

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, April 17, 2023.

The meeting was called to order with all commissioners present. Also present were Joel Ledbetter, General Manager; Andy Sevic, Finance Manager; and Alex Dye, Operations Engineer. Also present were several residents from the Brown Dr. – Sherriff Mill Rd. area.

The minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2023 were read. A motion was made by Eric Goodwin to adopt these minutes with a second by Jeff Fogle. The motion was unanimous.

March invoices were reviewed by Eric Goodwin. The sales report and financial report for the month of March were reviewed. Electric sales were 6.4% below budget, water sales were above budget 10.4% and sewer sales were above budget by 5.6%. These reports were taken as information only.

Dawn Crooks spoke for the group of residents that were opposed to a development planned Brown Dr. in the Sherriff Mill Rd. area. All comments by Ms. Crooks were received by the commission and all questions posed were answered.

The commission was presented with a request by Mr. Elliot Batson to purchase 5.62 acres it owns on Fuller Dr. The commission stated that it would entertain an offer for the property if one was submitted, but the offer must represent current market rates.

The commission was presented with a proposal for construction of a new building at the Operations Center for consideration. The proposal was in the amount of \$805,252 and submitted by Durham Greene Inc. Jeff Fogle made a motion to give the General Manager authority to execute the Letter of Intent and Notice to Proceed for the construction of the new building with a second by Nick Caldwell. The motion was unanimous.

Naturaland Trust requested a contribution of \$500,000 to assist in purchasing and conserving the Jopeco property (TMS 5107-00-73-0982), a 1,093-acre parcel on Hwy. 11 in Pickens County that has 1.4 mile of frontage on the South Saluda River that drains into Saluda Lake. Eric Goodwin made a motion to contribute \$500,000 to the conservation of this parcel with a second by Jeff Fogle. The motion was unanimous.

ECU staff presented a revised set of regulations and fees for rental of the stage. The following was recommended:

- \$250 refundable deposit for rentals in the ECU's electrical service area.
- \$750 non-refundable fee to all other areas in Pickens County that are outside of ECU's electrical service area.
- No stage rental outside of Pickens County, unless it is in ECU's electrical service area.

Jeff Fogle made a motion to implement the recommended regulations and fees with a second by Eric Goodwin. The motion was unanimous.

In other business:

1. The watershed management report was reviewed. The full report is attached to and incorporated in with these minutes.
2. The General Manager gave a report of the meeting held between ECU staff and ReWa to discuss ECU's expected growth and capacity in the ReWa Georges Creek WWTP. Also discussed was ECU payment of ReWa's New Account Fee for all flow over 500,000 gpd in the Georges Creek WWTP. Both organizations agreed to meet every 6 months to discuss these issues.

The commission entered executive session to discuss personnel matters. The Commission returned to public session with the following actions to be considered based on discussions held in Executive Session:

Jeff Fogle made a motion to accept the retirement of the General Manager on June 30, 2023, with a second by Eric Goodwin. The motion was unanimous.

Jeff Fogle made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-01 naming Andy Sevic as Easley Combined Utilities' Board member for the Piedmont Municipal Power Agency, with a second by Eric Goodwin. The motion was unanimous. The Resolution is attached to and made a part of the minutes.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, May 15, 2023.



Nick Caldwell, Chairman



Eric Goodwin, Commissioner



Jeff R. Fogle, Commissioner