

## **JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES**

**April 9, 2025**

The Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission held its Wednesday, April 9, 2025, meeting at the Commission office at 5:30 PM.

### **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Frank Shumpert, Chairman - Town of Pelion  
Joseph Hardee, Vice-Chairman - Gilbert-Summit Rural Water District  
Troy Bivens, Town of Gaston  
Cindy Campbell, Town of South Congaree  
Tim James, City of Cayce  
Bobby Keisler, County of Lexington  
Hazel Livingston, Town of Lexington  
Viola McDaniel, Town of Swansea  
Tem Miles, City of West Columbia  
Juston Ricard, Town of Springdale  
Lancer Shull, Town of Batesburg-Leesville

### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Jay Nicholson, General Manager	Gene House, Operations Manager
Stephanie Morton, Clerk to Commission	Guy Schmoltze, Engineering & Const.
Ashton Blocker, Finance	Anthony Self, Engineering
Melinda Lee, Operations	Barry Leaphart, Operations
Lindsay Jumper, Customer Service	Randy Davis, Davis/Frawley
Amy Hill, Richardson/Thomas	

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Mr. Joseph Hardee gave the invocation. The pledge of Allegiance was said.

The Chairman confirmed the media had been notified.

Chairman Shumpert addressed item four (4) regarding consideration of minutes from the 02/05/25 meeting. Mr. Joseph Hardee made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Tem Miles seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Chairman asked to amend the agenda to move Executive Session up from item six (6) to item five (5) and add PFAS litigation update to Executive Session. The Chairman asked for a motion to amend the agenda. Mr. Tem Miles made the motion to amend the agenda. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

The Chairman addressed item six (6) Executive Session regarding Town of Swansea Operating Agreement, Aiken County contract update, SC Ethics Commission meeting and PFAS litigation

update. Mr. Tem Miles made the motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously

Coming out of Executive Session the Chairman stated that the only motion made during Executive Session was the motion to come out of Executive Session.

The Chairman addressed item five (5) Executive 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 Shumpert addressed item eight (8) announcements. Mr. Jay Nicholson stated the next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> and the budget will be presented. Mr. Nicholson congratulated Ms. Candice Morris on receiving the State Award for Administrative Professional of the Year. Candice is also shepherding the first Water Mission's International Walk for Water for our area in May, and the Commission is sponsoring it. Madeline Zimmerman organized the first ever WEASC Capital District Clay Shoot, and it was a great success. Proceeds will go toward operator grants for education and certification.

As there was no other business, Mr. Tem Miles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION

# Executive Report

February 5 - April 9, 2025

# Legislative/Regulatory Update



- **Batesburg-Leesville project**
- Project approximately 75% complete
- Tank progress
- **Swansea**
- Viability study completed and presented
- Town Council voted in late February to proceed with long term operation agreement discussions
- Applications for funding the most urgent projects have been submitted



# Legislative/Regulatory Update

- H 3768 Utility Relocation sunset extension passed House today, sent to Senate read first time and sent to committee
- H 3571 Bill passed House, in Senate committee with amendments
- H4168 Bill allowing exemption to property owners from connection to public system if the system lacks capacity or if it economically more feasible to install well & septic (Monetta)
- H3656 Bill prohibit DES from denying ability to repair or replace well and septic
- H3309 Energy Bill passed and back to House with amendments
- H3927 DEI Bill passed House sent to Senate
- H4057 Railroad crossing Bill in House LCI Committee
- Governor's WaterSC work group continues to meet; listening sessions this week
- AWWA/WEF/NACWA National Water Policy Fly-in this week in DC

# Professional Engagement

- **Conferences/Meetings**

- Utility Management Conference, Dallas 2/10-2/14/2025
- SCEC, Myrtle Beach, 3/8-3/12/2025
- WEFMAX – Guy 4/2 - 4/4/2025

- **Saluda River Basin Council meets again next week**

- Draft plan being completed; public sessions being planned (Lake Murray footnotes)
- Wrapping up this phase of the process

- **Governor's WaterSC group progress**

- Beginning to lean towards original PPAC work

- **WUC meets next week**

- AWWA DC fly in this week



# Workforce

- **Training and Education**

- CityWorks user training
- In-house training held 2/17/25 – PEBA benefits

- **Staffing**

- **Operations**

- Two new entry level technicians on board
- Developing plan for additional needs

