



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
Greenville Water
407 W. Broad Street, Level 2,
Greenville, South Carolina
June 3, 2025
8:30 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister, Debra M. Sofield, Mayor Knox H. White, and John DeWorken. A quorum was present.

Greenville Water Senior Staff in attendance:

Chief Executive Officer Jeff Boss, Chief Operations Officer Jeff Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer Dr. Bob Schmidt, Chief Technology Officer Kenneth Frazier, Director of Operational Technical Services Jane Arrington, Director of Water Resources Elizabeth Pierczynski, Director of Business Services Steve Miller, Director of Information Technology Brad Treas, Director of Human Resources Lisa Bryant, Director of Engineering David Niese, Director of Finance Jacob Polson, Director of Procurement & Contracts Will Bettis, and Accounting Manager Brandi Cawthorn.

The Regular Meeting of the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Greenville, SC was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Kilgore.

1. WELCOME

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were presented.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Kilgore asked for questions pertaining to the consent agenda items. There being none, he called for approval of the items of the Consent Agenda which were the meeting minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting May 6, 2025, the Water Resources Report, New Development, and New Annexations. Commissioner DeWorken moved, seconded by Commissioner Sofield, to approve the items of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Legislative Liaison Bob Knight to present a legislative update. Mr. Knight presented three items:

- 2025-2026 H3768 – Utility relocation – bill that extends the sunset for the SCDOT reimbursement of utility relocation to July of 2031. The bill will carry over to next year as it did not pass in the last week of the session.

- 2025-2026 H3571 – Underground facility damage prevention – the bill had some issues around the state of South Carolina regarding all the broadband installation damage to underground utilities. Amendments were made to begin coordination meetings and allow for utilities to locate workable sections of projects rather than long stretches of entire projects.
- As of this meeting, the state budget has not been signed. The current proposal allowed for \$12 million for rural infrastructure and \$15 million for statewide infrastructure.

5. ANNUAL INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDIT

Chairman Kilgore invited Director of Finance Jacob Polson and Accounting Manager Brandi Cawthorn to present Greenville Water's annual independent financial audit results. Ms. Cawthorn explained that the auditors from Mauldin & Jenkins CPAs & Advisors were not able to attend the Commission meeting because of a mandatory firm wide training. Ms. Cawthorn was an auditor for 5 years before coming to Greenville Water and was prepared to go over the report.

Ms. Cawthorn presented the audit disclaimers, three audit reports which included the basic financial statements, internal controls over financial reporting and compliance in accordance with the government auditing standards, and the single audit report for the year ended December 31, 2024. Greenville Water received an unmodified or "clean" opinion which is the best opinion to be received. There were also no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control reported. The required communications from the auditors were also included.

Mr. Polson reported the 2024 financial highlights. Mr. Boss added 2024 was a very good year.

6. FEMA/FMAG UPDATE

Chairman Kilgore called on Chief Administrative Officer Dr. Robert Schmidt to provide a FEMA (Hurricane Helene) / FMAG (Table Rock Complex Fire) update. Dr. Schmidt outlined the status of where the process currently stands stating the application process is very long. At this time step 4 is the current step of the initial application process for receiving funds at SCEMD and FEMA.

Greenville Water has 42 public assistance projects at various stages of development. The fund totals change daily. The hazard mitigation fund for application is now up to over \$30 million. There is an additional evaluation now that is at \$130 million. These projects take a very long time. Two major pieces are ready to start, which are the debris cut, push, and chip-in-place to clear the roads and the assessment of the roads. Boots on the ground for both these projects at both watersheds start July 7, 2025.

Dr. Schmidt provided the status of the current FEMA hazard mitigation projects and presented a list of possible additional projects being evaluated. The Table Rock Complex Fire will take another three to six months to complete the paperwork with SCEMD.

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Advance notice was given to SCEMD to let them know that Greenville Water will move ahead rapidly to protect the brook trout at the Table Rock watershed. Dr. Schmidt reviewed a summary of project reimbursement submissions.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Chairman Kilgore asked Chief Executive Officer Jeff Boss to provide an executive report. Mr. Boss shared that phase 2 of the 60-inch main project has begun. The public relations department is working with the City of Pickens on a press release for the opening of phase I of this project.

The 2026 budget preparation is underway. Staff will be ready to present the budget to the Commission in September for approval.

A new phone system will be installed next month. The new system is more modern with the ability to measure metrics.

Field Service Representative Craig Dalton will be representing Greenville Water and the state of South Carolina in the Meter Madness competition at the American Water Works Association Annual Conference and Exhibition in Denver, Colorado in June. He hopes to bring home a national title.

Construction is still being done at the Stovall Plant so the Greenville Water Annual Family Picnic will not be held there this year. This year's event will be held at the Greenville Drive Fluor Field on August 8th.

Mr. Boss encouraged everyone to look at the updated Greenville Water website. Some improvements are still being made, but overall, it is a better, more user-friendly website.

Greenville City Council's first reading on the bond ordinance change will be June 9, 2025. The second reading will be June 23, 2025.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner DeWorken moved, seconded by Commissioner Sofield, to enter executive session to discuss legal/contractual matters. The motion passed unanimously.

(Executive Session)

Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Bannister, to go out of Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

9. COMMISSION COMMENTS

No comments were presented.

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10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned 9:27 a.m.



Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman



Kimberly Hauker, Executive Assistant