

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

### **MINUTES**

**April 8, 2026**

The Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission held its Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 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  
David Bouknight, Town of Batesburg-Leesville  
Cindy Campbell, Town of South Congaree  
Bobby Keisler, County of Lexington  
Michael Luongo, Town of Swansea  
Elise Partin, City of Cayce  
Juston Ricard, Town of Springdale

### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

|                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jay Nicholson, General Manager        | Guy Schmoltze, Engineering & Const. |
| Stephanie Morton, Clerk to Commission | Jason Brummer, Engineering          |
| Gene House, Operations Manager        | Madeline Zimmerman, Finance         |
| Anthony Self, Engineering             | Sara Teem, Customer Service         |
| Lindsay Jumper, Customer Service      | Melinda Lee, Operations             |

The Vice-Chairman called the meeting to order.

Mr. Michael Luongo 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 3/11/26 meeting. Mr. Bobby Keisler made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Troy Bivens seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Vice-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.

Vice-Chairman Hardee addressed item six (6) regarding Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) updates. Mr. Guy Schmoltze gave a detailed presentation on the Commission's Capital Improvement Plan for water and sewer projects for the upcoming budget year. These projects will be listed in the FYE 2027 budget which will be presented at the June Commission Meeting.

The Vice-Chairman addressed item seven (7) Executive Session regarding Economic Development contract update, and proposed property acquisition for Bluefield Force Main. Mr. David Bouknight made the motion to go into Executive Session. Ms. Elise Partin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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

The Vice-Chairman addressed item eight (8) regarding possible action in follow up to Executive Session. Mr. Troy Bivens made the motion to give Mr. Jay Nicholson the authority to execute the contract on the Highway 6 property following due diligence and confirmation as to whether a residence is accepted on commercially zoned property as discussed in Executive Session. Mr. David Bouknight seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Hardee addressed item nine (9) announcements. ACFAR will be presented at the May meeting, and Budget at the June meeting. The next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Jay Nicholson recognized Ms. Melinda Lee and congratulated her on passing her Collections Level C. Mr. Nicholson also congratulated Ms. Madeline Zimmerman on the WEASC Annual Clay Shoot that she organizes. They raised \$30,000 which will net close to \$15,000 that goes to operator scholarships and education.

As there was no other business, Mr. Micheal Luongo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Elise Partin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION

# Executive Report

April 8, 2026



- **Batesburg-Leesville project**
- Four months in
- Averaging >700kgpd

- **Swansea**
- Calls with funding agencies
- Meter project on track to commence May 2026
- Sanitary Survey completed; expecting satisfactory
- First bills sent from JMWSC, no major issues that CSRs report



## Legislative/Regulatory Update

- **H3768 Utility Relocation sunset extension Bill – added one year to the sunset, anticipating third read then back to House for concurrence**
- **S808 Interference with workers providing critical services**
- **S829 Joint Authority Governance, Senate approved, moving through House**
- **H 4747 – Acquisition Authorizations county/municipal**
- **H4703 - Would create the SC Special Purpose District Accountability Office within Office of State Auditor**
- **H5321 – Horse Creek PSA**
- **H4703 - Creates the SC Special Purpose District Accountability Office within Office of State Auditor**
- **H5111 - Prohibits counties and municipalities from prohibiting or unreasonably restricting private water wells located on and serving either agricultural or single-family residential property of one-half acre or more**

## Legislative/Regulatory Update

- **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**
- **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**

# Professional Engagement

- SCEC – held 3/14-3/18, nine attendees
- UMC – Charlotte 3/24-3/27, six attendees
- Saluda River Basin Council – 4/22/26
- WaterSC – 4/14/26
- WUC – 4/22/26
- WQA quarterly meeting last week in Columbia
- EPAC held 3/19/26 informational presentation; meeting again on 4/15/26 re: Fairfield Count Joint Water & Sewer request



## Operational Notes

- SCADA – performing well, cellular fail over devices being installed
- Water quality stable throughout
- HydroMax has been contracted to assist with difficult larger valves
- No SSOs in March
- CCRs sent to wholesale purchasers
- Preparing for move to temporary facilities

