



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
407 West Broad Street
Commission Conference Room
Greenville, South Carolina
January 10, 2017
8:15 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister, Debra M. Sofield and Mayor Knox H. White. Absent: Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore 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 Information Technology Joe Beineke, Human Resources Director Richard Posey, Director of Engineering Michael Sharpless, Controller Jondia Berry, Business Process Analyst Jane Arrington, Communications Manager Olivia Vassey, Facilities Maintenance Manager Allen White, and Commission Attorney David Ward.

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

1. WELCOME

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Powdersville Water Operations Manager Chris Rasko introduced himself, stating he was representing Executive Director Dyke Spencer who regularly attends Greenville Water Commission Meetings.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-Chairman Bannister listed the items of the Consent Agenda which were the meeting minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting December 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. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Vice-Chairman Bannister welcomed Legislative Liaison Bob Knight who provided an update on the Legislature. The legislative topic of the day will be Dam Safety. There are a number of Bills that have been pre-filed, the most important of which is Speaker of the House Representative Lucas' Bill which would require water utilities to perform an annual inundation survey and provide an update to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), the downstream property owners and businesses. Chief Operations Officer Rebecca West added Greenville Water currently has inundation surveys and contact information for downstream owners; however, the surveys are not done annually. Other Bills dealing with Dam Safety include one requiring the people who have not yet decided whether to rebuild dams that have roads over top of them to at least inform the State whether they are going to rebuild the dam. There are many roads that are washed out and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) does not know whether they are going to be able to fix them or not because they do not own the

underlying land. There is one Bill dealing with the Surface Water Withdrawal Act that might impact Greenville Water. Mr. Knight stated all new Bills filed would be reviewed and he would update Chief Executive Officer David Bereskin. Mr. Bereskin referenced a report coming from Representative Tommy Stringer regarding the pension system. Mr. Knight advised the committee would be meeting at 10:00 a.m. to develop recommendations for the pension system in South Carolina.

5. EXPANDED BEREAVEMENT POLICY

Vice-Chairman Bannister welcomed Director of Human Resources Richard Posey to present the expanded Bereavement Leave Policy for consideration. Mr. Posey explained historically general leave was used for bereavement leave. In September of 2015 a Bereavement Leave Policy was added to Greenville Water benefits. The new policy allows for three days of paid Bereavement leave for immediate family defined as Spouse, Child, Father, Mother, Brother and Sister. The Commission was asked to consider adding current Mother-In-Law and current Father-In-Law for one day of Bereavement Leave, keeping in mind employees have general leave available for non-scheduled life events.

Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Mayor White, to approve the Expanded Bereavement Leave Policy as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

6. ADJUSTMENT OF GREENVILLE WATER PAY RANGES

Vice-Chairman Bannister invited Mr. Posey to present an adjustment of Greenville Water pay ranges for consideration to approve. In October 2015 the Commission approved a commitment to review Cost of Living to ensure pay ranges remain competitive. In 2015 no changes were needed; however, the 2016 Bureau of Labor Statistics shows a 1.6% increase in the Southeast. Modifying the pay plan would assist recruitment (10%) and long term employees at or near the pay grade maximum (7%) and will incentivize excellence in performance (82%). This would have a valuable long term impact. Greenville Water Staff recommended an increase in each Pay Grade by 1.6% effective 1/1/2017. An example of the impact was provided using Pay Grade G.

Mr. Posey provided additional background, stating Employee contributions to the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS) Pension Program increased 0.5% in July 2016 and will increase another 0.5% in July 2017 for a total of 9.16% for employee contributions. The average premiums for family health insurance increased by \$520 per year in 2016 and increased by \$260 per year January 1, 2017. In order to assist with these increases Staff is recommending a 1% adjustment for eligible employees effective the 2nd pay period in January.

Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Mayor White, to approve the Adjustment of Pay Ranges as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

7. STATUS UPDATE ON 2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Director of Engineering Michael Sharpless was welcomed by Vice-Chairman Bannister to present an update on the Capital Improvement Program. Mr. Sharpless declared 2016 was a very busy year for Greenville Water and began by listing the projects, noting the projects listed in red were not begun in 2016, but will rollover to 2017. The Capital Projects detailed in the presentation were:

- Central Campus Improvements
- Cliffs Valley and Upper Paris Mountain Pump Stations
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Study
- Financial Information System (FIS) Project
- Repaint Paris Mountain Tank
- Residence at Trammell Gap
- Replace Dehumidifiers at Adkins Water Treatment Plant
- Water Resources Master Plan Watershed Instrumentation
- North Saluda Intake Structure – Rehabilitation
- Stovall Lab Floor Replacement
- Redundant Transformer at Stovall
- New Roofs at Stovall Water Treatment Plant
- Residuals Handling Study
- Sludge Removal at Water Treatment Plants
- Arc Flash Compliance/Study
- Remodel Table Rock Caretaker's House
- Update Emergency Response Plan
- Dam Improvements at Table Rock and North Saluda
- Rutherford Road Area Pressure Improvements
- Aiken Chapel Road – New Water Main
- Comprehensive Asset Management Program
- Adkins Clearwell Concrete Repairs
- Replace Fume Hood at Stovall and Adkins Lab
- Administrative Building Renovations

Mr. Sharpless noted the Aiken Chapel Road project will be pulled from the Capital Improvement Projects stating Greenville Water's Hydraulic Modeler Craig Sollman found a way to cut the project cost in half and achieve the same results. Another benefit to the alternate plan is the replacement of two 2" galvanized mains.

Commissioner Sofield asked that employees know that Staff is working to make repairs to the Administrative Building, in particular the heating and air system.

8. ESTABLISH CLEARWELL BEAM REPAIR PROJECT AND PROVIDE FUNDING

Vice-Chairman Bannister welcomed Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey. In 2016 it was assumed the Adkins Clearwell Beam Project would be complete by the end of the year; therefore when the CIP was prepared for 2017 it was not included. This item is to re-establish the project in the 2017 Capital budget. There were two projects with projected savings, the new roof at the Stovall Plant and the sludge removal project. Staff recommended the savings from these two projects be transferred to provide \$500,000 for the Clearwell Beam Repair project and not impact the overall bottom line of the CIP. Mr. Bereskin added numbers for this project have come in around \$370,000. It is an expensive project, but the beam has to be repaired.

Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Mayor White, to approve establishing the Clearwell Beam Repair project in the 2017 Capital Budget and provide \$500,000 of funding that will be necessary to complete the project. The motion carried unanimously.

9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Mr. Bereskin announced training on the Water Resources Model will be held on January 17th and 18th. This is the model Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood; Greeley and Hansen; and Clemson University helped design for Greenville Water.

The Water Resources Report was approved in the Consent Agenda, but Mr. Bereskin emphasized the area remains in a drought. Table Rock was 25" and North Saluda was 20" below average rainfall for 2016.

The raw water supply was turned off at Table Rock Watershed on November 18th because of the Pinnacle Mountain Fire. Very robust testing has been done twice a week since that time. The fire had very little, if any, impact on the water quality. The feed will soon be turned back on. Management of the watersheds done very well and this incident validated those efforts. The fire was not as harmful as first thought. A news brief will be sent to the community.

The Native American statue for the Greenville Water Campus Open Space will be delivered soon. The Open Space Committee will be notified when the reservoir panels are also ready so coordination can take place for the Open Space dedication. Items remaining for completion of the Campus project are about ten light poles and fifteen trees that need to be installed along the streetscape. The landscaper is awaiting direction from the City of Greenville and South Carolina Department of Transportation regarding the trees.

Mayor White recommended taking a look at the current Annexation Policy, to tweak it a bit. Two areas that stand out are properties where there are major subdivisions. Residential was exempted but that was intended for one or two houses, not a true subdivision. A true subdivision should trigger the annexation policy. The other area would be a piece of property that has been vacant for ten or more years. This also has an impact on the capacity fee. If a property is redeveloped after five or ten years of vacancy, the annexation policy and the capacity fee should apply, because in theory it would be a new service. Mr. Bereskin stated he had begun discussion with Greenville Water's Attorney to look into this if the Commission so desires. Commissioners Sofield and Bannister agreed. Commissioner Sofield asked if the area could be plotted to get a visual for the discussion. Mayor White requested a report/map of the new accounts assigned within the annexation area. Mr. Bereskin suggested the report could be added to the Consent Agenda.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS

No comments were presented.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.


James W. Bannister, Vice-Chairman


Kimberly J. Haulter, Executive Assistant