

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Commission of the Combined Utility System  
held at the office of the Combined Utility  
System on Monday, November 13, 2023.

The meeting was called to order with all commissioners present. Also present were Andy Sevic, General Manager; Ginnye Lusk, Administrative Assistant, Tripp Martin, Finance Manager, and Alex Dye, Operations Engineer. Also present were Robin Gore with Powdersville Water District and area resident John Carpenter.

The minutes of the meeting of October 9, 2023, were read. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Eric Goodwin with a second by Jeff Fogle. The motion was unanimous.

October invoices were reviewed by Nick Caldwell. The sales report and financial report for the month of October were reviewed. Electric sales were 9.95% below budget. Water and sewer sales were also below budget by 11.81% and 7.28% respectively. These reports were taken as information only.

The commission was presented with a request for sewer service outside city limits. The property is located at 1800 Old Pendleton Road and is in Anderson County. There is a sewer line that runs through the property and allocated flow for the proposed site is low and would flow into Middle Branch WWTP. Water will be provided by Powdersville Water District who will bill sewer for ECU. Jeff Fogle made a motion to provide sewer service to the property. Eric Goodwin seconded the motion and it was unanimous.

The commission was presented with an executive summary of the Water System Master Plan and Sewer System Master Plan. Each summary was broken down by background, population projection, system inventory and/or evaluation, deficiency analysis, recommendations, preliminary phasing, cost and schedule. Staff is still reviewing all the material provided. Commissioners were supplied with a copy of each plan for a more in-depth review. This item was taken as information only.

The commission was presented with a contract amendment for service and capacity in ReWa's Georges Creek facility. The contract provides ECU with an additional 200,000 GPD and will be earmarked for developments that are waiting to utilize the capacity. Eric Goodwin made a motion to authorize the general manager to sign the amendment and pay the purchase price of \$1,662,500. Jeff Fogle seconded the motion and it was unanimous. The amendment is attached to and incorporated in with these minutes.

Mr. John Carpenter appeared before the commission to discuss the sale of ECU owned property on North C Street. Mr. Carpenter has been maintaining the property for many years with the permission of ECU and is interested in purchasing it. He fenced in a section of the property and uses it primarily for a garden and storage of an enclosed trailer. In addition to Mr. Carpenter's interest, ECU received a formal offer to purchase the property from Ty and Heather Carey who are purchasing the adjacent lot. Staff informed the commission that per confirmation from ECU's attorney, ECU only has a deed for lot 12 and any potential buyer would get a quitclaim deed for lots 1 and 2. The commission asked Mr. Carpenter to submit a bid for the property. Once received, the commission will review all offers.

The commission was presented with a request from Naturaland Trust for a contribution of \$200,000 to assist in the purchase of Brown Mountain. This property is 572 acres and lies south of Scenic Highway 11. The purchase price is \$2,345,610. Naturaland Trust has secured a grant from the South Carolina Conservation Bank for \$2,145,610. After a brief discussion, the commission tabled the item.

## In other business:

1. ECU will make their annual monetary contributions to United Christian Ministries, Samaritans Health Clinic, Meals on Wheels, and SHARE at the end of November.
2. The watershed management report was reviewed. The full report is attached to and incorporated in with these minutes.
3. Several important event dates were reviewed as well as the 2024 holiday schedule.
4. Martin Printing on Powdersville Road inquired about sewer service. They requested tying on to the line that will serve Buxton Subdivision and have agreed to pay all associated costs. ECU agreed to serve Martin Printing.
5. Right-of-way clearing for the Georges Creek Sewer Trunk line project is underway and currently in the Heathwood Subdivision area.
6. Powdersville Water District experienced a water main blow-out and had to purchase water from ECU. Robin Gore thanked ECU for the timely assistance.

The commission entered executive session to discuss contractual and personnel matters. The Commission returned to public session with no action being taken in executive session.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 18, 2023.



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Nick Caldwell, Chairman



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Eric Goodwin, Commissioner



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Jeff R. Eogle, Commissioner