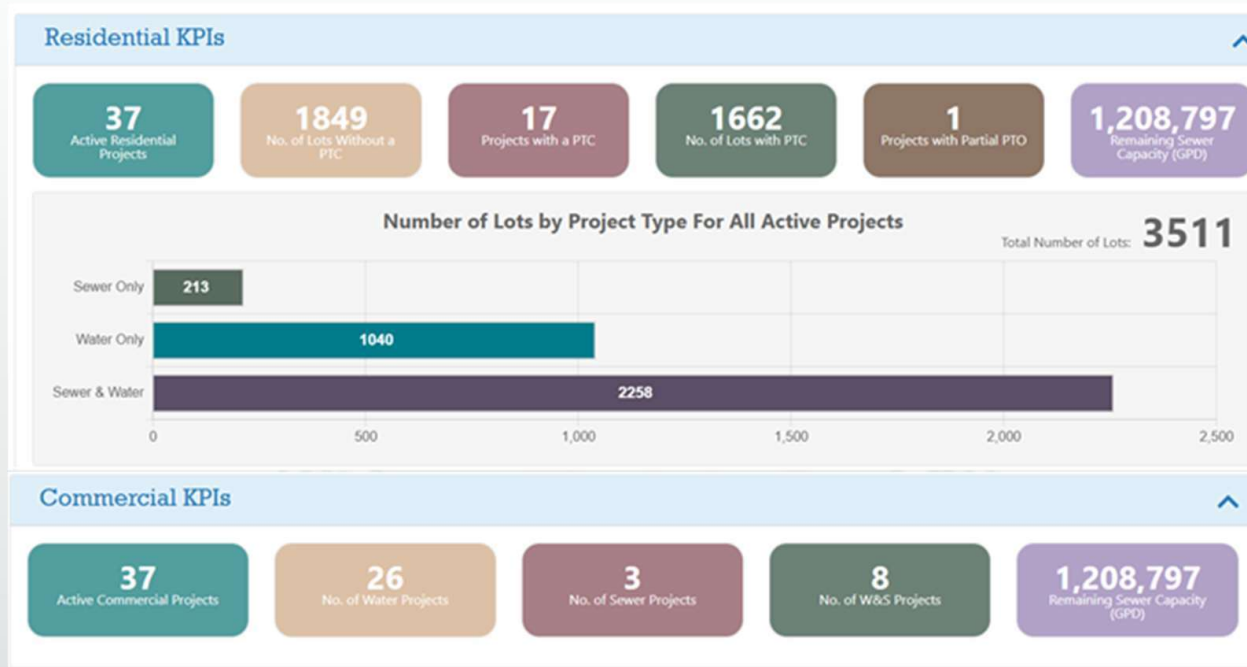
## Water Plant Progress

- We completed the tie in of the 42" raw water main.
- Temporary tie-in for chemicals have been completed.
- The first stage of excavation and shoring for ozone is about 75% complete.
- SST piping for ozone has begun to arrive.
- Piping installation for jet mix pump station is progressing.

# Wastewater Plant PER

- Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) has been completed by American Engineering Company
- We met with Cayce and the Town of Lexington 3/30/2026
- We are providing comments
- Immediate goal is to allow a path to open checkbook capacity restrictions
- PER indicates lower than market average costs for expansion

# Engineering & Construction



# Capital Improvements Program

| Project                                         | Engineer           | Contractor     | Cost                                      | Update                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WATER</b>                                    |                    |                |                                           |                                                                                               |
| 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 |
| 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 tie-ins                                                |
| Pelion - Edmund HWY Water Main                  | Michael Baker      | GH Smith       | \$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 Revised Costs from EFI for Package                        |
| Land of Lakes Water Main Replacement            | 4D                 | LJ             | \$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                      | Under Construction                                                                            |
| 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                | Core & Main    | \$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 working on plans                                                                       |
| Windy Wood Elevated Tank                        | Hazen              | TBD            | \$9,345,000 Master Plan Estimate          | Signed Agreement with Hazen                                                                   |
| <b>SEWER</b>                                    |                    |                |                                           |                                                                                               |
| Lexington Hills Lift Station Upgrade            | CHA/Hazen          | Shady Grove/Co | \$1,000,000 Engineer's Estimate           | Completing Punch List Items                                                                   |
| Business Park Lift Station Upgrade              | GHD                | Shady Grove/Co | \$2,380,000 Bid Amount                    | Bid Project - Shady Grove Low Bid                                                             |
| Bluefield Force Main                            | Highfill           | TBD            | \$1,232,250 TM Estimate                   | Received survey, preliminary force main 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         | GHD                | TBD            | \$1,500,000 Preliminary Planning Estimate | GHD is working on the design                                                                  |
| <b>FACILITIES</b>                               |                    |                |                                           |                                                                                               |
| 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                                                               |

|                                                                                                       |            |            |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----|
| Operating expenses -                                                                                  | 10,704,375 | 17,440,530 | 61% |
| *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<br>2024         | 2023                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Operating Revenues:</b>                            |                      |                      |                      |
| 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         |
| <b>Total Operating Revenues</b>                       | <b>26,202,917.90</b> | <b>23,770,497.13</b> | <b>21,431,252.60</b> |
| <b>Operating Expenses:</b>                            |                      |                      |                      |
| 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         |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>                       | <b>18,799,426.55</b> | <b>16,831,333.20</b> | <b>15,399,633.31</b> |
| <b>Operating Income</b>                               | <b>7,403,491.35</b>  | <b>6,939,163.93</b>  | <b>6,031,619.29</b>  |
| <b>Non-operating Revenues (Expenses):</b>             |                      |                      |                      |
| 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                 |
| <b>Total Non-operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>        | <b>14,872,494.38</b> | <b>6,312,289.15</b>  | <b>3,436,458.14</b>  |
| <b>Income Before Capital Contributions</b>            | <b>22,275,985.73</b> | <b>13,251,453.08</b> | <b>9,468,077.43</b>  |



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION