



## GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS  
407 West Broad Street  
Commission Room, Level Two  
Greenville, South Carolina  
June 5, 2018  
8:15 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Debra M. Sofield, Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister, and George Fletcher. Absent: Mayor Knox H. White. 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, Controller Jondia Berry, Director of Engineering Michael Sharpless, Manager of Field Operations Wayne Benson, I.T. Director Joe Beineke, Human Resources Director Richard Posey, Water Resources Director Rick Pfleiderer, Business Process Analyst Jane Arrington, Communications Manager Olivia Sloan, Facilities Maintenance Fleet Manager Allen White, Purchasing Manager Valerie Arnold and Commission Attorney David Ward.

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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 May 1, 2018, the Water Resources Report, the Financial Update, New Development, and New Annexation Covenants. There being no questions or comments regarding the consent agenda, the items were deemed approved.

### **4. GOVERNMENT DEALS PRESENTATION**

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Purchasing Manager Valerie Arnold to present on GovDeals.com online Government surplus auctions. GovDeals.com is an online auction website that allows government agencies to sell surplus in a safe, transparent and sustainable way.

Ms. Arnold reviewed Greenville Water's experience with the first auctions and explained the advantages of using GovDeals.com which are ease of doing business, onsite training, trusted bidders, secure website and improved marketing/advertising which expands market reach. In doing business with GovDeals.com Greenville Water sets its terms and condition of sale, reserving the right to reject any and all bids and setting the auctions reserve price. The site administers all aspects of the sale. Use of the online auction site allows surplus to be sold at

the moment it is available rather than waiting for the typical annual auction. Also, items do not have to be transported to an auction location, but can be auctioned and picked up as is.

Commissioner Fletcher asked if any other local government agencies use this auction site. Ms. Arnold explained thirty-one other utilities in the State of South Carolina use GovDeals.com including The City of Greenville and Greenville County.

## **5. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE – THREE ITEMS**

Chairman Kilgore invited Staff to provide the latest Strategic Plan Update. Chief Operations Officer Rebecca West began by explaining progress has been achieved on all strategic initiatives for 2018, which is good progress by this time of year. Quite a bit of time in 2018 will be spent on focus areas of Social/Relational, Human and Intellectual resources. This update focuses on Customer Satisfaction and Stakeholder Understanding and Support.

Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey provided an update on payment enhancements, explaining the original scope of effort was to find a single provider to manage and consolidate Greenville Water's multiple payment streams. Mr. Robey reviewed conclusions reached, what Greenville Water already does well, "pain points" addressed, and opportunities to improve as provided in the Commission Agenda package.

Director of Human Resources Richard Posey provided an update on Leadership Development, describing a partnership that has been developed with Greenville Technical College. Through this partnership leaders are being trained on two different tracks: first time manager and experienced manager.

Manager of Field Operations Wayne Benson presented on employee development and workforce resiliency supported through employee cross training. Mr. Benson explained four crews have been identified to be cross trained and an additional eight Operations Technicians have been identified to change duties this year. Staff reassignments for cross training began on April 16, 2018.

## **6. 100 YEAR CELEBRATION**

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Communications Manager Olivia Sloan to talk about proposed plans for Greenville Water's Centennial Celebration. Options were presented as provided in the Commission Agenda package. After a brief discussion, it was decided that a public event at the Greenville Drive would work best for sharing Greenville Water's history.

## **7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT**

Chairman Kilgore invited Government Liaison Bob Knight to provide a legislative update. Mr. Knight shared monitoring of Duke Energy continues in expectation of a rate increase. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) utility relocation bill did not pass legislation. Legislators did not get to pension reform this year for a variety of reasons. The Supreme Court ruled as long as a potato farm is registered, it can withdraw all it wants out of the Edisto River.

The State Water Steering Committee for the State Water Plan has had two meetings. A Charter was adopted in the last meeting. The Charter is very similar to the Keowee Toxaway Charter Duke Energy used. A request for proposal is out for a facilitator to facilitate ongoing meetings so actual planning may start.

American Rivers held a conference with about 80 stakeholders present. A day and a half to two days were spent talking about various aspects of a State water plan, throwing out ideas for inflow stream releases and other water resource related topics.

2018 has had a wet start to the year causing water sales and production to be lower than normal. The year is predicted to be a wet year. Staff will monitor conditions as we move forward.

Greenville Water has hired AquaLaw for representation in a Federal Anti-Trust lawsuit in regards to Alum, a chemical used in the treatment plants. The suit involves the period from 2001 to 2011.

Mr. Bereskin announced the Simpsonville Tank between Simpsonville and Fountain Inn on Highway 416 will be the next tank painted, sometime in 2019. Mr. Bereskin suggested painting Simpsonville on one side and Fountain Inn on the other. Chairman Kilgore expressed support for including Greenville Water logo water drop on the tank.

## **8. COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Commissioners requested to receive an update from Watershed Manager Henry Poole in a future Commission Meeting.

Vice-Chairman Bannister provided a re-cap of conversations with representatives of Mountain Bridge #46 Trout Unlimited. Now that Greenville Water has the ability to release more water from the cold section of North Saluda, there is a need to try to figure out how it impacts temperatures downstream because the colder the water the more viable a habitat for trout year round. Volunteers from Trout Unlimited are putting together a study to see if these releases are beneficially changing temperature downstream and how far it goes. Funding for the study is expected to be minimal.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 a.m.



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Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman



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Kimberly J. Haulter, Executive Assistant