

The Lowcountry Regional Water System Commission held its regular monthly meeting at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at the Hampton County Adminstrative Center located at 200 Jackson Avenue East, Hampton South Carolina. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

**Commission Present:** Mr. Rocky Hudson, Brunson

 Mayor Robert Brown, Hampton

Ms. Peggy O’Banner, Yemassee

Mr. Clay Bishop, Hampton County (via Phone)

**Officers Present:** Mr. Brian Burgess, General Manager

 Ms. Kari Foy, Staff Engineer

 Ms. Marlene Marchyshyn, Treasurer

**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**

Invocation was given by Robert Brown.

Pledge of Allegiance - Conducted by all.

3. **FOIA Compliance Report**

As required by Code of Laws of South Carolina, notice of this LRWS Commission meeting was posted prominently in the offices of the Commission 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 time, date, and place of such meeting, and were provided with a copy of the agenda at least twenty-four hours prior to this meeting.

4. **Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Peggy O’Banner, seconded by Robert Brown to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Robert Brown, seconded by Peggy O’Banner to approve the minutes for the May 24, 2022, meeting. Clay Bishop abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Reports**

A. Financial Report- The financial report for May was presented by Marlene Marchyshyn.

B. General Managers Report- LRWS sponsored the Royal Restroom unit for the Hampton County Watermelon Festival. We are still short staffed but hoping to hire some more employees soon.

 (Staff Reports)

1. Deputy General Managers Report-N/A
2. Human Resource Managers Report

Marlene provided a report of total hours worked during the month of May. She reported that LRWS had hired 3 new employees; 2 are doing a great job-one worked only 3 days and resigned. A fourth person was expected to start on June 27th but suffered a back injury and will not be taking the job. There were no workers comp injuries or incidents to report for the month.

1. Billing Managers Report- N/A
2. Engineers Report

A preconstruction meeting for the Brunson Pump Station Upgrades was held on May 31st. The contractor expects materials to be available in August or September. There were some permitting delays with the Sewer Service Extension in Early Branch. Brian contacted Senator Scott and Congressman Clyburn’s office for assistance. We received approval from SCRIA for the negotiated contract and additional grant award of $40,000 for the Gifford Lift Station Rehab project. Corrective action plans were outlined for the Yemassee WWTP Aeration Upgrade & Flow Splitting with a completion date of December 31, 2024. Kari assisted SCRWA with public outreach during the Watermelon Festival. An RFP has been issued for PER and Funding application to SCIIRF for water and wastewater capacity improvements for the Industrial Area.

1. Field Operations Managers Report- N/A
2. Treatment Operations Managers Report- Brian informed the Board that LRWS is currently under a consent order for both Brunson and Yemassee WWTP, and, that we are expecting to have a consent order issued for the Hampton WWTP as well.

8. **System Member Commissioners Reports**

A. Town of Brunson- The town is experiencing a delay in getting their new digital sign due to supply issues and trouble getting parts needed. The town received 4 bids for improving the basketball court in the Terry Wright Park. Funds that were once designated for the current museum will now be used for the Preacher House Museum Project. The current museum once served as a town hall and sat on stilts. To have it lifted and put back on stilts would be too expensive. The Preacher House will be the new museum.

B. Town of Hampton- The Nix St Project should be finished within the next few days. The Watermelon Festival was successful this year. Mr. Brown thanked LRWS for allowing them to paint the fire hydrants and for providing the royal restrooms for the festival.

C. Town of Gifford- Not present

D. Town of Varnville- Not present

E. Town of Yemassee- The town has revisited its zones in hopes of getting things going again since the pandemic put things on hold. The Shrimp Festival is now ramping up. In recognition of this year’s graduates, the town displayed their pictures along with a short biography of them on their digital sign.

F. County of Hampton- The County is moving along with its budget. Clay Bishop did not win his bid for re-election and will be reaching out to Mr. Darin Williams to encourage him to attend LRWS’ Board meetings.

9. **Old Business**

No old business

10. **New Business**

A. Resolution 2022-04 SCRIA Grant Agreement #R-21-1290 (Amendment) Gifford Sewer Pump Station Rehabilitation

LRWS previously received a grant award from South Carolina Rural Infrastructure (SCRIA) in the amount of $420,000 for construction cost of the Town of Gifford Sewer Pump Station Rehab. By a previously adopted resolution, LRWS committed to providing up to $43,929.27 for the construction of this project. Bids for the project were received in March with the lowest bid being over the projected budget. LRWS and the project engineer reviewed and amended the project to bring down the cost and LRWS then requested additional funds from SCRIA. As a condition of SCRIA providing the additional funds, LRWS would need to commit an additional $42,623.73 toward the construction of the project.

Moved by Peggy O’Banner, seconded by Robert Brown to approve and adopt Resolution 2022-04-SCRIA Grant Agreement #R-21-1290 Amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

11. **Public Comments**

No public comments

12. **Adjournment**

Moved by Clay Bishop, seconded by Peggy O’Banner to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting then adjourned at 4:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Marlene Marchyshyn