



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
Greenville Water
407 W. Broad Street, Level 2,
Greenville, South Carolina
September 10, 2024
8:30 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

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

Greenville Water Senior Staff in attendance:

Chief Executive Officer Jeff Boss, Chief Administrative Officer Dr. Bob Schmidt, Chief Operations Officer Jeff Phillips, Chief Technology Officer Kenneth Frazier, Director of Operational Technical Services Dr. Jane Arrington, Director of Operations and Maintenance Mark Hattendorf, Director of IT Brad Treas, Director of Water Resources Elizabeth Pierczynski, Director of Business Services Steve Miller, Director of Human Resources Lisa Bryant, Director of Communications Pam Flasch, Director of Engineering David Niese, Director of Procurement and Contracts Will Bettis, Assistant Director of Facilities Maintenance Allen White, Internal Auditor Jacob Polson, and Attorney Adam Bach.

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 August 6, 2024, the Water Resources Report, New Development, and New Annexations. Vice-Chairman Bannister moved, seconded by Commissioner Sofield, to approve the items of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

4. RESOLUTION IN MEMORY OF HOWARD DORMAN "DYKE" SPENCER

Chairman Kilgore brought forth a resolution in honor of the Commission's dear friend Dyke Spencer who departed this life on August 20, 2024. Mr. Spencer, Dyke, was a constant, consistent, devoted attendee of the Greenville Water Commission meetings. He took very seriously his responsibilities to Powdersville Water and part of that was his relationship to Greenville Water. Over time his attendance at these meetings became less of a responsibility, but as Chairman Kilgore fondly added a meeting could not be held without Dyke. Chairman Kilgore read portions of the resolution that expressed the sentiment of the Commission and

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Greenville Water staff. A framed copy of the resolution along with a picture of Dyke was placed in his chair and then presented to his colleagues for his family after the meeting.

Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Commissioner Brasington, to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

5. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Knight was otherwise detained and unable to attend the meeting.

6. AQUATIC RESOURCE UPDATE ON THE TABLE ROCK RESERVOIR

Chairman Kilgore called on Conservation Technician Supervisor Austin Williams to provide an aquatic resource update. Mr. Williams began by reviewing the projects that had been ongoing at the Table Rock watershed in the last year. These projects included the bathymetry report, the sediment report, the fish parasite report, and the electroshocking/gillnetting report.

Mr. Williams presented findings from the reports which included the following:

Bathymetry

- There was a lack of accurate baseline data, this new study provides that going forward.
- Minimal sediment accumulation was found.

Sediment Report

- What has accumulated, accumulated steadily with no sign of explosive events.
- Erosion and sedimentation in the study areas was caused by natural occurrences.

Commissioner Sofield asked if the Pinnacle Mountain fire caused noticeable changes in the sediment report. Mr. Williams said it was mentioned in the report stating that the vegetation had changed some along the waterways but there was not a big input in the years right after the fire.

Fish Parasite Report

- Multiple parasites were found in various species of fish, mostly small mouth bass.
- The parasites found were not harmful to humans.

Electroshocking/Gill Netting

- The smallmouth bass population is undersized, and growth is stunted.
- The bluegill and sunfish were oversized with little juvenile recruitment.
- There is a general lack of habitat in the lake.
- Fish habitat was rated as poor due to the dense cover required by smaller fish is severely lacking. The large structural habitat for predator fish is moderate.
- Water quality is excellent for drinking but a byproduct of that is that it does not grow fish very well.

Mr. Williams reviewed the goals for Table Rock Reservoir and presented management solutions determined from the reports:

- Bathymetry and sediment transport
 - Keep accurate, up to date records of lake capacity through bathymetric surveys at least every 10 years.

- Sediment transport surveys can be completed at the same time as recurring bathymetric surveys unless major events necessitate.
- Fish parasites
 - Break the cycle by increasing the number of sunfish and provide better habitat for the forage base
 - Add suitable habitat to the fishery to include dense cover in the form of trees and artificial manmade cover. This will protect the smaller fish, while boosting productivity by creating additional surface area for periphyton.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Williams for the great reports.

7. MISCELLANEOUS FEES PRESENTATION

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Director of Business Services Steve Miller and Director of Engineering David Niesse to present information regarding updating existing fees/charges and proposing new additional fees and charges related to development.