- **Engineering**

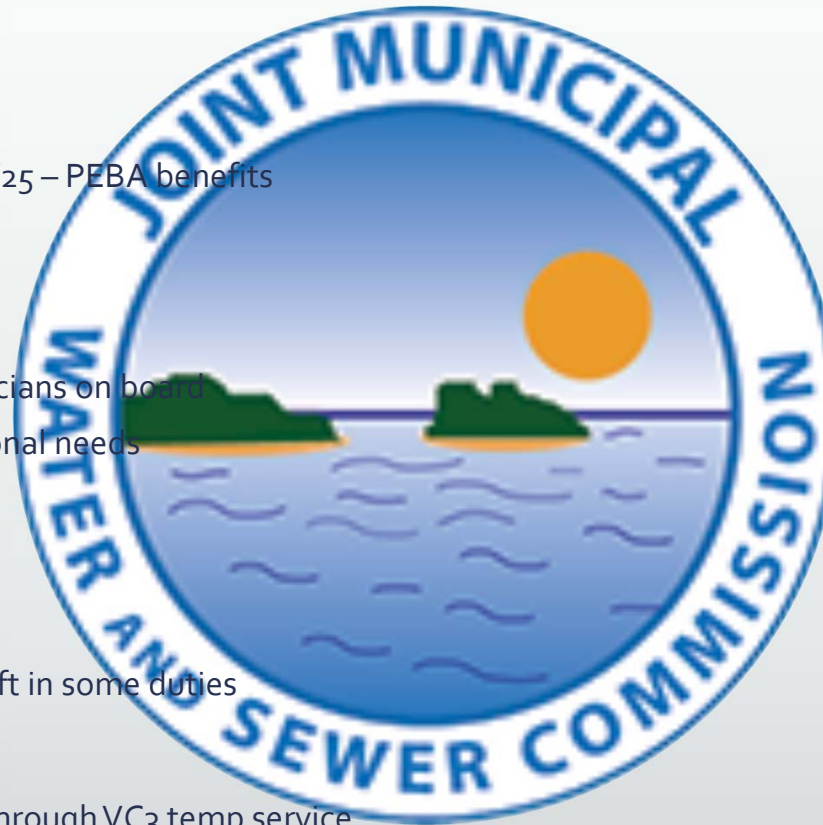
- Backflow position

- **Customer Service**

- Full staff; anticipating a shift in some duties

- **Finance**

- IT position being covered through VC3 temp service
- Additional position job description developing





# Operations

- **Tank Maintenance**

- Calks Ferry Tank exterior renovation and interior washout completed in March

- **Water Quality**

- Chlorine residuals remain stable throughout distribution system
  - Minimal flushing in several areas per normal operational optimization
  - Several minor leak repairs in Pelion and Swansea

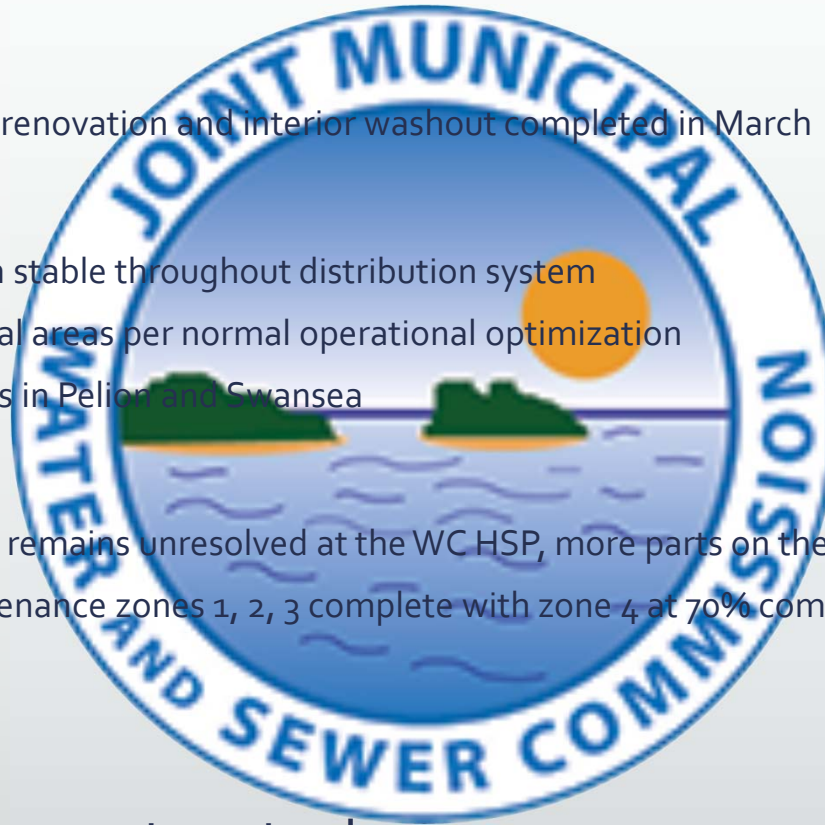
- **Systems**

- Jockey pump drive repair remains unresolved at the WC HSP, more parts on the way
  - Hydrant and Valve maintenance zones 1, 2, 3 complete with zone 4 at 70% complete

- **Sewer Collections**

- No SSOs in September

- **Operations campus improvements master plan**





# Engineering & Construction

- CMMS – CityWorks flushing and valve maint programs in full swing
- RFQ for AMI assistance being drafted
- Project Portal development continues
- Commercial Backflow moved to Engineering
- RFP for Operations Campus Facilities is posted; due 4/28/2025

## Finance

- Investments continue to be monitored
- ACH rollout continues to grow
- In the throes of budget season; departmental requests submitted; analyzing revenue projections and updating CIP; on schedule for presentation in May

## Customer Service

- SpryPoint is live and functioning well; still in the honeymoon phase getting used to new procedures, reporting features, and evaluating improved efficiencies
- Customer Information System (CIS) Upgrade



# Capital Improvements Program

## ▪ Water Projects

- Pelion Main Street Water Main Replacement; PER Submitted, Plans 90%
- Pelion Edmund/Pine Street to Maple; Received Draft PER, Plans 30%
- Black Jack Oak Lane; Forwarded Reimbursement to Developer
- Muddy Springs Water Main Extension; have not received information for reimbursement
- B-L Project; full steam ahead; project updates on website – 75% Complete
- Fort's Ridge subdivision (Pelion) to extend main along Lydia Dr for improved flows; Construction Completed and Reimbursement Being Reviewed
- Calico Farms; Approved Plans for Construction
- Platt Springs Water Main Improvements; Plans 50%
- SCDOT Traffic Circles–Bethany Ch/Boiling Springs, Meadowfield/Hwy 6: MOA's Signed - Engineering Completed – SCDOT To Bid Summer '25
- Water Main from Charter Oak to Sherwood; Completing Route Survey and Preliminary Eng.
- Water Main along Sherwood; Completing Route Survey and Preliminary Eng.



# Capital Improvements Program

- **Sewer Projects**

- Old Orangeburg/Platt Springs Sewer Upgrades (SRF); Completing Punch List Items
- Lexington Hills Lift Station Rehab; Receiving Proposals from Contractors
- Calico Farms Sewer; Plans Approved – Out To Bid
- Bluefield Road Force Main; Plans Under Development
- Business Park Lift Station Upgrade; Plans Under Development
- Master Plan; Engineer is Working on Project



JMWSC at a Glance	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	FY24 Growth	Previous YTD	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	FY25 Growth	Previous YTD
<b>Customer Data</b>																	
Water customers	20,236	20,294	20,366	20,387	3.49%	3.14%	20,406	20,507	20,530	20,563	20,598	20,648	20,681	20,733	20,784	1.95%	2.79%
Sewer customers	6,699	6,748	6,777	6,788	6.31%	7.64%	6,802	6,887	6,894	6,909	6,937	6,988			7,091	4.46%	5.23%
New water only	26	37	9	11	294	195	5	10	11	28	12	19	10	19	4	118	237
New water/sewer	32	30	19	14	352	378	69	45	10	7	40	23	23	33	37	287	289
New sewer only															10	10	
<b>Total new customers</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>526</b>
Start accounts	187	218	191	243			286	172	189	210	148	200		199	168		
Close accounts	50	53	57	54			92	60	46	59	60	47		63	38		
Meters read (AMR)	20,324	20,349	20,494	20,558			20,576	20,586	20,706	20,816	20,768	20,804			20,902		
Meters unread (AMR)	119	168	79	85			84	104	87	127	81	90			130		
Disconnected/nonpmt	140	160	156	125			155	58	158	138	na	199			na		
Remain disconnected	17	12	10	28			27	6	27	23	na	36			na		
<b>Water quality complaints</b>																	
Taste/odor/color	2	1	3	2			1	2	4	0	1	0	2	2	0		
Pressure	3	13	2	15			6	11	3	1	3	5	3	3	8		
Total	5	14	5	17			7	13	7	1	4	5	5	5	8		
<b>Flow Data (MGD)</b>																	
Water avg daily flows	4.97	6.20	7.50	8.64			8.53	7.27	7.51	6.68	5.50	4.85	5.00	4.85	5.29		
previous year	5.36	6.22	7.40	8.39			9.02	9.20	8.20	7.80	6.02	5.35					
Sewer avg daily (combined)	1.61	1.502	1.6	1.49			1.48	1.76	1.58	1.46	1.68	1.65	2.33	1.65	1.63		
previous year	1.431	1.513	1.44	1.42			1.52	1.49	1.52	1.42	1.46	1.52	1.52	1.53	1.61		
<b>Current projects</b>																	
Residential	38	43	43				44	43	43	46		44			46	Res lots	
Commercial	24	17	19				27	31	34	34		39			38	water	sewer
JMWSC	9	9	9				8	9	9	9		9			11	3,450	2,571
<b>Total projects</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>71</b>				<b>79</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>86</b>			<b>92</b>			<b>95</b>		
Locates received	1268	1733	1148	903			1168	999	915	1356	1110	978	1224	1111	1295		
Locates marked	891	1270	873	589			776	735	595	866	861	563	783	703	752		
Total LF marked	107,950	139,480	97,510	59,410			53,390	53,260	52,815	115,890	81,510	52,910	54,810	52,710	55,920		

Revenues/Expenses thru dec 2024	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues*	18,481,981	24,715,029	75%
Operating Expenses*	9,114,933	15,346,318	59%

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



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION