

LAURENS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

MINUTES

Board of Commissioners Meeting 3850 Highway 221S, Laurens, SC 29360 August 26, 2025

<u>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:</u> Dime Hollingsworth (County Council District I)

Philip O'Dell (County Council District II)

Bill Teague, Vice Chairman (County Council District IV) 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: Jurell Byrd, Jr. Secretary (County Council District III)

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 PRESENT: Allen Wham

PRESS: None

GUESTS: None

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Davenport called the meeting to order at 8:23 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 July 29, 2025, minutes as

submitted to the Commissioners. None were submitted.

Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. **MOVED** that the July 29, 2025, minutes be approved as submitted. **MOTION SECONDED** by Commissioner Young. **MOTION** CARRIED. AYES,6; NAYS, 0.

CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Chairman Davenport opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and acknowledging the absence of Vic McDonald from the Clinton Chronicle.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

Mr. Field welcomed everyone.

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 July 31, 2025, LCWSC had a total of \$7,060,787 in cash for operating and reserve funds as compared to \$7,875,771 this time in FY24. As of July 31, 2025, LCWSC was awaiting a FEMA reimbursement of \$187,123, which was received on August 13, 2025. This means the total cash balance would be \$7,247,910.

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 noted that as of July 2025, LCWSC we have received no contributed capital; however, 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, RIA Milam Road Booster Pump Supply Line Improvements project, Emerging Contaminants Study SRF projects, WWTP – EQ Basin and Clarifiers SRF project, and recently awarded Joanna CDBG project.

As of July 2025, there was \$15,400 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 July 2025 was 164 GPD. On average, each customer uses 134 GPD over a 12-month period.

Mr. Field shared the precipitation graph, noting that in July FY26, the rainfall was 2.99 inches which is 3.77 inches below that of July FY25, 0.86 inches above that of July FY24, and 0.40 inches below the norm for July. 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 seventy-four new water taps, and sixty-six new sewer taps were installed in July 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 13,332,453 gallons, which is an increase of 560,951 gallons over the previous 12-month average. The target for unaccounted water is less than 19,500,000 gallons.

In July 2025, there were thirteen main line leak work orders; eleven were repaired within two weeks, two repaired within two to four weeks, and zero repaired later than four weeks. There were fifteen lateral line leak work orders: eight were repaired within two weeks, four repaired withing two to four weeks, and three later than four weeks. As of July 2025, there was one active service line leaks over two weeks old and one active main line leaks over two weeks old.

Mr. Price provided an update on the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility (LGWTF), reporting that in July 2025, the facility pumped 82.979 MG of raw water and treated 78.900 MG. Mr. Price provided an update on the power issues related to the ozone system and the part for the chiller reporting there have been a lot of back orders and delivery delays; however, he was happy to report we have hired a Water Production Manager, Max Hughes who will begin September 2, 2025. Mr. Price concluded his remarks by stating that overall July was a good month and the plant ran well.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers

Chairman Davenport turned the meeting over to Allen M. Wham, Attorney for LCWSC to lead the officer election. Mr. Wham informed the Board that the following officers are currently serving and are eligible for re-election:

• Chairman: Commissioner Ted Davenport

• Vice Chairman: Commissioner Bill Teague

• Treasurer: Commissioner Susan Curry

Secretary: Commissioner Jurell Byrd, Jr.

Mr. Wham asked if there were any questions prior to accepting nominations for officers. None were brought forward.

Commissioner O'Dell then MOVED that the Board of Commissioners *re-elect the current slate of officers for another term.* MOTION SECONDED by Commissioner L. Byrd, Jr. MOTION CARRIED. AYES, 6; NAYS, 0.

Chairman Davenport thanked everyone for their continued support and trust in the current officer slate.

2. Committee Appointment

Chairman Davenport reviewed the current commission committee appointments and stated that committees did not require a vote.

OLD BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURN

Commissioner Hollingsworth MOVED to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:37 a.m. **MOTION SECONDED** by Commissioner Young **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 August 26, 2025, and that the minutes were approved at the September 23, 2025, meeting.

Jurell Byrd, Jr., Secretary