Mr. Miller pointed out that Greenville Water now has multiple financial models. There is a model for rates, capacity fees, cost allocation for billing partners, and the newest is for fees and charges. Early in 2024 staff engaged with the industry leading water financial expert Raftelis Financial to help build a model for fees and charges. The main guiding principle is that customers pay for the service they receive, providing fairness and equity for ratepayers. The one area where this principle was found to be lacking was in the development community.

Staff reviewed all existing fees and charges and proposed new fees and charges for areas with gaps. Mr. Miller explained the new model is simple, accurate and is based on actual costs. The model was presented to show exactly how the costs were determined. The fees were broken up into billing/service fees and charges presented by Mr. Miller and new development fees and charges presented by Mr. Niesse.

After discussion, the request was made that the billing/service fees be reviewed with Commissioner comments and brought back for consideration.

Mr. Niesse began the new development review by defining new development as the future class of customers, not here today, but future customers should be paying for the future capacity, the future services received today. This is done through developers. From a high-level review using the fees and charges model, staff discovered there is close to \$500,000 being spent on development related services. Currently this is spread among existing customers, where existing customers pay for this fee. Through the model, staff examined the actual costs of development related services and presented recommendations for existing fees and proposed new development related fees and charges.

Mr. Miller added that Greenville Water benchmarked the proposed fees and charges against other water utilities, best in class, world class water utilities. None of the proposed fees are new. These are fees being charged across South Carolina and regionally. Greenville Water's fees were compared against these utilities to ensure that Greenville remains on the lower end of the fee benchmark.

After Mr. Niesse presented the proposed updated and new development fees Commissioner Brasington questioned and charged staff with creating a one page rate structure to help customers/developers to understand that if they follow the process down path A these are the

fees but if you veer off down path B there will be additional fees. Mr. Niese explained that a one-page handout is what staff has planned. Commissioner Brasington clarified that whether the customer/developer reads or listens to the information there will be a flow process where there is no way someone could get underway without being exposed to the information. Mr. Niese agreed.

Chairman Kilgore recalled that when Greenville Water introduced the Capacity Fee in 2006 an education awareness campaign was implemented to get the information out into the community so the community would know what was coming and provide feedback. It was recommended that the education awareness piece be prepared to receive genuine feedback before the Commission takes a vote to approve the fees. Commissioners also recommended reviewing the billing and service fee charges related to discouraging negligence to ensure the fees are punitive enough to urge behavior change.

Chairman Kilgore recommended the vote on the fees be tabled until the next meeting and move forward with the awareness campaign with the developers and then there will be more time for dialog with Commissioners regarding the billing/service fees. Commissioner Brasington was appointed point person for the Commission.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice-Chairman Bannister moved, seconded by Commissioner Brasington, to enter executive session to take up legal matters. The motion passed unanimously.

(Executive Session)

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

9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Pipe design has begun to reach Blue Ridge Rural Water's new pump station as part of the buy-in agreement with Greenville Water.

The final draw for the Adkins Raw Water line project was received. The project came in under budget. The finance model will be adjusted to reflect this savings.

The Greenville Water fish hatchery is progressing. The cold-water line is set to be tapped and staff will begin working with rainbow trout soon.

Planting for the 319 Grant project has begun. Rain is expected which will be a tremendous help.

Easements for the crosstown project from J.L. Mann High School to the Golden Strip area are moving along.

Traffic has become a concern on Old Hwy 25 near the watershed at North Saluda. There have been four accidents in the last six weeks. One vehicle rolled several hundred feet off the road into the watershed. Staff will reach out to the South Carolina Department of Transportation about options.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Brasington announced that the October Commission meeting would be his last meeting as a member of the Greenville Water Commission. He explained one aspect of service to the City of Greenville as a City Council member is that it affords the privilege to serve as representative or liaison to so many of the agencies or organizations within the community that have great significance to the city such as Greenville Water and many others. From time-to-time Council members pass the baton and transition service, which will take place in October and November. At that time Commissioner Brasington's position will be filled with Council member John Deworken who is a long-standing member of City Council. Commissioner Brasington added he had enjoyed the privilege of serving Greenville Water and working alongside everyone because the work done is tremendous and important. Not enough people know exactly what goes into all Greenville Water does for the benefit of the City of Greenville and beyond.

Chairman Kilgore expressed that it had been a true honor to serve with Commissioner Brasington at Greenville Water and in other capacities. Greenville Water is truly grateful to Commissioner Brasington for his time and contribution to the Commission.

Chairman Kilgore made note of a letter received by Chief Operations Officer Jeff Phillips inviting him to serve as a member of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's National Drinking Water Advisory Council. Congratulations was expressed by the Commission. Chairman Kilgore added the Commission was proud that he was selected for this prestigious position.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned 9:50 a.m.



Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman



Kimberly Haulter, Executive Assistant

Resolution of Respect for Howard Dorman "Dyke" Spencer

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to call from our midst our esteemed colleague and dear friend, Mr. Howard Dorman "Dyke" Spencer, General Manager of Powdersville Water District, on August 20, 2024; and

Whereas, Mr. Spencer, throughout his 67 years, exemplified a life of service, dedication, and unwavering commitment to his family and community; and

Whereas, Mr. Spencer devoted more than two decades of his professional career to the Powdersville Water District, where his visionary leadership was instrumental in ensuring the delivery of reliable and high-quality water services to the community, earning the respect and admiration of both colleagues and the public alike; and

Whereas, Mr. Spencer's commitment to public service extended beyond his role as General Manager, as evidenced by his many years of distinguished service on various leadership boards and committees, including his tenure as Chair of the Anderson Regional Joint Water System, his involvement with the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce Water Resources Committee, the SC AWWA Water Utility Council, the SCRWA Board of Directors, WEASC District VIII, and the Lake Hartwell Partners for Clean Water; and

Whereas, Mr. Spencer consistently represented Powdersville Water District at Greenville Water Commission meetings with the utmost diligence and professionalism, ensuring that the interests and needs of Greenville Water's largest wholesale customer were effectively communicated and advocated for; and

Whereas, during his years of service, Mr. Spencer formed deep and lasting friendships with the members of the Commission of Public Works, who came to know him not only as a trusted colleague but as a valued friend. His presence brought warmth and camaraderie to every meeting, and his absence will leave a void that will be felt by all; and

Whereas, Mr. Spencer's exemplary leadership, wisdom, and dedication have left an indelible mark on the water utility industry and the Powdersville community, creating a lasting legacy that will continue to inspire future generations;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Commission of Greenville Water hereby expresses its deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the family of Mr. Howard Dorman "Dyke" Spencer, his friends, colleagues, and all who mourn his passing. We join in your grief and hope that the cherished memories of his life, well-lived, provide comfort and peace.

Be It Further Resolved, that we honor and remember Mr. Spencer for his extraordinary service, tireless work ethic, and enduring contributions to the Powdersville Water District and beyond. His legacy will continue to guide and inspire those within the water utility sector for years to come.

Be It Finally Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Mr. Howard Dorman "Dyke" Spencer, and that a copy be recorded in the official minutes of the Commission of Greenville Water, ensuring that his memory is preserved and honored by all who follow.

Respectfully submitted on this 10th day of September, 2024,
The Commission of Public Works of the City of Greenville, S.C.



THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

August 30, 2024

Mr. Jeffrey T. Phillips
Chief Operations Officer
Greenville Water
407 West Broad Street
P.O. Box 29602
Greenville, South Carolina 29601

Dear Mr. Phillips:

I am pleased to invite you to serve as a member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Drinking Water Advisory Council for a term beginning immediately and ending December 15, 2026. You would serve as a special government employee and provide the EPA with your best independent judgement based on your professional expertise.

The council provides practical and independent advice to the EPA on matters and policies related to drinking water, including regulations and guidance required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The council may also propose actions to encourage cooperation and communication between the EPA and other governmental agencies, interest groups, the public, technical associations and other organizations on drinking water quality. The council was created by the Safe Drinking Water Act and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which regulates and governs its operations. A copy of *FACA Essentials Guide for Members Serving on Federal Advisory Committees at the EPA for Federal Advisory Committee Members* and the council's current charter are enclosed.

To accept this invitation, please return the enclosed membership acceptance form by email using the information provided on the form. Upon acceptance, you will be asked to complete personnel forms, which will be sent to you separately and will require your prompt attention. Should you have any questions or require more information, please contact Elizabeth Corr, the council's designated federal officer, at corr.elizabeth@epa.gov or (202) 564-3798.

Your experience would be a great asset to the council, and I hope that you will accept this appointment so the EPA can benefit from your knowledge and unique perspectives.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael S. Regan". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Michael S. Regan