

## JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

### MINUTES

**May 12, 2021**

The Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission held its Wednesday, May 12, 2021 meeting on site and by video conference via Zoom Meetings at 5:30 PM.

### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Steve MacDougall, Chairman - Town of Lexington  
Joseph Hardee, Vice-Chairman - Gilbert-Summit Rural Water District  
Michael Bishop, Town of Springdale  
Troy Bivens, Town of Gaston  
Bobby Keisler, County of Lexington  
Tem Miles, City of West Columbia  
Elise Partin, City of Cayce  
Bobby Porter, Town of South Congaree  
Lancer Shull, Town of Batesburg-Leesville  
Frank Shumpert, Town of Pelion

### OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

|                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jay Nicholson, General Manager        | Donna Peeler, Intergov. Relations   |
| Stephanie Morton, Clerk to Commission | Guy Schmoltze, Engineering & Const. |
| Gene House, Operations Manager        | Ashton Blocker, Finance             |
| Madeline Zimmerman, Finance           | Gene Cox, Tech. Program Manager     |
| Brittany Harmon, Finance              |                                     |

Chairman called the meeting to order.

The Chairman started with roll call of all who were in attendance.

The Chairman confirmed the media had been notified.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item three (3) Emergency Resolution to conduct electronic meetings. The Chairman stated this resolution would allow for continuance of electronic Commission meetings. A copy was provided to all previously in the agenda packet. Mr. Lancer Shull made a motion to approve the resolution as submitted. Mr. Joseph Hardee seconded the motion. The Chairman took a roll call vote and all approved.

The Chairman addressed item four (4) regarding consideration of minutes from the 03/10/21 meeting. Mr. Joseph Hardee made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion. The Chairman took a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item five (5) General Manager's report. Mr. Jay Nicholson then presented an informal report to the board. A full copy of the report is attached as an addendum to the minutes.

The Chairman addressed item six (6) Executive Session regarding personnel, legal and contractual matter. Mr. Bobby Keisler made the motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Frank Shumpert seconded the motion. The Chairman took a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Coming out of Executive Session the Chairman stated that no votes were taken in Executive Session except for the vote to come out of Executive Session.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item seven (7) regarding possible action in follow up to Executive Session. Mr. Joseph Hardee made a motion to give Mr. Jay Nicholson authority to move forward with negotiations with Batesburg-Leesville. Mr. Frank Shumpert seconded the motion. The Chairman took a roll call vote and the motion passed, with Mr. Lancer Shull recusing himself from the vote.

The Chairman addressed item eight (8) proposed Budget FY 2021-2022. Mr. Jay Nicholson and Mr. Biff Blocker presented the budget to the board and gave an overview of the budget highlights. The Chairman asked if anyone had any questions. Hearing none, the Chairman called for the vote. Mr. Bobby Keisler made the motion to approve the proposed FY 2021-2022 budget as submitted. Mr. Lancer Shull seconded the motion. The Chairman took a roll call vote and it passed with one opposing vote (Commissioner Partin).

Chairman MacDougall addressed item nine (9) regarding announcements. Mr. Nicholson stated that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup>.

As there was no other business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.



**General Information**

- Legislative/Regulatory update; continue to watch legislation that may impact water utilities and public employees in general (i.e. environmental, PEBA, etc.)
- Sent a letter to County Council Chairman Todd Cullum regarding the potential impact the temporary moratorium may have (attached)
- Will be requesting ARP funds from the County to apply towards water and sewer infrastructure projects
- FYE 2022 Proposed budget this month
- Risk and Resiliency Assessment remains in progress
- Technology projects are wrapping up; Project Portal, CMMS/CIS/AMI GAP analysis
- All staff reporting to the office; social distance and other safety protocols will remain in effect; office is open to public by appointment only, otherwise closed to public

**Water**

- Water plant PER (Preliminary Engineering Report) received this week (5/5/21)
- The Wooten Company continues work on the Pelion waterline replacement project; we hope to advertise the project soon
- Charter Oak Elevated Water Tank pre-construction has been held; breaking ground in June
- Water Main phase for Charter Oak Tank is complete; pending DHEC approval
- DS Utilities has completed the water plant transmission main; pending approval from DHEC
- Design for Phase two of water transmission main is complete; we hope to advertise soon
- Discussions with B-L re: long-term wholesale water supply from JMWSC continue; more discussion in executive session
- Geotechnical survey underway at Counts Ferry property; barge expected to be in the water this week (slight delay)

**Wastewater**

- We continue waiting on Cayce's attorney and our attorney to complete deed of Cayce sewer metering stations
- Mulberry extension in Pelion is complete; submitted to RIA for reimbursement
- DS Utilities continues work on the Old Barnwell/Red Bank Creek Sewer Project; project has gone smoothly so far
- Submitted SCDHEC SRF Questionnaire for the Old Orangeburg to Platt Springs Rd Sewer Upgrade; we have received CDBG funding for this project
- Received RFQs for engineering design on Old Orangeburg Sewer Upgrades
- Working with developers of YMCA property (Ashton Lakes) on the close-out of the Colony Lake lift station; proposal from developer is still under review (comments submitted)

| JMWSC at a Glance          | Apr-20    | May-20    | Jun-20    | FY20       | Previous   | Jul-20    | Aug-20    | Sep-20    | Oct-20    | Nov-20    | Dec-20    | Jan-21    | Feb-21    | Mar-21    | Apr-21    | FY21       | Previous   |  |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|--|
|                            |           |           |           | Growth     | YTD        |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           | Growth     | YTD        |  |
| <b>Customer Data</b>       |           |           |           |            |            |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |            |            |  |
| Water customers            | 17,820    | 17,895    | 17,956    | 3.82%      | 4.31%      | 18,022    | 18,034    | 18,079    | 18,120    | 18,141    | 18,215    | 18,300    | 18,391    | 18,448    | 18,500    | 3.03%      | 3.14%      |  |
| Sewer customers            | 5,287     | 5,327     | 5,356     | 5.85%      | 5.13%      | 5,393     | 5,402     | 5,432     | 5,451     | 5,459     | 5,483     | 5,547     | 5,567     | 5,602     | 5,634     | 5.19%      | 4.69%      |  |
| New water only             | 36        | 38        | 25        | 349        | 428        | 25        | 23        | 17        | 19        | 15        | 36        | 15        | 53        | 17        | 19        | 239        | 286        |  |
| New water/sewer            | 21        | 37        | 32        | 284        | 242        | 34        | 11        | 28        | 25        | 5         | 51        | 54        | 16        | 30        | 37        | 291        | 215        |  |
| <b>Total new customers</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>75</b> | <b>57</b> | <b>633</b> | <b>670</b> | <b>59</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>44</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>87</b> | <b>69</b> | <b>69</b> | <b>47</b> | <b>56</b> | <b>530</b> | <b>501</b> |  |
| Start accounts             | 187       | 228       | 275       |            |            | 290       | 301       | 233       | 208       |           | 208       | 177       | 181       | 263       | 193       |            |            |  |
| Close accounts             | 44        | 61        | 77        |            |            | 80        | 80        | 73        | 67        |           | 62        | 47        | 47        | 69        | 57        |            |            |  |
| Meters read (AMR)          | 18,021    | 18,111    | 18,181    |            |            | 18,251    | 18,341    | 18,346    | 18,386    | 18,429    | 18,447    | 18,530    | 18,606    | 18,687    | 18,738    |            |            |  |
| Meters unread (AMR)        | 68        | 132       | 139       |            |            | 160       | 130       | 98        | 155       | 166       | 108       | 122       | 205       | 147       | 186       |            |            |  |
| Disconnected/nonpmt        | COVID-19  | COVID-19  | COVID-19  |            |            | COVID-19  | 145       | 155       | 146       | 178       | 142       | COVID-19  | COVID-19  | COVID-19  | 62        |            |            |  |
| Remain disconnected        | COVID-19  | COVID-19  | COVID-19  |            |            | COVID-19  | 31        | 33        | 13        | 33        | 16        | COVID-19  | COVID-19  | COVID-19  | 22        |            |            |  |

**Water quality complaints**

|                  | Apr-20   | May-20   | Jun-20    | Jul-20    | Aug-20    | Sep-20   | Oct-20   | Nov-20 | Dec-20    | Jan-21   | Feb-21   | Mar-21   | Apr-21   |
|------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|--------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Taste/odor/color | 6        | 0        | 3         | 0         | 0         | 2        | 3        |        | 1         | 3        | 1        | 2        | 2        |
| Pressure         | 1        | 1        | 18        | 7         | 13        | 4        | 4        |        | 9         | 3        | 3        | 6        | 7        |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>2</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>7</b> |        | <b>10</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>9</b> |

**Flow Data (MGD)**

|                            |       |       |       |       |       |      |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Water avg daily flows      | 6.23  | 6.85  | 7.13  | 7.57  | 6.38  | 6.84 | 5.80 | 5.19  | 4.63  | 4.51  | 4.32  | 4.73  | 7.16  |
| previous year              | 4.75  | 7.09  | 7.10  | 7.70  | 7.65  | 7.46 | 6.53 | 4.58  | 4.13  | 3.95  | 3.89  | 4.45  | 6.23  |
| Sewer avg daily (combined) | 1.193 | 1.143 | 1.263 | 1.234 | 1.217 | 1.33 | 1.17 | 1.195 | 1.261 | 1.273 | 1.367 | 1.397 | 1.371 |
| previous year              | 1.249 | 1.138 | 1.175 | 1.061 | est   | est  | 1.18 | 1.197 | 1.255 | 1.289 | 1.268 | 1.346 | 1.193 |

**Current projects**

|                       | Apr-20    | May-20 | Jun-20    | Res lots |       | Jul-20    | Aug-20    | Sep-20    | Oct-20 | Nov-20    | Dec-20    | Jan-21    | Feb-21 | Mar-21 | Apr-21    | Res lots |       |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|----------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------|----------|-------|
|                       |           |        |           | water    | sewer |           |           |           |        |           |           |           |        |        |           | water    | sewer |
| Residential           | 36        |        | 37        |          |       | 37        | 39        | 40        |        | 37        | 37        | 37        |        |        | 34        |          |       |
| Commercial            | 11        |        | 12        | 1,558    | 1,134 | 11        | 18        | 17        |        | 19        | 17        | 15        |        |        | 15        | 1,630    | 1,040 |
| JMWSC                 | 8         |        | 8         |          |       | 9         | 9         | 9         |        | 10        | 10        | 10        |        |        | 10        |          |       |
| <b>Total projects</b> | <b>55</b> |        | <b>57</b> |          |       | <b>57</b> | <b>66</b> | <b>66</b> |        | <b>66</b> | <b>64</b> | <b>62</b> |        |        | <b>59</b> |          |       |

|                  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Locates received | 978    | 701    | 1022   | 1052   | 1043   | 1016   | 1081   | 667    | 734    | 815    | 878    | 1047   | 1211   |
| Locates marked   | 687    | 428    | 712    | 681    | 640    | 623    | 943    | 650    | 731    | 811    | 867    | 703    | 1121   |
| Total LF marked  | 35,537 | 25,650 | 44,211 | 39,867 | 38,000 | 36,000 | 28,000 | 44,540 | 39,307 | 48,436 | 70,120 | 57,670 | 55,680 |

**Revenues/Expenses thru April 2021**

|                     | Actual     | Budget     | % Budget |
|---------------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues* | 14,782,554 | 17,950,199 | 82%      |
| Operating Expenses* | 7,395,482  | 10,452,964 | 71%      |

\*Direct operating revenues/expenses only. Does not include debt service and depreciation information.