



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
407 West Broad Street
Commission Room, Level Two
Greenville, South Carolina
November 5, 2019
8:15 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister, Debra M. Sofield, 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 Jeff Boss, Controller Jondia Berry, Director of I.T. Joe Beineke, Director of Water Resources Jeff Phillips, Director of Strategic Initiatives Jane Arrington, Human Resources Director Richard Posey, Director of Engineering Mark Hattendorf, Director of Business Services Gary VerDouw, Manager of Field Operations Wayne Benson, Business Process Analyst Heather Nix, and Public Relations Specialist Emerald Clark and 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 October 1, 2019, the Water Resources Report, the Finance Update, New Development, and New Annexation Covenants. Commissioner Fletcher moved, seconded by Commissioner Bannister, to approve the items of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

4. 2019 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Director of Strategic Initiatives Dr. Jane Arrington to provide an update on the 2019 Strategic Plan. Dr. Arrington reminded the Commission the strategic initiatives are based in the 10 effective qualities of a water utility which are product quality, customer satisfaction, employee and leadership development, operational optimization, financial viability, infrastructure stability, operational resiliency, community sustainability, water resource adequacy and stakeholder understanding and support. The third quarter progress was reviewed as presented in the Commission agenda package.

5. RMSC ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY CENTER EXHIBIT UPDATE

Chairman Kilgore invited Public Relations Specialist Emerald Clark to update the Commission on Greenville Water's partnership with Greenville County School District and the Roper Mountain Science Center on the new Environmental Science and Sustainability Center. Ms. Clark provided renderings of what the building will look like, as well as the building layout and the water story feature. The immersive water cycle exhibit will fill a little over 2,000 sf of the 28,000 sf building. This exhibit will take visitors through an example of the Table Rock watershed. There will be a 17 ft tall by 42 ft wide mural which will pull the pieces of the exhibit together. There will be Greenville Water careers interspersed about the mural demonstrating the distribution, treatment, construction and engineering aspects of the system. There will be interactive screens, a water meter and box demonstrated in the floor and a large pipe visitors can step into, to give them an idea of the infrastructure capabilities. The design phase has just been completed for this project and the fabrication stage is beginning.

Chairman Kilgore asked when construction is scheduled to begin. Ms. Clark explained construction is targeted to begin in the Summer of 2020, with the building opening scheduled for 2021.

6. BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey to present information on Operating and CIP budget adjustments for 2019. The Operating Budget adjustments were made in Facilities—Buildings and Grounds to cover the repair of joints and resealing of the parking deck; addition of new waste containers, and service for the central campus; and additional landscaping work done at the central campus. The source to cover these costs will be the Chief Executive Officer's sundry account. Also, costs associated with the 30-in main repair will be covered by a projected unspent balance of the Normal System Improvements. Chairman Kilgore questioned the need to reseal the new parking deck. Director of Engineering Mark Hattendorf responded the General Contractor over the construction of the new parking deck has been approached about providing compensation for this expense, as part of a warranty complaint.

The 2019 Capital Budget adjustments include the Green Avenue Valve Replacement, Table Rock Bridge Rehabilitation and the North Saluda Treating Station. The sources for these adjustments were two capital projects that are no longer needed and two capital projects that were changed to normal system improvement projects. The 2019 adjustments were presented for information only and did not require any action by the Commission.

Adjustments to the 2020 and 2021 Operating budgets were made in the Information Technology department with the source for funding coming from Operating Revenues. The new fractional Chief Information Officer (CIO) had not completed his analysis by the time the 2020-2021 Operating Budget was presented to the Commission for approval. Mr. Robey presented items the CIO asked to include.

The 2020 Capital Budget adjustment includes rehabilitation and enhancements to the North Saluda structure with the funding coming from reserves. Staff requested the Commission

approve amendment of the 2020-2021 Operating Budget and the 2020 Capital Improvement Budget. Commissioner Bannister moved, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, to approve the 2020-2021 budget amendments as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Chairman Kilgore invited Legislative Liaison Bob Knight to provide a Legislative update. Mr. Knight stated there was a bill passed in the House last year dealing with employers being able to contribute to the employee's portion of their State Retirement contribution. The bill passed in the House of Representatives and a Senate hearing has been requested.

Spartanburg Water held a meeting to update similarly situated Commissions of Public Works on the Spartanburg bills that have been filed. Chief Executive Officer David Bereskin added, to date, Spartanburg Water has moved forward and addressed a lot of the concerns of the homeowners around Lake Bowen. It is still to be determined if the bills filed will be acted upon.

Surface Water planning is ongoing. It is expected to have possible public hearings in the next month or so. The planning is led by the Department of Natural Resources in collaboration with the Department of Health and Environmental Control, Clemson University, United States Geological Survey and the United States Army Corp of Engineers.

Pre-filing of bills will start in December and will be monitored.

8. 2020 COMMISSION MEETING AND HOLIDAY CALENDAR

Mr. Bereskin presented the 2020 Commission Meeting and Holiday calendar for review, noting the November and December meetings will be on the second Tuesday, rather than the first Tuesday. There being no questions or comments, the calendar was deemed approved.

9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Mr. Bereskin met with local historian Don Koonce of the Greenville Historical Society to discuss the possibility of storing historical items while the historical society builds a new space for the items. However, the Historical Society decided to use a bigger space in the old Lab at Renewable Water Resources. Mr. Koonce recently released a movie for the Public Broadcast System (PBS) titled "Building An Empire, The Textile Center of the World" and he provided a copy for Greenville Water.

Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission has a groundbreaking scheduled for the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility on November 14, 2019. This treatment plant is to treat and deliver water to the lower half of Laurens County.

Human Resources Director Richard Posey will be holding a meeting with Greenville Water Retirees to review the new Medicare Advantage Plan. This meeting will explain the advantage for moving from United Healthcare to Humana. There are very few differences in

the plans but there is a giant savings. Chairman Kilgore clarified this is a real positive for Greenville Water Retirees.

The automatic release for North Saluda is nearing completion. Chief Operations Officer Jeff Boss stated both actuators are on at North Saluda, with some wiring left to be completed. Testing of the one actuator in the old plant was underway.

The Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority sent a thank you letter and plaque in appreciation of Greenville Water for assisting in the wake of Hurricane Irma.

Mr. Bereskin thanked the Departments of Strategic Initiatives and Engineering for their hard work in completing application to the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority for grant monies. As a result of the hard work, Greenville Water has been awarded a \$500,000 grant to upgrade the water mains in the City View area.

10. SOUTH CAROLINA'S CLIMATE REPORT CARD: TRENDS AND VARIABILITY

Chairman Kilgore welcomed South Carolina State Climatologist Dr. Hope Mizzell to present on South Carolina's Climate Report Card: Understanding South Carolina's Climate Trends and Variability. Dr. Mizzell provided background on the State Climatology Office, which serves as the State's focal point for weather and climate information dating back to the 1800s.

Recent extreme weather events, from a climatological standpoint, give evidence of change. Dr. Mizzell reviewed information from the rain events of 2015, 2016, and 2018, as well as, more detailed historical information from the Cheraw, Pee Dee and Santee areas of South Carolina. Statewide the precipitation extremes are showing an increasing trend in the four to seven day events. The Upstate, however, does not show a trend. Dr. Mizzell stated this could be an increasing trend or it could be an anomaly, only time will really tell.

Climate change is one of the many things the State Climatology Office does, but the office mostly tries to evaluate climate variability and develop products that can communicate what changes, if any, are being seen. Dr. Mizzell reviewed South Carolina's Annual Precipitation Trend 1895-2018, showing the wettest year on record being 1964 and the driest year on record as 1954. There was an increasing trend in the 60s and then the decrease with the drought of 1998 to the early 2000s. Annual precipitation for the region from 1901 to 2015 shows a decreasing precipitation trend across the Upstate. From the Columbia area heading south, there is a range from an increasing trend to all most no change.

The Statewide average annual temperature is showing an increasing temperature trend. There was a cooling trend from the 50s into the 60s and early 70s. Since this time, there has been a really pronounced increasing temperature trend, with an increasing minimum temperature during the Summer. Summer tends to be the season where there is the strongest signal, as far as a consistent change, among most stations when it comes to temperature. There is an increasing trend in the number of warm nights with temperatures above 75 degrees throughout the State.

The Commission thanked Dr. Mizzell for her time and the information shared.

11. COMMISSION COMMENTS

No comments presented at this time.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.



Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman



Kimberly J. Haulter, Executive Assistant