

## JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

### MINUTES

February 9, 2022

The Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission held its Wednesday, February 9, 2022, meeting at the Commission office at 5:30 PM.

### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

### OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jay Nicholson, General Manager	Guy Schmoltze, Engineering & Const.
Stephanie Morton, Clerk to Commission	Barry Leaphart, Operations
Ashton Blocker, Finance	Madeline Zimmerman, Finance
Haley Alexander, Engineering	Donna West, Engineering
Gene House, Operations Manager	Caleb Taylor, Operations
Bill Hancock, Brittingham Group	Mike Coffey, Operations

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

The Chairman confirmed the media had been notified.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item three (3) regarding consideration of minutes from the 1/12/22 meeting. Mr. Bobby Keisler made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Lancer Shull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Jay Nicholson regarding employee recognitions. Mr. Nicholson recognized and congratulated several Commission employees on receiving awards at the WEASC Capital District meeting in January. Mr. Caleb Taylor received the Rookie of the Year award, Ms. Donna West received the Lifetime Service Award, and Mr. Mike Coffey received the Distribution Operator of the Year.

The Chairman addressed item four (4) regarding Red Flag Rules update. Ms. Stephanie Morton gave an update to the board stating that there had been no major incidents, all the Commissions controls are in place, and there are no recommended changes.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item five (5) regarding the FYE 2021 ACFR presentation. Mr. Jay Nicholson introduced Mr. Bill Hancock from the Brittingham Group. Mr. Hancock presented the ACFR to the board noting several items of interest. Mr. Ashton Blocker also highlighted some

items in the report. After the summary Mr. Bill Hancock asked the board if there were any questions. As there were no questions, the Chairman thanked Mr. Hancock and the Commission Finance staff. Mr. Jay Nicholson thanked the Finance staff for all their hard work.

The Chairman addressed item six (6) regarding Project Portal Demonstration. Mr. Guy Schmoltze introduced Ms. Madeline Zimmerman from the Commission finance department, and Ms. Haley Alexander from the Commission engineering department. Ms. Zimmerman and Ms. Alexander presented the Commission's Project Portal that was developed by Commission staff and is used for tracking residential construction projects from the initial submittals from the developer through the meter set process.

The Chairman addressed item seven (7) General Manager's report. Mr. Jay Nicholson presented an informal report to the board. A full copy of the report is attached as an addendum to the minutes.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item eight (8) Executive Session regarding water sale and purchase agreement – Batesburg-Leesville, and GM/CEO evaluation. Mr. Joseph Hardee made the motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Troy Bivens seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Lancer Shull recusing himself from Executive Session.

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.

The Chairman addressed item nine (9) regarding possible action in follow up to Executive Session. Mr. Joseph Hardee made the motion to allow the Commission's General Manager permission to move forward with the water expansion agreement with Batesburg-Leesville. Mr. Frank Shumpert seconded the motion and it passed with Mr. Lancer Shull recusing himself from the vote.

Chairman MacDougall asked if there were any other motions. Mr. Tem Miles made the motion to raise Mr. Jay Nicholson's salary by 6%. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion. The Chairman took a vote and it passed with one opposing vote (Commissioner Partin). Ms. Elise Partin stated after the vote that the director does an amazing job, and the no vote is not about his performance, but as all Commissioners are supposed to be doing is looking out for the rate payers, and the salary comps for this position are not in line with other area utilities. Ms. Partin referenced City of Columbia Director of Utilities reporting \$137,000, and she stated the City of Cayce is much lower than that. She also stated that what was approved here was a lot higher. Chairman MacDougall stated for the rate payers that the Commission had a Class and Compensation Study done for this position in discussion and the Commission is still at the medial level for that position.

The Chairman addressed item ten (10) regarding announcements. Chairman MacDougall stated that the next Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lancer Shull thanked the board for the support regarding the water agreement between the Commission and Batesburg-Leesville. Mr. Bobby Porter thanked the City of Cayce and their staff for helping South Congaree with the feasibility study. Mr. Frank Shumpert thanked Mr. Nicholson and all his staff for the job that they do.

As there was no other business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.



Period covered: January 12 – February 9, 2022

### General Information

- Legislative/Regulatory update; continue to watch legislation that may impact water utilities and public employees in general (i.e. LCR, PFOS/PFAS, ARPA, etc.)
- Technology projects ongoing; Project Portal, CMMS/CIS/AMI
- Saluda River Basin collaborative meets again 2/17
- COVID – Currently at full staff
- ACFR presentation this meeting
- Assisting South Congaree with feasibility study; engineering firm selected
- RIA Regional Feasibility Planning Grant (\$100K); help small systems to evaluate needs – must include a regionalization option
- Assisting South Congaree with feasibility study efforts
- Evaluating pond dam in Pelion
- Met with Swansea Mayor McDaniel for Commission onboarding and general water system information
- Working through the PER for the Lake Murray water plant expansion

### Water

- Discussions with B-L re: long-term wholesale water supply from JMWSC; more on this in executive session
- Working on pressure and flow operational analysis in White Knoll HS area
- **Current CIP:**
  - Counts Ferry site: Geotech is wrapping up
  - Charter Oak Elevated Water Tank construction continues, riser nearly completed
  - Phase two of water plant transmission main – bidding on hold
  - Pelion Water Main Project
  - Old Cherokee/St. Peter's Ch Rd relocation for traffic circle
  - Black Jack Oak Lane
  - Muddy Springs Water Main Extension
  - Lakewood Water Main Relocation (County)

### Wastewater

- **Current CIP:**
  - Old Barnwell/Red Bank Creek Sewer Project
  - Old Orangeburg Sewer Upgrades
  - YMCA property (Ashton Lakes)
  - Lexington Hill Lift Station evaluation
  - Evaluating growth in Hwy 6/Pelion corridor

JMWSC at a Glance	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	FY21	Previous	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	FY22	Previous
							Growth	YTD							Growth	YTD	
<b>Customer Data</b>																	
Water customers	18,300	18,391	18,448	18,500	18,526	18,563	3.38%	3.82%	18,600	18,632	18,649	18,676	18,690	18,731	18,824	1.41%	1.92%
Sewer customers	5,547	5,567	5,602	5,634	5,642	5,650	5.49%	5.85%	5,655	5,665	5,671	5,681	5,680	5,687	5,767	2.07%	3.57%
New water only	15	53	17	19	28	36	303	349	20	16	8	17	12	39	12	124	150
New water/sewer	54	16	30	37	4	5	300	284	6	14	5	7	1	8	82	123	208
<b>Total new customers</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>358</b>
Start accounts	177	181	263	193	221	271			250	262	258	202		160	170		
Close accounts	47	47	69	57	61	78			66	87	71	64		41	40		
Meters read (AMR)	18,530	18,606	18,687	18,738	18,788	18,819			18,853	18,893	18,819	18,848	18,837	18,919	18,862		
Meters unread (AMR)	122	205	147	186	202	152			101	94	105	98	127	66	158		
Disconnected/nonpmt	COVID-19	COVID-19	COVID-19	62	115	114			101	91	101	114	124	124	170		
Remain disconnected	COVID-19	COVID-19	COVID-19	22	12	19			22	15	16	14	18	14	25		

Water quality complaints

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
Taste/odor/color	3	1	2	2	0	2	0	1	5	3		1	3
Pressure	3	3	6	7	7	10	6	15	1	3		6	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>

Flow Data (MGD)

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
Water avg daily flows	4.51	4.32	4.73	7.16	8.14	7.11	6.95	7.32	6.34	5.40	4.45	4.13	4.17
previous year	3.95	3.89	4.45	6.23	6.85	7.13	7.57	6.38	6.84	5.80	5.19	4.63	4.51
Sewer avg daily (combined)	1.273	1.367	1.397	1.371	1.299	1.357	1.324	1.446	1.496	1.39	1.39	1.34	1.37
previous year	1.289	1.268	1.346	1.193	1.143	1.263	1.234	1.217	1.33	1.17	1.197	1.255	1.273

Current projects

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Res lots	
Residential	37	37		34			33	33	38	38		36	33	water	sewer
Commercial	17	15		15			18	18	19	20		21	21	1,885	1,372
JMWSC	10	10		10			11	11	11	9		9	9		
<b>Total projects</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>		<b>59</b>			<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>		<b>66</b>	<b>63</b>		

Locates received	815	878	1047	1211	988	1067	1000	1133	1063	992	962	900	940
Locates marked	811	867	703	1121	634	651	540	11000	1000	650	685	504	722
Total LF marked	48,436	70,120	57,670	55,680	57,670	55,680	63,650	74,510	69,270	86,456	87,252	74,887	68,755

Revenues/Expenses thru Jan 2022

	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues*	11,675,075	18,629,993	63%
Operating Expenses*	5,509,634	11,431,010	48%

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