were repaired within two weeks, two repaired within two to four weeks, and one repaired later than four weeks. There were eleven lateral line leak work orders: two were repaired within two weeks, six were repaired within two to four weeks, and three later than four weeks. As of April 2025, there were four active service line leaks over two weeks old and five active main line leaks open over two weeks old.

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility (LGWTF), reporting that in April 2025, the facility pumped 64.281 MG of raw water and treated 58.511 MGD. Mr. Price reported that staff continue to monitor Geosmin levels and that the ozone system is effectively managing the recent increases. He also provided an update on the chiller, noting that the standby unit currently in use is operating well. The replacement unit is being manufactured in Italy and has an estimated lead time of twelve to fifteen weeks.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. **MOVED** that the Board of Commissioners enter Executive Session at 8:51 a.m. **MOTION SECONDED** by Commissioner Young **MOTION CARRIED**. AYES,6; NAYS, 0.

1. Update on contractual issues involving Laurens Commission of Public Works

Commissioner J. Byrd, Jr. **MOVED** that the Board of Commissioners return to Open Session at 9:12 a.m. **MOTION SECONDED** by Commissioner O'Dell **MOTION CARRIED**. AYES,6; NAYS, 0.

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

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. Customer Survey Update**

Mrs. Riley provided a brief update on the Customer Surveys, noting that the survey closed at midnight on Friday, May 23, 2025. As of the Thursday prior, 225 responses had been received. Mr. Field acknowledged the response total, noting that while staff had been hopeful for a higher level of participation, he expressed appreciation for the outreach efforts made to promote the survey to customers.

### **2. Saluda River Basin Plan**

Mr. Price reminded everyone of the Saluda River Basin Open House and Presentation to be held at ReWa on Thursday and encouraged everyone to attend.

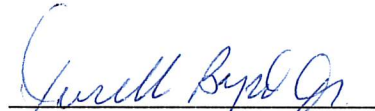
## **ADJOURN**

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. *MOVED to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting* at 9:15 a.m.

**MOTION SECONDED** by Commissioner Hollingsworth **MOTION CARRIED**. AYES, 6; NAYS, 0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

I certify that the above Minutes accurately reflect the business conducted at the Commission meeting on May 27, 2025, and that the minutes were approved at the June 24, 2025, meeting.

  
Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary