

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

MINUTES

May 14, 2025

The Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission held its Wednesday, May 14, 2025, meeting at the Commission office at 5:30 PM.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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
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	Sara Teem, Customer Service
Madeline Zimmerman, Finance	Brittany Harmon, Finance

The Vice-Chairman called the meeting to order.

Mr. Jay Nicholson gave the invocation. The pledge of Allegiance was said.

The Vice-Chairman confirmed the media had been notified.

Vice-Chairman Hardee addressed item four (4) regarding consideration of minutes from the 04/09/25 meeting. Mr. Bobby Keisler made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Tem Miles seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Vice-Chairman addressed item five (5) FYE 2026 Proposed Budget. Mr. Ashton Blocker presented the budget to the board and gave an overview of the budget highlights. Mr. Guy Schmoltze also gave an overview of the Capital Improvements portion of the budget. The Vice-Chairman asked if anyone had any questions. Hearing none, the Vice-Chairman called for the vote. Mr. Tem Miles made the motion to approve the proposed FY 2025-2026 budget as submitted. Mr. Tim James seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Hardee addressed item six (6) 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.

The Vice-Chairman addressed item seven (7) Executive Session regarding Town of Swansea Operating Agreement, Easement Acquisition and SC Ethics briefing. Mr. Tem Miles made the motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Troy Bivens seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously

Coming out of Executive Session the Vice-Chairman stated that Mr. Lancer Shull made the motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Tim James seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. No other motions were made during Executive Session.

Vice-Chairman Hardee addressed item nine (9) announcements. Mr. Jay Nicholson stated the next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 11th. Mr. Nicholson reminded everyone of the Water Mission's International Walk for Water which the Commission is sponsoring will be held on Saturday, May 17th.

As there was no other business, Mr. Bobby Keisler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tim James seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION

Executive Report

April 10, 2025-May 14, 2025

Legislative/Regulatory Update



- **Batesburg-Leesville project**
 - Project approximately 80% complete
 - Tank progress
- **Swansea**
 - Early stages of drafting long-term agreement
 - Applications for funding the most urgent projects have been submitted
 - Several discussions/meeting with agency heads related to potential funding and existing debt

Legislative/Regulatory Update

- H 3768 Utility Relocation sunset extension passed House, sent to Senate committee on finance
- H 3571 Bill passed House with Senate amendments, awaiting Governor's signature
- H4168 Stalled in full committee, discussion anticipated this summer/fall
- H3309 Energy Bill passed both chambers with amendments, Governor's signature
- H3927 DEI Bill passed House, referred to Senate judiciary committee
- H4057 Railroad crossing Bill remains in House LCI Committee
- Governor's WaterSC work group continues to meet; next meeting tomorrow

