



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
407 West Broad Street
Commission Room, Level Two
Greenville, South Carolina
February 2, 2016
8:15 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Debra M. Sofield and J. David Sudduth. Absent: Mayor Knox H. White and Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister. A quorum was present.

Greenville Water Staff in attendance:

Chief Executive Officer David H. Bereskin, Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey, Chief Operations Officer Dennis Porter, Director of Engineering Mike Sharpless, Director of Water Resources K.C. Price, Director of Business Services David Hughey, Controller Jondia Berry, Director of Information Technology Joe Beineke, Director of Human Resources Richard Posey, Communications Specialist Olivia Vassey, Business Analyst Jane Arrington, Facilities Maintenance Manager Allen White, Manager of Field Operations Wayne Shuman and Commission Attorney David Ward.

The Regular Meeting of the Commissioners of Public Works was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Chairman Kilgore.

1. WELCOME

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were presented.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Kilgore listed the items of the Consent Agenda which were the meeting minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting January 5, 2016, the Water Resources Report and the Financial Update Report. There being no questions or comments, the items were deemed approved.

4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Chairman Kilgore adjusted the Agenda to allow Government Liaison Bob Knight to present the Legislative Update to the Commission to permit Mr. Knight to attend a meeting in Columbia. Mr. Knight thanked the Commission for understanding and provided an update to the Legislative Agenda for 2016. Legislative Priorities are to maintain flexibility and availability of resources, keep rates low, maintain governing independence and miscellaneous concerns. Mr. Knight also provided details for legislation of interest to the Commission as provided in the agenda package.

5. ALKALINITY PROJECT STATUS AND RECOMMENDATION

Chief Executive Officer David Bereskin reminded the Commission that the Alkalinity project began about three years ago with the hiring of consultant HDR, Inc. In 2014 staff suggested moving forward with changing the alkalinity of Greenville Water; however, the project had not been initiated. Mr. Bereskin stated in 2015 news reports came out about difficulties experienced in Flint Michigan; as a result, Greenville Water Staff reviewed the project and considered rethinking the changes and postponing the project until more data is gathered.

Business Process Analyst Dr. Jane Arrington reviewed the project drivers presented in 2014 to show the Commission where Greenville Water is to date:

- System alkalinity remains low, but stable.
- Twenty percent or less of the distribution system samples exhibit pH values of concern.
- Operator safety has been maintained – zero incidences related to handling liquid caustic and bulk bag corrosion inhibitor.
- Caustic prices have lowered since the inception of the project.
- Compliance with Optimum Corrosion Control (OCC) Requirements have been maintained. This has been accomplished by adding caustic soda and an ortho/polyphosphate blend.

Chairman Kilgore questioned how it is that water from the same source, treated and put into the distribution line changes its chemistry from one location in the line to the next. Dr. Arrington responded it depends on what the water is passing through and on water demand. Dead end lines tend to climb higher in pH. The chemistry is so complex it is almost impossible to pinpoint one particular cause. Chairman Kilgore asked if this happens through a reaction with the pipes and if certain chemicals are dissipating as the water moves through the lines. Water Resources Director K.C. Price responded that the increase in pH is driven by reactions with the pipe's inner surface.

Dr. Arrington presented lead and copper sampling results for 2009, 2012 and 2015. The next sampling is scheduled for the summer of 2018. Commissioner Sofield questioned if the lead and copper sampling should be done more often than every three years, noting the standard is every three years. Mr. Bereskin replied the sampling program could be increased, if the Commission desired. Dr. Arrington reviewed the historical lead results calling attention to the decrease in detections of lead from 1997 to 2015. In addition, the results are currently based on 50 different sampling sites and the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) requires the ninetieth percentile to be exceeded (more than five sampling sites) for any action to be required. Greenville Water has remained in compliance with the LCR. Mr. Bereskin also pointed out that if a customer has a dirty water complaint, the issue is investigated, any concerns are addressed and, where appropriate, samples are collected for laboratory analysis. Detectable metal concentrations most often correlate with galvanized pipe and become part of the pipeline replacement project. In 2012 there were three samples with detectable metal concentrations. In 2013 there was only one. In 2014 and 2015 there were zero samples with detectable metal concentrations. The concentrations rarely exceed the secondary MCL limits.

The recommendation from Greenville Water Staff was to table the alkalinity project and reassess at a later date, if conditions within the distribution system indicate a more adverse water quality impact upon the infrastructure. Commissioners recommended more sampling points be added.

6. YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey presented the preliminary yearend financial results as provided in the Commission Agenda package. The results were based on preliminary, unaudited numbers which were subject to change based on yearend accruals and other yearend closing entries and audit adjustments. Water sales exceeded the budget estimate. This was due to growth in the service area where there were 1,905 connections made to the Greenville Water system in 2015. Expenses came in under budget in just about every category. Unfulfilled purchase orders as of December 31, 2015 which were entered into during 2015 and for which funds budgeted in that fiscal year were committed are carried over into 2016. The Operating Budget Policy gives the

Chief Executive Officer authority to carryover encumbrances and the Commission was advised as to the amounts carried over into the New Year.

7. 2016 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Bereskin provided a brief update on the 2016 Strategic Plan. Movement has taken place on a lot of the planning opportunities; however, being just one month into the New Year, notable progress has not occurred. Items added were updating signage at the Watersheds, a fish study at Table Rock on the brook trout and development of relationships with the Park Forest services of South Carolina and North Carolina. Business Services Director David Hughey has been working on a plan for the automated meter reading with existing vendors. Field Operations has dedicated two crews to the valve maintenance program.

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Greenville Water is a sponsor of the Greenville Chamber Dinner which will be February 23, 2016. All State Elected Officials will be in Columbia on this date, and will not be able to attend the event. Communications Specialist Olivia Vassey will be working on a guest list.

The Urban League of the Upstate is hosting an Equal Opportunity Day Dinner on February 11, 2016 at the Hyatt, in Greenville. Greenville Water is a table sponsor.

Mr. Bereskin invited the Commissioners to stay and watch Chief Operations Officer Dennis Porter as he appeared on the local news assuring Greenville Water customers that the high quality water provided to them is safe.

9. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Chairman Kilgore concluded Greenville Water is very pleased with the quality of its water. Commissioner Sofield thanked Mr. Bereskin for his monthly update to the Commission, including upcoming projects for the Greenville area.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.



Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman



Kimberly J. Hauler, Executive Assistant