



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS  
407 West Broad Street  
Commission Room, Level Two  
Greenville, South Carolina  
January 8, 2013  
8:30 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works:

Chairman Debra M. Sofield, James W. Bannister, J. David Sudduth and Knox H. White;

Absent: Phillip A. Kilgore

Greenville Water Staff:

Chief Executive Officer David H. Bereskin, Chief Operations Officer Murray Dodd, Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey, Director of Business Services David Hughey, Director of Engineering Mike Sharpless, Director of Water Resources K.C. Price, Director of Human Resources Susan Rector, Controller Jondia Berry, Information Technology Manager Joe Beineke and Commission Attorney David Ward.

---

The Regular Meeting of the Commissioners of Public Works was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by the Chairman, Commissioner Sofield.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Sudduth moved, seconded by Commissioner Bannister, to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 3, 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

John Alexander stated that he was in attendance to see that the Commission complies with his requests for certified copies of the Oaths of Office, bonding information, and comprehensive annual financial report. Mr. Alexander handed each Commissioner a notice to comply with his demands and stated that if he does not receive the documents he will file an action.

**3. WATER RESOURCES UPDATE**

Director of Water Resources K.C. Price presented highlights from the Water Resources Report as provided in the Commissioners' Agenda packet. Mr. Price advised that Table Rock is approximately four feet down and North Saluda is a little above full pond. Regarding the calendar year rainfall, Mr. Price stated that Table Rock and Adkins Plant were greater than the average annual with North Saluda down approximately three inches.

Mr. Price advised that the Army Corps continues to stay in Level 3 drought and will stay at that level until the ponds are completely full. Regarding recent heavy rains in the area, Mr. Price explained that Table Rock was approximately four feet down and the rain has assisted with increasing the level. Mr. Price also explained that November was one of the driest months in the past 10 years with less than an inch in rainfall.

**4. NATURE CONSERVANCY UPDATE**

Kristen Austin, Project Director with The Nature Conservancy, presented updated information regarding the Wildfire Response Plan and the Watershed Management Plan as provided in the Commission's Agenda packet. Ms. Austin introduced Eric Krueger, Director of Science and Stewardship, who assisted with the presentation. Ms. Austin provided a timeline summary of

work on the plans advising that the Wildfire Response Plan was approved in September 2012 and the Resource Management Plan is anticipated to be completed by March 2013. Ms. Austin explained that the Wildfire Response Plan is an agreement providing a proactive approach for planning with area fire department and state forestry agency responders in case of a wildfire.

Commissioner Sudduth asked if the plan includes which responders will be called to a fire. Ms. Austin responded that the plan outlines all of the fire districts around the watershed and allows for 911 dispatchers to contact the appropriate responders based on the location of a fire. Ms. Austin commented on the plan providing an opportunity to meet with area fire departments to familiarize them with the plan prior to a fire occurring. Commissioner White asked how many fire districts the plan includes, and Ms. Austin responded that the plan includes eight to nine fire districts.

Ms. Austin explained the role of the South Carolina Forestry Commission and how they handle a fire scene. Ms. Austin advised that the Forestry Commission is mandated by law to address any wildfires in South Carolina and stated that they have jurisdiction in a wild land scenario such as Greenville Water watersheds. Ms. Austin commented on the variables and steps taken by the Forestry Commission in assessing wildfires. Ms. Austin shared the Forestry Commission's appreciation with Greenville Water implementing the plan.

Commissioner Sofield asked about any concerns with the fire departments around the watershed being volunteer departments. Mr. Price responded that the plan allows for assessing the readiness of the departments and stated that Greenville Water is to be notified of any fire that occurs within a one-half mile from the property's boundary. Mr. Price shared that Greenville Water has trained firefighting staff that will be involved as well. Ms. Austin advised that the plan allows for an annual review each September and serves as a resource for the property's inventory.

Regarding the Watershed Natural Resource Management Plan, Ms. Austin commented on the purpose for developing the plan and addressing management concerns involving the threat to watershed property. Ms. Austin and Mr. Krueger presented the following priorities and recommendations suggested by The Nature Conservancy:

1. Timber Management
2. Roads
3. Controlled Burning
4. Invasive Species
5. Wildlife and Fisheries
6. Natural Cultural Resources
7. Public Recreation
8. Law Enforcement

Commissioner Sofield recommended conducting a separate work meeting to review the plan in detail. Regarding public recreation, Commissioner Sofield recommended speaking with State Park representatives regarding the trail system running between the State Park and the watershed properties. Regarding law enforcement, Commissioner Sofield recommended reviewing the policy of other watersheds in the area and enforcement provided by those watersheds.

Ms. Austin advised that the draft plan is a working document and the proposed deadline to complete the plan can be amended as needed.

#### **5. LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS FOR 2013**

Government Liaison Bob Knight advised that the legislation session begins today and presented the priorities of Greenville Water including to maintain flexibility and availability of resources, keep water rates low, maintain governing independence and monitor legislation on sub-metering and residential sprinkler systems. Mr. Bereskin asked for the Commission's position on legislation that would impose a tax for infrastructure improvement statewide or nationwide. Commissioner Sofield responded that Greenville Water will fight the tax and will provide an explanation to the public for pursuing the fight. Mr. Knight referred to pre-filed legislation and provided his opinion regarding support and opposition for the legislation. Mr. Bereskin recommended the Commission discuss its position on re-use water in connection with Greenville Water's service territory. Commissioner Sofield requested all Commissioners be present when the topic is discussed. Commissioner Sofield recommended adding fluoride to the list and referred to Senator Lee Bright's interest in the matter.

#### **6. SECURITY UPDATE**

Information Technology Manager Joe Beineke provided information regarding an evaluation of Greenville Water's information security status as provided in the Commission's Agenda packet. Mr. Beineke commented on security concerns involving the organization's infrastructure, applications, data and people. Mr. Beineke referred to an analysis of the South Carolina Department of Revenue's recent compromise and discussed what is being done to keep the same thing from happening to Greenville Water. Mr. Beineke commented on the processes in place to detect potential intruders. Mr. Beineke stated that Greenville Water will be intensifying its training efforts regarding emails that may be considered "fishing expeditions" from intruders.

Mr. Beineke presented recommendations in updating security as well as information on possible concerns. Commissioner Sofield recommended immediate implementation of the processes presented. Mr. Bereskin commented on his interest in bringing policy amendments to the Commission for consideration and approval. Commissioner Sofield requested that the matter be moved up on the agenda.

#### **7. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey presented highlights from the Financial Statement as provided in the Commissioners' Agenda packet. Mr. Robey advised that revenues and expenditures are on track and stated there is nothing unusual or alarming in the financial report. Commissioner Sofield asked when budget discussions will occur, and Mr. Bereskin responded that a meeting needs to be scheduled. Mr. Robey stated that staff is developing an operating budget policy to bring to the Finance Committee for review.

Commissioner Sofield asked about Greenville Water having a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) plan, and Mr. Robey responded that Greenville Water is not required to produce a CAFR. Mr. Robey advised that he is currently reviewing the possibility of developing a CAFR for Greenville Water. Mr. Bereskin stated that a CAFR is not required by state law for a public works commission to produce.

Minutes – Commissioners of Public Works  
January 8, 2013  
Page 4

#### **8. HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE**

Human Resources Manager Susan Rector presented an update on Human Resources matters as provided in the Commissioners' Agenda packet. Ms. Rector commented on open enrollment conducted last month and upgrades in benefits made available to the employees. Ms. Rector reminded the Commission of an additional two percent being deducted from the employees' next pay check for Social Security benefits. Mr. Bereskin asked for the Commission's opinion with drafting health insurance co-pay premiums and offering drafting to the retirees. Commissioner Sofield requested that the matter be sent to the Compensation Committee for review.

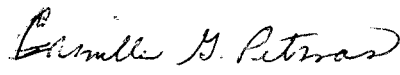
#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.



---

Debra M. Sofield, Chairman



---

Camilla G. Pitman, CMC, Certified PLS  
City Clerk