



The Lowcountry Regional Water System Commission held its monthly meeting at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, in the large conference room at the Hampton County Administrative Center in the Town of Hampton, 200 Jackson Avenue East, Hampton South Carolina. All meetings are open to the public (except for information, if any, to be discussed in Executive Sessions) and all interested parties are invited to attend.

Commission Present: Rocky Hudson, Brunson
Mayor Robert Brown, Hampton
Mayor Nat Shaffer, Varnville
David Paul Murray, Yemassee
Dennis Thompson Jr, Hampton County

Officers Present: Brian Burgess, General Manager
Sara Craven, Secretary
Marlene Marchyshyn, Treasurer
Kari Foy, Engineer
Blake Hodge, Field Operations
Sam Baker, Wastewater Treatment

Visitors Present: None

Quorum Met: Yes

1. Call to Order

Chairman Rocky Hudson called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Robert Brown gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance - Conducted by all.

3. FOIA Compliance Report

As required by the Code of Laws of South Carolina, notice of this LRWS Commission meeting was posted prominently in the Commission's offices at least twenty-four hours in advance. In addition, the local news media and all persons requesting notifications of meetings of the LRWS Commission were notified of the meeting's time, date, and place. They received a copy of the agenda at least twenty-four hours before this meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Robert Brown and seconded by Nat Shaffer to approve the March 25, 2025 minutes. The motion carried.

5. Reports:

A. Financial Report—Marlene provided the financial reports for March and April. Moved by Robert Brown, seconded by Nat Shaffer to accept the financial reports. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Manager's Report- Brian noted that the property in Yemassee is no longer for sale. LRWS was hoping to buy the property by the community center. LRWS was going to swap properties with the town of Yemassee. Brian also discussed a groundbreaking ceremony for the new elevated tank. This event will take place on June 10th at 10:00am.

(Staff Reports)

- (1) Human Resource Manager's Report
 - a. Marlene provided the work hours for March and April.
 - b. We hired a new technician.
 - c. An employee injured his shoulder when picking up an 80-100lb bucket this month. He is now on light duty.
 - d. LRWS had a booth at the job fair.
- (2) Billing Manager's Report
 - a. Sara provided the billing numbers for March and April in the operations report. She also mentioned that a QR code will now be on the bills. This will allow customers to quickly login to their account on our website.
- (3) Engineer's Report
 - a. Kari went over the progress of ongoing projects.
 - i. The Brunson WWTP Project is about 80% complete.
 - ii. We have received a notice of additional grant funds for the Yemassee WWTP.
 - iii. We are working through SCADA communication issues with the LRIP Lift Station.
 - iv. Construction is underway for the new elevated tank in the Industrial Area.
 - v. We have a re-bid date of June 5th for the Industrial Area Water- New Transmission Main Project.
 - vi. The Railroad Ave Sewer Upgrade Project has been submitted to FEMA.
 - vii. Onsite water and sewer is ready to be tested for the new high school.
 - viii. Offsite water and sewer has been tested for Project Truck. They are hoping to be opened by October of this year.
 - ix. We are waiting for payment of impact fees for the Spec Building #2.
- (4) Field Operations Manager's Report
 - a. Blake provided a report of work done since the last meeting. He also noted the work that was being done to the pump station on Smith St.
- (5) Treatment Operations Manager's Report
 - a. Sam provided a report that shows water production, wastewater treated and lab tests that were done.

6. System Member Commissioners Reports

- A. Town of Brunson- The town is planning a Fun Day Friday. This event will take place once a month. It would consist of food trucks and music.
- B. Town of Gifford- Not in attendance.
- C. Town of Hampton- The town is working hard to prepare for the Watermelon Festival.
- D. Town of Varnville- The town was awarded a CDBG grant to upgrade the HR Brooks Memorial Park on Ginn St. There were some complaints about the changes, so the council is reviewing the plans. Mayor Shaffer attended the National Rural Water Association conference on behalf of LRWS.
- E. Town of Yemassee- The town is experiencing a lot of construction, which includes a new police department. The town is also working hard to prepare for the Shrimp Festival.
- F. Hampton County- The County dedicated a new spec building. There is a possibility of it having a rail spur. This would be a great opportunity for a new industry. The county is also working on the budget.

7. Old Business

- A) Questions from Member Towns concerning Draft Ordinance for Consistency of Water and Sewer Ordinances across Member Towns

It was noted that this ordinance would only apply to residents within town limits.

8. New Business

- a) Policy Discussion on Removal of Abandoned and/or Old Unused Services.

The board discussed inactive meters/services. The consensus seemed to be that if a service was inactive for 5 years the customer would need to pay impact fees. If the service lines were not usable, the customer would also need to pay new tap fees.

- b) Resolution 2025-07 Acceptance and Approval of State and Subrecipient Public Assistance Funding Agreement for Hurricane Helene (FEMA-4829-DR-SC) and Tropical Storm Debby (FEMA -4835-DR-SC) and Other Matters Related Thereto

Moved by Robert Brown, seconded by David Paul Murray to approve b) Resolution 2025-07 Acceptance and Approval of State and Subrecipient Public Assistance Funding Agreement for Hurricane Helene (FEMA-4829-DR-SC) and Tropical Storm Debby (FEMA -4835-DR-SC) and Other Matters Related Thereto. Motion carried unanimously.

- c) Resolution 2025-08 Acceptance of SCRIA Grant Award #R-25-2080 and Its Terms and Conditions for a Grant in the Amount of \$1,493,900 for the Yemassee Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements and Other Matters Related Thereto

Moved by Nat Shaffer, seconded by Dennis Thompson Jr to approve Resolution 2025-08 Acceptance of SCRIA Grant Award #R-25-2080 and Its Terms and Conditions for a Grant in the Amount of \$1,493,900 for the Yemassee Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements and Other Matters Related Thereto. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Public Comments

None

10. Adjournment

Moved by Robert Brown, seconded by David Paul Murray to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting then adjourned at 5:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sara Craven.