

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

MINUTES

March 11, 2026

The Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission held its Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 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
David Bouknight, Town of Batesburg-Leesville
Cindy Campbell, Town of South Congaree
Bobby Keisler, County of Lexington
Hazel Livingston, Town of Lexington
Michael Luongo, Town of Swansea
Tem Miles, City of West Columbia
Tiffany Aull, City of Cayce
Juston Ricard, Town of Springdale

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jay Nicholson, General Manager	Guy Schmoltze, Engineering & Const.
Stephanie Morton, Clerk to Commission	Ashton Blocker, Finance
Jason Brummer, Engineering	Gene House, Operations Manager
Barry Leaphart, Operations	Anthony Self, Engineering
Lindsay Jumper, Customer Service	Melinda Lee, Operations
Madeline Zimmerman, Finance	Sara Teem, Customer Service
Bucky Hanna, Operations	Joseph Hardee, Operations
Donna Leaphart, Guest	Donna Peeler, Guest
Bobby Keisler's Family	

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.

The Chairman addressed item four (4) regarding oath of office for the new Commissioner. The Chairman introduced Ms. Tiffany Aull as the new Alternate Commissioner for City of Cayce. The Secretary read the oath to Ms. Aull, and she responded and agreed to uphold the oath.

Chairman Shumpert addressed item five (5) regarding consideration of minutes from the 1/14/26 meeting. Mr. Bobby Keisler made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Ms. Hazel Livingston seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Chairman addressed item six (6) 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 Shumpert addressed item seven (7) Supplemental Budget Amendment. Mr. Nicholson gave the board an overview of the SCADA issues that had been going on since December, and the resolution put in place with Cellular backup. Mr. Nicholson requested a Supplemental Budget Amendment in the amount of \$270,000 to cover the unexpected costs associated with fixing SCADA. Mr. Tem Miles made the motion to approve the Supplemental Budget Amendment for \$270,000. Ms. Hazel Livingston seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman addressed item eight (8) 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 nine (9) regarding service recognition. Mr. Jay Nicholson recognized and congratulated Mr. Joseph Hardee on receiving the Distribution Operator of the Year that was awarded to him at the January WEASC Capital District meeting. Joseph has been at the Commission for 6 years and currently holds a C-Water Distribution License, D-Water Treatment License and a C-Voluntary Wastewater Collection System Operator License.

Mr. Jay Nicholson recognized Mr. Barry Leaphart for 20 years of service at the Commission from March 2006 to March 2026. Barry was presented with a plaque, and the board thanked him for his dedication and commitment to the Commission.

Mr. Nicholson recognized Mr. Bobby Keisler for 20 years of service as Commissioner on the JMWSC Board from February 2006 to February 2026. Mr. Keisler is currently the longest serving Commissioner on the board. Mr. Keisler was presented with a plaque, and the board thanked him for his dedication and commitment to the Commission.

Chairman Shumpert addressed item ten (10) Executive Session regarding SC Ethics briefing, Economic Development, rental agreement for temporary Operations campus, and GM/CEO evaluation. Ms. Hazel Livingston made the motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Joseph Hardee 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 eleven (11) regarding possible action in follow up to Executive Session. Mr. Tem Miles made the motion to authorize Mr. Jay Nicholson to negotiate and execute a rental agreement as discussed in Executive Session. Mr. David Bouknight seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Tem Miles made a motion to authorize the increase compensation for the General Manager, Mr. Jay Nicholson, as discussed in Executive Session, with a directive to apply any Cost-of-Living adjustments to himself as well as respective employees. Ms. Hazel Livingston seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman addressed item twelve (12) announcements. Mr. Nicholson stated that the S.C. Environmental Conference will be held the week of March 14th in Myrtle Beach and several Commission employees will be attending. The Utility Management Conference will be held the week of March 24th in Charlotte. The entire management team will be attending. The next Commission meeting will be held on April 8th.

As there was no other business, Mr. Tem Miles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Troy Bivens seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION

Executive Report

March 11, 2026



- **Batesburg-Leesville project**
- Three months in
- Averaging 700kgpd



- **Swansea**
- Commenced February 1st
- Meter project delayed due to contractor issues
- Two SSOs in the last month
- Sanitary Survey completed; expecting satisfactory



Legislative/Regulatory Update

- **H3768 Utility Relocation sunset extension Bill**
- **S175 Helping Alleviate Lawful Obstruction (HALO)**
- **S808 Interference with workers providing critical services**
- **S829 Joint Authority Governance**
- **S743 Fluoridation ban (Kennedy)**
- **H 4655 – Wastewater Intake/Outflow Testing & Urinary Metabolites**
- **H 4709/S 687 – Public works contracts must have US-produced iron or steel**
- **H 4747 – Acquisition Authorizations**

Legislative/Regulatory Update

- **H 5088 – Development Impact Fees**
- **H 5215 – Data Centers & water usage information**
- **H 4583 – Would require data centers to use closed-loop water cooling systems and ban the use of groundwater or municipal water for cooling**
- **S 724 – Would require commercial data centers to annually report past (and anticipated) water usage if more than 3 MGD used per month**
- **S 867 – Would create permitting scheme under new Data Center Development Office within DES**
- **S 902 – Would create permitting scheme using PSC, Office of Reg. Staff, and DES**
- **H 4645 – Septic Distances Would prevent septic tank construction or installation within 200 yards of navigable waterways or coastal wetlands**

Legislative/Regulatory Update

- **S 706 – Engineers and Licensure** Would allow qualified nondegreed individuals to become licensed engineers through verified experience and national examination
- **H 4057 – Railroad Crossing Fee Legislation from 2025 Bill** would establish one-time \$1,500 standard fee for each RR crossing or paralleling during the existence of any crossing or paralleling facility Bill is now pending in SC House's Labor and Commerce

Other Regulatory Topics of interest

- **Capacity Checkbook: DEQ Will Use 90-Day Average Flow in Past 3 Years**
- **Biosolids land application**
- **Satellite Sewer System GP**
- **DES Collection System Cleaning Requirements**
- **Evaluating Effluent Limit for Metals**

Professional Engagement

- Saluda River Basin Council – the first Interbasin River Council Meeting held today
- Governor's WaterSC updated State Water Plan released 12/11/2025; DES carrying torch forward with kickoff meeting in February
- WUC – Statehouse is in full feral mode
- WQA quarterly meeting last week in Columbia
- EPAC held 1/21/26 and tabled; meeting again on 3/19/26 re: Fairfield Count Joint Water & Sewer request
- Guy and Jay attended Technology Transfer in Greenville late January

Professional Operator Certification

JMWSC Operator Certications since January 2025				
Engineering				
Anthony	Self	01/29/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing B Level Water Distribution Exam
Anthony	Self	10/01/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing C Level Water Distribution Exam
Anthony	Self	07/24/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Water Distribution Exam
Jason	Brummer	01/29/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing C Level Water Distribution Exam
Jason	Brummer	01/22/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing E Level Water Treatment Exam
Jason	Brummer	07/24/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Water Distribution Exam
Operations				
Lee	Storey	01/22/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Voluntary WW Collection Exam
Lee	Storey	11/29/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing E Level Water Treatment Exam
Lee	Storey	06/28/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Water Distribution Exam
Dalton	Sease	02/19/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing E Level Water Treatment Exam - (*Sent i
Dalton	Sease	06/14/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Water Distribution Exam
Joseph	Hardee	03/07/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Water Treatment Exam
Joseph	Hardee	06/28/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing C Level Water Distribution Exam
Joseph	Hardee	06/02/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing E Level Water Treatment Exam
Joseph	Hardee	05/23/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing C Level Voluntary WW Collection Exam
Joseph	Hardee	03/25/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Voluntary WW Collection Exam -
Kyle	Force	01/11/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing E Level Water Treatment Exam
Kyle	Force	12/13/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Water Distribution Exam
Melinda	Lee	03/07/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Water Treatment Exam
Melinda	Lee	02/13/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing C Level Water Distribution Exam - (*Sent
Melinda	Lee	02/07/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Voluntary WW Collection Exam
Melinda	Lee	01/10/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing E Level Water Treatment Exam
Troy	Berg	11/07/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing E Level Water Treatment Exam
Troy	Berg			Passed D Level Water Distribution test in 2024 but, didn't hold the license
Tevin	Copeland	01/30/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Voluntary WW Collection Exam
Tevin	Copeland	01/24/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing C Level Water Distribution Exam
Tevin	Copeland	01/22/2026	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing E Level Water Treatment Exam
Tevin	Copeland	04/17/2025	Operator Certification	Net Check of \$500 for passing D Level Water Distribution Exam - (See a

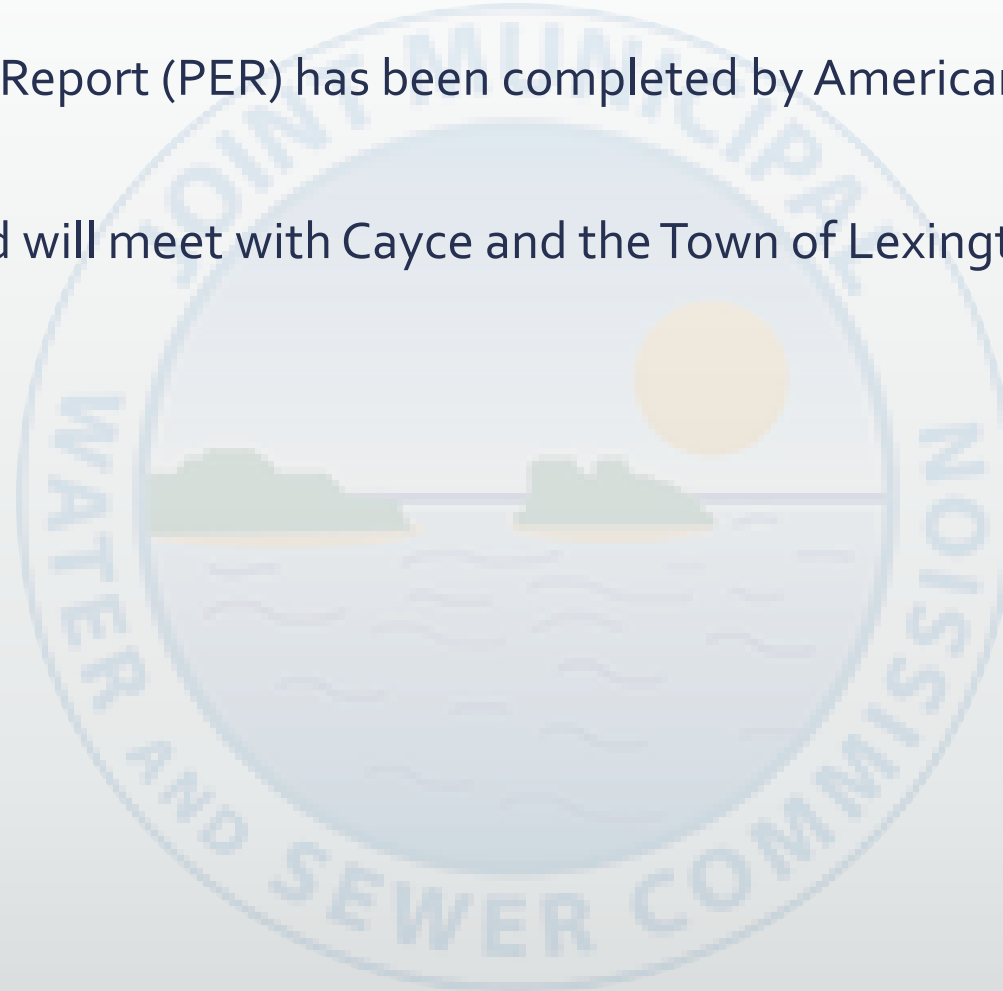
9 staff passed 28 exams
 highlighted rows indicate certification in hand

Water Plant Progress

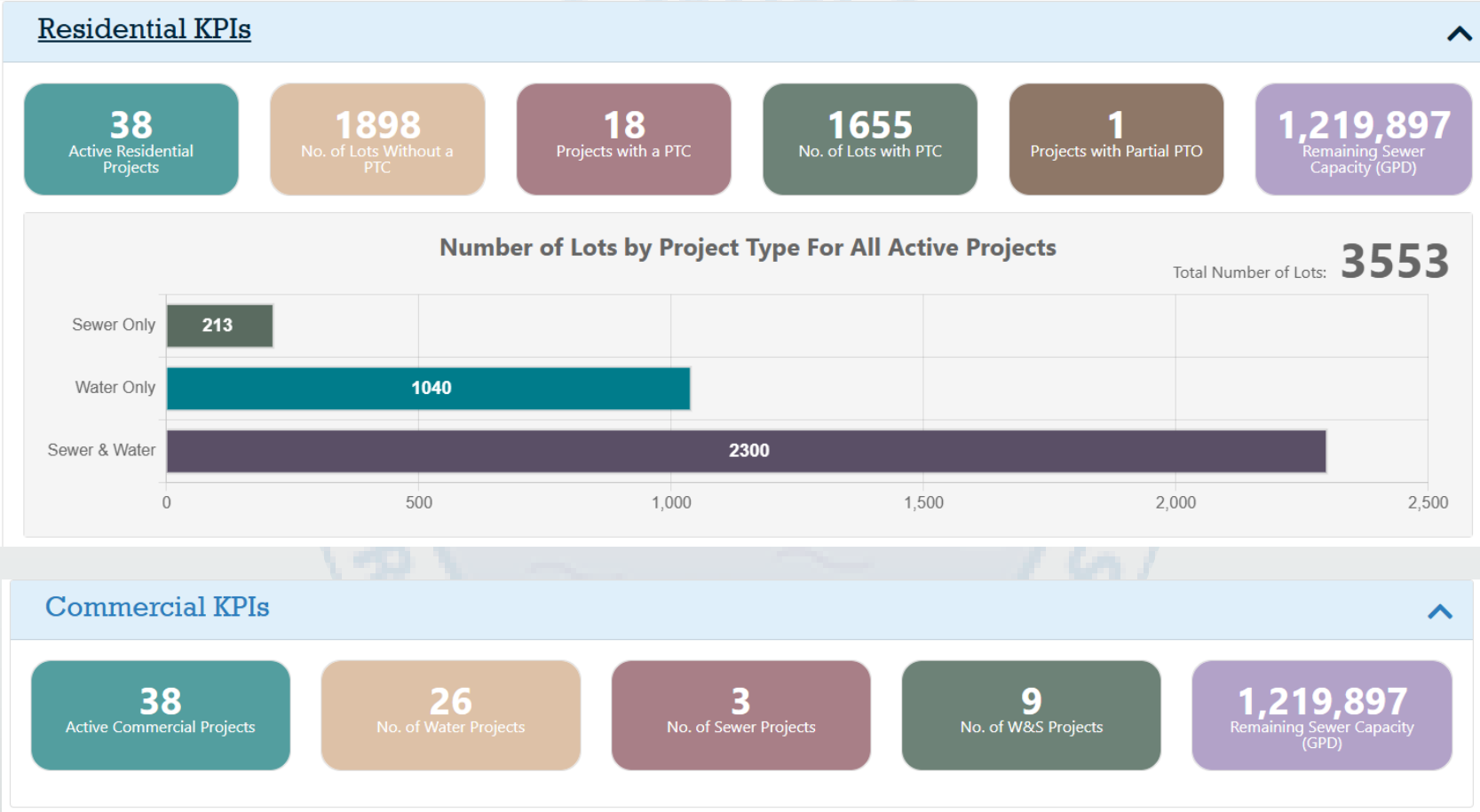
- Both the new 2.0M and 1.5M generators arrived on site a couple weeks ago.
- Most of the electrical equipment at the raw water pump station has been installed.
- The tie in for the 42" raw water main at the head of the plant is complete.
- Excavation for the future ozone processes has begun.
- Temporary chemical feed systems are prepared for tie in this week.
- Work on the future ozonated channel is nearly complete.

Wastewater Plant PER

- Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) has been completed by American Engineering Company
- We have a draft copy and will meet with Cayce and the Town of Lexington 3/30/2026



Engineering & Construction



Capital Improvements Program

Project	Engineer	Contractor	Cost	Update
WATER				
Batesburg-Leesville Water Main	Hazen	DS Utilities	\$17,921,854.75 Construction CO2	Received PTO Working on punch list
Batesburg-Leesville Elevated Tank	Hazen	Caldwell	\$5,104,605.48 Construction CO1	Received PTO Working on punch list
Platt Springs Road Water Main	GMC	TBD	\$6,000,000 Master Plan Estimate	GMC is working on 100% Plans for route on opposite side of Platt Springs. Will need to modify due to school force main
Charter Oak Tank to Calks Ferry Tank Water Main	Hazen	TBD	\$25,000,000 SRF Loan Amount	Waiting on 90% Plans. SRF PER has been approved
Pelion Main Street Water Main	Weston and Sampson	CBG, Inc.	\$917,843 Project Bid	Main has been installed and working on pressure tested
Pelion - Edmund HWY Water Main	Michael Baker	TBD	\$734,880 Project Bid	Finalizing Contracts
Pelion - Edmund HWY Water Main Phase 2	Michael Baker	TBD	\$1,137,925 Grant Amount	PER has been approved. Waiting on final plans
Calks Ferry BPS Replacement	Black and Veatch	TBD	\$4,000,000 Engineer's Estimate	B&V working on plans. Have received Preliminary Costs from EFI for Package
Land of Lakes Water Main Replacement	4D	TBD	\$1,641,268.20 Construction	LJ is the contractor and is under construction
Boiling Springs/Bethany Church Traffic Circle	Highfill	LAD	\$355,450 Bid	SCDOT Held Pre-con - LAD Contractor
Meadowfield/HWY 6 Traffic Circle	Highfill	TBD	\$424,206 Bid Amount	SCDOT Held Pre-con. Complete Utilities is the Contractor
Lacy Springs/Cool Springs Water Main	Highfill	TBD	\$2,046,812.50 Grant Award Amount	PER has been approved. Waiting on final plans
Swansea Chlorine Booster Station	Adurra	TBD	\$400,000 Engineers Cost Estimate	Received funding from Southeast Crescent/Working on a contract with Adurra
AMI/Meter Replacement	N/A	TBD	\$650,000 Estimate	Signed Contract with Core and Main/Neptune
Windy Wood Water Main Extension	Thomas and Hutton	TBD	\$7,800,000 Master Plan Estimate	T&H is completing surveying
Windy Wood Elevated Tank	TBD	TBD	\$9,345,000 Master Plan Estimate	Waiting on an engineering contract from Hazen
SEWER				
Lexington Hills Lift Station Upgrade	CHA/Hazen	Shady Grove	\$1,000,000 Engineer's Estimate	Completing Punch List Items
Business Park Lift Station Upgrade	GHD	TBD	\$1,800,000 Engineer's Estimate	Project Bids March 10
Bluefield Force Main	Highfill	TBD	\$1,232,250 TM Estimate	Received survey, preliminary forcemain alignment under review.
Old Orangeburg Sewer Extension Phase 2	AECOM/GHD	Wile Easton	\$2,255,440.90 CO4	Working on closing out the project
Swansea Sewer Rehab	Adurra	TBD	\$4,000,000 Grant Award Amount	Received \$2M SCIIP and \$2M SRF Working on a Proposal with Adurra
Longs Pond/Two Notch Sewer Improvements	TBD	TBD	\$1,500,000 Preliminary Planning Estimate	GHD is working on the design
FACILITIES				
Cayce Sewer Plant	American	TBD	TBD	Have received the PER from Cace
Operations Complex	N/A	Cohn	TBD	Have received pricing from Cohn
West Columbia Water Plant	AECOM	Wharton Smith	\$86M	DES has issued permit for GMP 4

JMWSC at a Glance	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	FY25 Growth	Previous YTD	25-Jul	25-Aug	25-Sep	25-Oct	25-Nov	25-Dec	26-Jan	26-Feb	FY26 Growth	Previous YTD
Customer Data																	
Water customers	20,733	20,784	20,843	20,952	21,031	3.16%	3.49%	21,094	21,078	21,122	21,219	21,267	21,396	21,411	22,289	5.98%	1.95%
Sewer customers		7,091	7,142		7,184	5.83%	6.31%	7290	7287	7308	7398	7434	7498	7508	7952	10.69%	4.46%
New water only	19	4	8	28	15	169	294	41	11	12	8	9	29	16	17	143	118
New water/sewer	33	37	39	79	64	469	352	17	18	14	67	26	25	28	58	253	287
New sewer only		10	12	1	0	23		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	9	10
Total new customers	52	51	59	108	79	661	646	58	29	26	75	35	54	44	84	405	415
Start accounts	199	168	167		252			279	240	225	201	185	236	160	165		
Close accounts	63	38	90		100			81	93	66	67	43	76	61	52		
Meters read (AMR)		20,902	20,992					21222	21226	21298	21368	21444	21495	21549	21593		
Meters unread (AMR)		130	79					75	132	98	86	107	90	109	122		
Disconnected/nonpmt		na	105					110	146	75	104	n/a	119	79	81		
Remain disconnected		na	15					25	6	7	16	n/a	16	8	24		
Water quality complaints																	
Taste/odor/color	2	0	1		0			0	1	0	0	5	4	2	1		
Pressure	3	8	3		5			6	4	3	7	4	3	9	7		
Total	5	8	4		5			6	5	3	7	9	7	11	8		
Flow Data (MGD)																	
Water avg daily flows	4.85	5.29	6.50		7.37			8.33	6.62	8.03	6.65	5.66	5.63	5.79	5.87		
previous year			6.20	7.50	8.64			9.02	7.27	7.51	6.68	5.50	4.85	5.00	4.85		
Sewer avg daily (combined)	1.65	1.63	1.638	1.68	1.62			1.71	1.773	1.625	1.621	1.636	1.639	1.615	1.686		
previous year	1.53	1.61	1.502	1.6	1.49			1.48	1.76	1.58	1.46	1.68	1.65	2.33	1.65		
Current projects																	
Residential		46	46					42	41	42	42		40		38	Res lots	
Commercial		38	39					32	33	33	32		32		38	water	sewer
JMWSC		11	11					25	25	25	25		25		25	3,340	2,513
Total projects		95	96														
Locates received	1111	1295	1179		1296			1223	1271	1254	1258	1133	978	1212	1092		
Locates marked	703	752	656		750			850	874	820	964	961	722	829	802		
Total LF marked	52,710	55,920	56,280		54,410			92,850	112,510	98,810	108,510	61,810	57,810	89,310	57,160		

Revenues/Expenses thru dec 2025	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues*	17,841,729	26,326,133	68%
Operating Expenses*	8,959,697	17,440,530	51%

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

Sneak Peek at ACFR

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED Monday, June 30, 2025

EXHIBIT B

	2025	June 2024	2023
Operating Revenues:			
Water Sales and Services	\$12,397,257.47	\$11,807,996...	\$10,866,432...
Sewer Sales and Services	4,934,990.92	4,294,680.96	3,873,223.70
Backflow Fees	1,107,720.50	1,052,321.00	997,566.00
Hydrant Fees	1,332,558.00	1,037,667.01	746,146.08
Other Operating Revenues	1,831,696.40	1,361,129.03	1,266,548.41
Account Maintenance Fees	4,598,694.61	4,216,702.93	3,681,335.69
Total Operating Revenues	26,202,917.90	23,770,497.13	21,431,252.60
Operating Expenses:			
Salaries and Wages	3,133,547.47	2,766,027.82	2,420,456.55
Wholesale Water and Sewer Costs	4,548,169.65	4,237,101.29	4,218,909.72
Depreciation	4,730,580.49	4,206,919.13	3,876,523.86
Other General and Administrative Expenses	6,387,128.94	5,621,284.96	4,883,743.18
Total Operating Expenses	18,799,426.55	16,831,333.20	15,399,633.31
Operating Income	7,403,491.35	6,939,163.93	6,031,619.29
Non-operating Revenues (Expenses):			
Water and Sewer Capital Facility Charges	5,497,153.00	3,879,250.00	2,795,375.00
Interest Income	2,288,515.87	3,034,529.60	2,119,344.80
Insurance Reimbursement	29,374.71	2,482.80	78,899.81
Capital Grants	8,905,178.19	1,103,601.99	777,290.50
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Capital Assets	(9,724.52)	16,537.50	(14,336.14)
Interest Expense	(1,505,087.90)	(1,582,198.94)	(1,655,631.02)
Amortization Expense	(141,913.77)	(141,913.80)	(664,484.81)
Other Financing Expense - Arbitrage Rebate/Yield R...	(191,001.20)	0.00	0.00
Total Non-operating Revenues (Expenses)	14,872,494.38	6,312,289.15	3,436,458.14
Income Before Capital Contributions	22,275,985.73	13,251,453.08	9,468,077.43



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION