



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
407 West Broad Street
Commission Room, Level Two
Greenville, South Carolina
July 12, 2016
8:15 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister, and Debra M. Sofield.

Absent: Mayor Knox H. White and J. David Sudduth. A quorum was present.

Greenville Water Staff in attendance:

Chief Executive Officer David H. Bereskin, Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey, Chief Operations Officer Rebecca West, Director of Engineering Mike Sharpless, Director of Water Resources Rick Pfleiderer, 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, Watershed Manager Henry Poole, Field Operations Manager 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 at this time.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Kilgore listed the items of the Consent Agenda which were the meeting minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting June 7, 2016, the Water Resources Report and the Financial Update Report. There being no questions or comments regarding the consent agenda, the items were deemed approved.

4. AUDIT REPORT FOR 2015

Chairman Kilgore introduced Alan Robinson of Cherry Bekaert LLP, to provide an overview of Greenville Water's Audited Financial Statements for the period from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015, as provided in the Commissioner's Agenda package. Mr. Robinson reported the opinion being delivered with the financial statements was a clean audit report with an unmodified opinion. The audit is a very standard compliance and regulatory driven audit with no exceptions or findings. Mr. Robinson stated the audit is a draft. Cherry Bekaert has signed off on it and asked that the Commission, as is customary, to approve issuing the audit. Commissioner Bannister moved, seconded by Commissioner Sofield, to approve the release and issuance of the audit. The motion carried unanimously.

5. PROGRESS ON WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Watershed Manager Henry Poole to provide a watershed management update. Mr. Poole reviewed personnel development to include engagement of staff

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in decision making processes for vehicle and equipment purchases, and safety improvements. Training has been enhanced, the Greenville Water vision is being communicated through quarterly staff meetings along with feedback on work quality and answering the question “why”.

Roads management has been improved at crossings and water bars are upgraded to use broad-based dips to slow the velocity of the water to prevent washouts. Vegetation is being managed to allow access on the roads, for fire break and water quality.

Upcoming projects include acoustic bat research, wildfire refresher training, invasive mapping and ecological zone ground truth for potential prescribed burn sites.

6. GREENVILLE WATER HISTORY PROJECT

Communications Manager Olivia Vassey presented an opportunity to gather all of Greenville Water’s history together in one resource. The Upcountry History Museum (UHM) reached out to Greenville Water with a proposal to write an authentic, compelling, usable, business history. The history would include political, economic, social and cultural context. Ms. Vassey pointed out an interesting option is an oral history recording that was included in the proposal. Chairman Kilgore and Commissioners Sofield and Sudduth volunteered to be on a History Committee to explore options. Mr. Bereskin expressed a desire to have a finished project by 2018 to coincide with Greenville Water’s Centennial Celebration.

UHM has recently become a Smithsonian Affiliate. Only five museums in the state of South Carolina are affiliated with the Smithsonian. As part of UHM’s affiliation with the Smithsonian there is access to Smithsonian mobile exhibits that can be built to suit the needs of the community. An option presented in the proposal is the opportunity to be a part of a Smithsonian exhibit called H₂O Today. The exhibit offers immersive content, interactives and digital media to explore the diversity and challenges of global water sources. It promotes conservation, creativity and innovation across disciplines. Commissioners expressed a desire to see the H₂O Today exhibit on display at another locale and opportunities for joint sponsorships before making a commitment.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Mr. Bereskin invited Director of Human Resources Richard Posey to give an Executive Report on the results of Greenville Water’s Best Places to Work 2016 Engagement Survey Results. Mr. Posey shared the participation rate in 2016 was 76% compared to 64% in 2015. Overall engagement in 2016 improved to 70% compared to 59%, in 2015.

This tool is used to measure and improve employee satisfaction, which will produce high quality and cost effective service for our customers. Staff is very excited with the 2016 numbers received so far. There was improvement in all categories. Mr. Posey reviewed the summary results by category as provided in the Commission Agenda package. The results presented were compared to Greenville Water’s 2015 results. The benchmark results will be provided in August.

Mr. Bereskin gave kudos to Custodian Tammy Baker and Facilities Maintenance Technician Rusty Watkins for coming in on Sunday to help get a dry sprinkler leak in the ceiling under control. Thanks was also expressed to our Billing Supervisor Jan Tinsley who came in on Sunday and discovered the leak. The only damage was to ceiling tiles. The ceiling tiles and dry system piping will be replaced during the remodel of the building.

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8. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commission Bannister gave kudos to Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey for a great audit report. Mr. Robey gave all the credit to Controller Jondia Berry and the accounting staff, stating it was a reflection of great work every day.

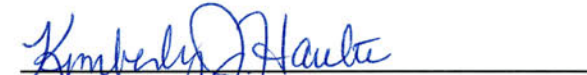
Chairman Kilgore welcomed T.J. Whitesell to the meeting. Mr. Whitesell is a Life Scout, has completed his Eagle Scout project and is working on his final merit badges including Citizenship in the Community. One of the requirements to earn the Citizenship in the Community badge is to attend a public meeting of a public body and observe the proceedings. The Commissioners welcomed T.J., wishing him well in completing his Eagle Scout rank.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.



Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman



Kimberly J. Haulter, Executive Assistant