

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, August 14, 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, Alex Dye, Operations Engineer, Scott Barnes, Wastewater Treatment Supervisor, Jonathan Langston, Electric Supervisor, and Alfred Stanley, Communication/Controls Engineer. Robin Gore with Powdersville Water District, David Phillips with Greene Finney Cauley, LLP, Joel Ledbetter, and Rick Dilsavor were also in attendance.

The minutes of the meeting of July 10, 2023, were read. A motion was made by Jeff Fogle to adopt these minutes with a second by Eric Goodwin. The motion was unanimous.

July invoices were reviewed by Nick Caldwell. The sales report and financial report for the month of July were reviewed. Electric sales were 6.06% below budget, water sales were below budget by 6.11% and sewer sales were below budget by 4.83%. These reports were taken as information only.

Rick Dilsavor with Cedarwood Development addressed the commission in regards to a request for sewer service at 4215 Calhoun Memorial Highway for Phase 3 of Ridge at Perry Bend. The parcel is outside city limits and would discharge into the ReWa Georges Creek facility. Staff conveyed to Mr. Dilsavor that ReWa has put a hold on accepting future capacity from developments that have not already been approved until this facility has been upgraded. They will be put on a waiting list and contacted once the upgrade is complete.

The commission was presented with the FY 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). David Phillips with Greene Finney Cauley, LLP, reported that the audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in "Government Auditing Standards." Greene Finney Cauley, LLP issued an unmodified opinion that the financial statements are fairly presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Mr. Phillips commended ECU staff for a job well done. The ACFR is attached to and incorporated in with these minutes.

The commission was presented with the possibility of installing a radio tower at the Operations Center. Pickens County was awarded ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding for a county wide radio system for emergency services. The highest and most feasible point in Easley to install a radio tower is at the Operations Center. Rock Communications, who was awarded the contract, met with ECU staff to discuss the desired location of the tower at the Operations Center. The commission gave the general manager the authority to negotiate a contractual agreement with the county to utilize the selected area as the site for the radio tower.

The commission was presented with a revision to the Electric Service Extension Policy and Underground Installation Policy. For services that are routed under a driveway or sidewalk, ECU requires a 3" conduit in place prior to service installation. If no conduit is installed, ECU will bore the driveway/sidewalk at a charge of \$500. This is a nominal fee and not reflective of the actual cost. To better represent a more accurate cost, it was recommended to raise the fee to \$1,500 for all new service installations that have not met the requirements. Jeff Fogle made a motion to adopt the policy with a second by Eric Goodwin. The motion was unanimous. The policy is attached to and incorporated in with these minutes.

The commission was presented with a request for utility services at a parcel located outside city limits. Parcel number 5009-08-88-7589 is 4.72 acres and located off Arial Street and Church Street. The property also borders the Doodle Trail. The development will be 24 single family homes. Sewer service will flow to Golden Creek WWTP. Jeff Fogle made a motion to approve utility services to the proposed development. Eric Goodwin seconded the motion, and it was unanimous.

In other business:

1. The commission was presented with Resolution 2023-04 recognizing Joel Ledbetter's contribution as General Manager of Easley Combined Utilities from 1999-2023. During his tenure, Joel played a vital role in shaping the culture of ECU and established the Utility as an industry leader that will benefit the customers of ECU for years to come. The resolution is attached to and incorporated in with these minutes.
2. The watershed management report was reviewed. The full report is attached to and incorporated in with these minutes.

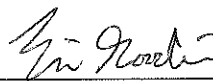
The commission entered executive session to discuss contractual and personnel matters. The Commission returned to public session with no action being taken in executive session.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2023.



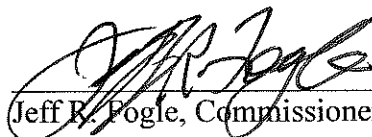
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Nick Caldwell, Chairman



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Eric Goodwin, Commissioner



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Jeff R. Fogle, Commissioner