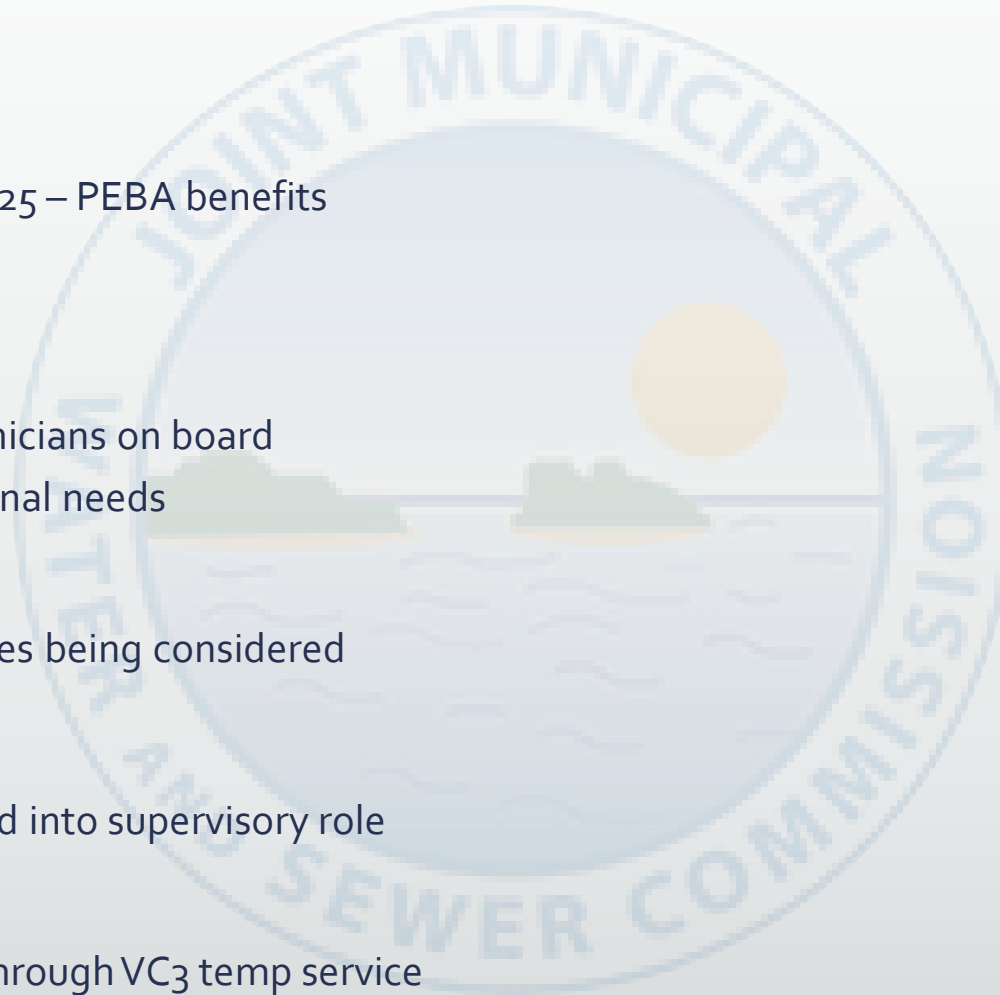
Professional Engagement

- **Conferences/Meetings**
 - Spring GFOA
- **Saluda River Basin Council meets again next week**
 - First open house May 29th
- **Governor's WaterSC group progress**
- **WUC meets next week**



Workforce

- **Training and Education**
 - CityWorks user training
 - In-house training held 2/17/25 – PEBA benefits
- **Staffing**
- **Operations**
 - Three new entry level technicians on board
 - Developing plan for additional needs
- **Engineering**
 - Backflow position candidates being considered
- **Customer Service**
 - Full staff
 - Lindsay Jumper transitioned into supervisory role
- **Finance**
 - IT position being covered through VC3 temp service
 - Intend to focus on new position in the coming months



Operations

- **Tank Maintenance**

- All up to date; nothing scheduled until fall

- **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**

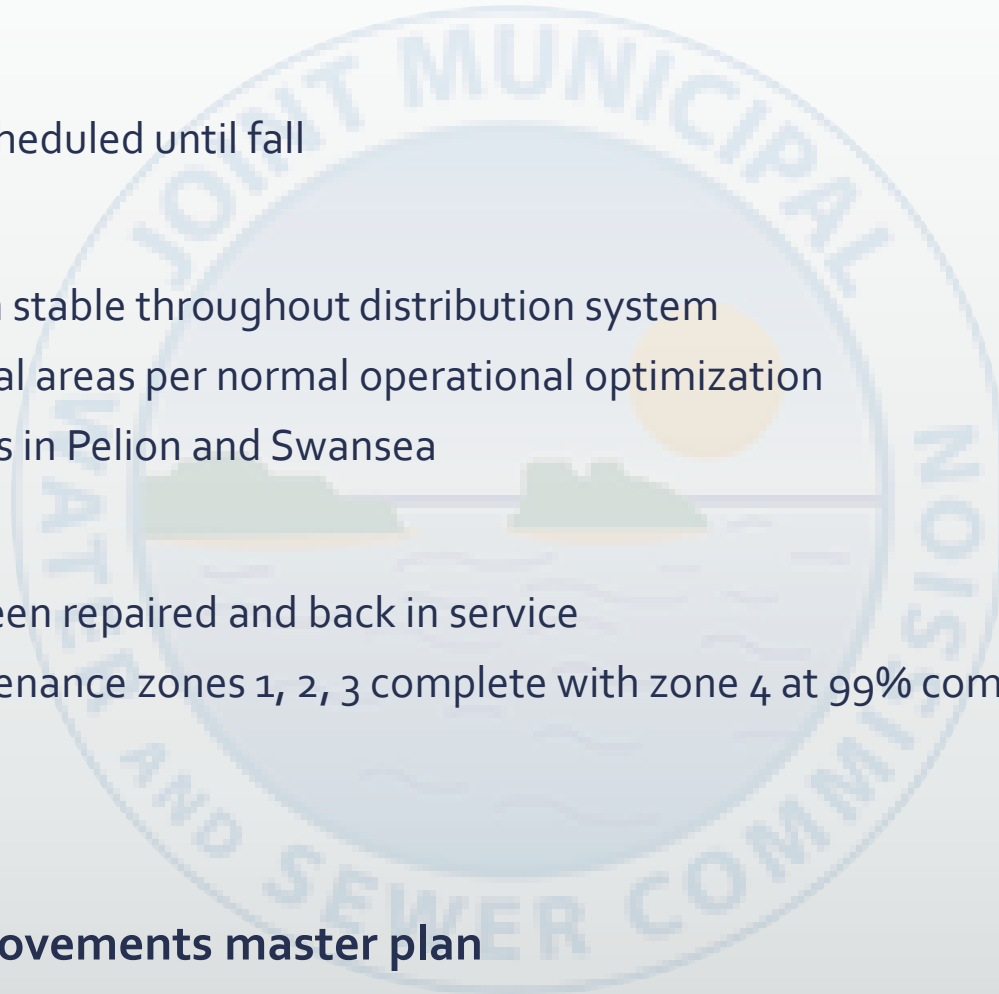
- Jockey pump drive has been repaired and back in service
- Hydrant and Valve maintenance zones 1, 2, 3 complete with zone 4 at 99% complete

