



GreenvilleWater

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
 COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
 Greenville Water
 407 W. Broad Street, Level 2,
 Greenville, South Carolina
 April 2, 2024
 8:15 a.m.

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

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

Greenville Water Senior Staff in attendance:

Chief Executive Officer Jeff Boss, Chief Administrative Officer Dr. Bob Schmidt, Chief Operations Officer Jeff Phillips, Chief Technology Officer Kenneth Frazier, Director of Operational Technical Services Dr. Jane Arrington, Director of Information Technology Brad Treas, Director of Water Resources Elizabeth Pierczynski, Director of Business Services Steve Miller, Director of Human Resources Lisa Bryant, Director of Communications Pam Flasch, Assistant Director of Facilities Maintenance Allen White, Controller Brian Bearfield, Internal Auditor Jacob Polson, and Attorney Adam Bach.

The Regular Meeting of the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Greenville, SC 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 asked for questions pertaining to the consent agenda items. There being none, he called for approval of the items of the Consent Agenda which were the meeting minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting March 5, 2024, the Water Resources Report, New Development, and New Annexations. Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Commissioner Brasington, to approve the items of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Chairman Kilgore called on Legislative Liaison Bob Knight for a legislative update. Mr. Knight stated the only utility bill moving quickly is the Energy Transformation Act which deals with electric utilities. This bill will allow the utilities to build natural gas plants faster by taking away some of the oversight and restrictions on building pipelines. The bill is very controversial. It has passed through the House of Representatives. The conservation community has asked legislators to oppose the act.

The Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) has been split. The environmental control portion has been decided, but the health side is still being put together.

Two other bills of interest are H4586 and H3770 both of which deal with annexation issues and water utilities. The bills have not shown any movement to date.

5. BATHYMETRIC STUDY

Chairman Kilgore called on Conservation Technicians Austin Williams and Joe Brazelton to present information received from the recently completed bathymetric study. The study of the North Saluda and Table Rock reservoirs was carried out by Woolpert Engineering. The previous bathymetric study was completed in 2014 by United States Geological Survey (USGS). The study is conducted to understand the contours and profiles under the water, coupled with the elevation of the lake which will help determine how much water can be stored.

Mr. Williams provided a video showing the tools used, explained the process and how technology has improved for collecting data in the 10 years since the previous bathymetric study was conducted. The results of the current study show minimum areas of sediment accumulation. The new baseline data is significantly more accurate than the previous survey. The increase in accuracy resulted in higher overall capacity at each reservoir. The perceived change prior to the study was determined to be due to movement of underwater channels during low stage regimes.

Mr. Braselton presented the previous bathymetric maps and compared them to the current detail provided by the 2024 study. The current study confirmed that sediment accumulation is minor and primarily occurs as accretion along pre-existing spits and in the shallowest, lowest flow rate areas. An Engineering Consulting Services (ECS) sediment sourcing project is being undertaken to identify sources of sediment in the Table Rock Reservoir. With access to more accurate multi-beam technology every future survey will allow Greenville Water to track true capacity of the reservoir, underwater channel migration, and areas of accumulation that could become a concern. The team recommends bathymetric studies be done every ten years.

6. RIVER BASIN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Chief Operations Officer Jeff Phillips to provide an update on River Basin Planning. Mr. Phillips began with a brief overview, explaining the funding will be transferred under the guidance of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR). This will provide the money necessary for SCDNR to fund the basin plans that have not been completed. The basis for the basin planning came from the South Carolina State Water Planning framework published in 2019 by the South Carolina Planning Process Advisory Committee (PPAC). Greenville Water is a member of this committee. One of the key elements is that the planning only looks at water quantity in the state, not quality.

River Basin Council activity as it stands currently is as follows:

- Edisto River Basin was the first council formed. The final report was released on June 1, 2023.
- Broad River Basin Council was appointed in 2022. The final report was released on February 20, 2024.
- Pee Dee, Saluda, Upper Savannah, and Lower Savannah are currently active.

Greenville Water is a member of the Saluda and Upper Savannah, and an Inter basin Council Member of the Lower Savannah.

Four flow scenarios used by the basin councils are current use, permitted and registered use, moderate demand, and high demand. Each scenario is then modeled. Only one water system in the broad river basin was determined to have issues in 2070. The council developed supply-side strategies to help alleviate this future shortage.

The Saluda River Basin has had 12 meetings as of March 2024. It will be approximately one year until this basin council is ready to release the final plan. Drafting of the plan has begun. Chief Executive Officer Jeff Boss and Mr. Phillips have worked with this river basin council modeling group to look at realistic demands from North Saluda and Table Rock. There were no utilities with shortages in this basin with respect to drinking water through 2070. There is a desire from this group to have the utilities update drought management plans.

The Upper Savannah River Basin has had 8 meetings as of March 2024. It will be approximately one year until this basin is ready to release the final plan. As the watershed is composed primarily of Duke and US Army Corps of Engineering lakes this may be completed sooner. Initial modeling demonstrates that under all scenarios there is plenty of water to meet the demands of the basin through 2070.

The next steps are to finalize both the Saluda and Upper Savannah basin plans in early 2025. Once the Lower Savannah/Salkehatchie and Santee are completed in 2026, all the plans will be incorporated into a Statewide Water Plan.

7. SOUTH CAROLINA ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE (SCEC) COMPETITION RESULTS

Mr. Boss presented videos of three competitions Greenville Water team members were involved in at SCEC. The Pipe Tapping team won third place and included Patrick Blandine, Kentarus Maronie, Jonathan Queen and Seth Bailey. The Hydrant Hysteria team won second place and included Ben Shivers, Chris Queen, and Zach Craigo. Craig Dalton represented Greenville Water in the Meter Madness meter challenge and won second place, missing first place by only $\frac{3}{4}$ of a second. Mr. Dalton beat the current national record and the current national record holder beat his own record in this competition.

8. BEST OF THE BEST: WATER & WATERSHED

Mr. Boss announced that Greenville Water has been selected as the recipient of the prestigious American Water Works Association (AWWA) 2024 Exemplary Source Water Protection Award for Very Large Source Water Systems (100,000 or more service connections). No one in the southeast has won this award since 2003. The award will be presented at the AWWA Annual Conference in June.

Greenville Water was also selected as the Best Tasting Water in South Carolina again at the South Carolina Environmental Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC. There were 17 other participants in the taste test. Mount Pleasant Waterworks came in 2nd place and Charleston

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Water came in 3rd place. Six liters of water will be sent to the national competition at the AWWA Annual Conference in June. There is also a People's Choice taste competition at the Annual Conference.

9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

A new Director of Engineering has been hired. Mr. David Niese spent 17 years with Mount Pleasant Waterworks prior to his recent position with Renewable Water Resources.

A prescribed fire was carried out at Hogback Mountain. The event went as planned. There was an unprescribed fire near North Saluda. This fire started in an abandoned building on adjacent property. It was contained well before it reached watershed property.

Mr. Boss and Chief Administrative Officer Bob Schmidt will be attending the upcoming Water Policy Fly-in in Washington, DC.

Vice-Chairman Bannister moved, seconded by Commissioner Sofield, to enter executive session to discuss legal and contractual matters. The motion passed unanimously.

(Executive Session)

Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Bannister, to go out of Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS

No comments were presented.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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



Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman



Kimberly Haulter, Executive Assistant