- **Sewer Collections**

- No SSOs in September

- **Operations campus improvements master plan**

- RFP responses received and scored; anticipate notification and award soon



Engineering & Construction

- CMMS – CityWorks flushing and valve maint programs in full swing
- RFQ for AMI assistance being discussed
- Project Portal development continues
- Commercial Backflow moved to Engineering
- RFP for Operations Campus Facilities submittals received and scored

Finance

- Investments continue to be monitored
- ACH rollout continues to grow
- Budget presentation this meeting

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	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	Apr-25	FY25 Growth	Previous YTD
Customer Data																	
Water customers	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	20,843	2.24%	2.79%
Sewer customers	6,748	6,777	6,788	6.31%	7.64%	6,802	6,887	6,894	6,909	6,937	6,988			7,091	7,142	5.22%	5.23%
New water only	37	9	11	294	195	5	10	11	28	12	19	10	19	4	8	126	274
New water/sewer	30	19	14	352	378	69	45	10	7	40	23	23	33	37	39	326	319
New sewer only														10	12	22	
Total new customers	67	28	25	646	573	74	55	21	35	52	42	33	52	51	59	474	593
Start accounts	218	191	243			286	172	189	210	148	200		199	168	167		
Close accounts	53	57	54			92	60	46	59	60	47		63	38	90		
Meters read (AMR)	20,349	20,494	20,558			20,576	20,586	20,706	20,816	20,768	20,804			20,902	20,992		
Meters unread (AMR)	168	79	85			84	104	87	127	81	90			130	79		
Disconnected/nonpmt	160	156	125			155	58	158	138	na	199			na	105		
Remain disconnected	12	10	28			27	6	27	23	na	36			na	15		
Water quality complaints																	
Taste/odor/color	1	3	2			1	2	4	0	1	0	2	2	0	1		
Pressure	13	2	15			6	11	3	1	3	5	3	3	8	3		
Total	14	5	17			7	13	7	1	4	5	5	5	8	4		
Flow Data (MGD)																	
Water avg daily flows	6.20	7.50	8.64			8.53	7.27	7.51	6.68	5.50	4.85	5.00	4.85	5.29	6.50		
previous year	6.22	7.40	8.39			9.02	9.20	8.20	7.80	6.02	5.35				6.20		
Sewer avg daily (combined)	1.502	1.6	1.49			1.48	1.76	1.58	1.46	1.68	1.65	2.33	1.65	1.63	1.638		
previous year	1.513	1.44	1.42			1.52	1.49	1.52	1.42	1.46	1.52	1.52	1.53	1.61	1.502		
Current projects																	
Residential	43	43				44	43	43	46		44			46	46	Res lots	
Commercial	17	19				27	31	34	34		39			38	39	water	sewer
JMWSC	9	9				8	9	9	9		9			11	11	3,437	2,538
Total projects	69	71				79	83	86			92			95	96		
Locates received	1733	1148	903			1168	999	915	1356	1110	978	1224	1111	1295	1179		
Locates marked	1270	873	589			776	735	595	866	861	563	783	703	752	656		
Total LF marked	139,480	97,510	59,410			53,390	53,260	52,815	115,890	81,510	52,910	54,810	52,710	55,920	56,280		

Revenues/Expenses thru dec 2024	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues*	20,331,119	24,715,029	82%
Operating Expenses*	10,059,762	15,346,318	66%

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



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION