

Commission of Public Works meeting, December 26, 2023  
Regular monthly business.

Commissioners present: Trey Stephens, Donnie Cooper, Jackie Keenan, Roy Shaw and Gerald McMurray

Employees present: Christy Lowe and Ken Phillips (Danny Lowe out sick)

Visitors present: Carl Culpepper, Kelsie Bolen and Jason Thornton with Ameris Bank

Place: New Ellenton Commission of Public Works  
100 South Main Street  
New Ellenton, SC 29809

Time: 7:00 PM

Chairman Mr. Trey Stephens presiding.

Mr. Trey Stephens opens with the Pledge of Allegiance and Ken Phillips said the prayer.

Mr. Trey Stephens welcomes everyone and asks that he or she state their name for the record.

Mr. Trey Stephens opened the floor to guest comments and questions.

Carl Culpepper asked if we have heard anything from the developer that came to the last council meeting. Ken Phillips spoke to him concerning water. While we are almost at capacity, the CPW will be able to provide water to the developer as it will be a few years out that water will be needed for the project.

Mr. Trey Stephens states that approving the Financial Report for November 2023 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. After discussion, Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper made a motion to accept the Financial Report; it was seconded by Commissioner Gerald McMurray and carried.

Chairman Trey Stephens states that approving the minutes for November 27, 2023 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Keenan made a motion to accept the Minutes as written; it was seconded by Commissioner Roy Shaw and carried.

Mr. Trey Stephens asks for any questions or comments. (none)

## OLD BUSINESS

\*Chairman Trey Stephens stated Director Danny Lowe is out sick so Christy Lowe will be reporting on his behalf.

Christy Lowe reported that there have been no new developments or issues with Oak Hill Water Department in the last month or so. Mrs. Lowe stated there is a meeting scheduled next month with SCDHEC to discuss funding options for Oak Hill along with CPW's engineer.

Christy Lowe reported that the new maintenance shop on Boatner is about 99% complete.

Christy stated that Mr. Lowe met with our engineer concerning the Chime Bell Church Rd. plans. Danny will need to speak with a few residents along Chime Bell to inform them of how the lines will run down the right of way where trees are located.

Danny Lowe reported the water loss was 6.45% for the month of November.

Ken Phillips, the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, gave an update of field activities for November.

Mr. Trey Stephens asks is there any more old business. (none)

## NEW BUSINESS

Trey Stephens introduced Jason Thornton with Ameris Bank. Mr. Thornton presented information on the services, benefits and cost savings they can provide to CPW if we switch to banking with them. After the presentation and some discussion, the Commissioners agreed to have the Office Manager, Christy Lowe, get with Jason and his team to get more details before moving forward. Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Keenan made a motion to authorize Christy Lowe to make the decision to transfer our banking to Ameris Bank if she finds it in the best interest of New Ellenton CPW; it was seconded by Commissioner Roy Shaw and carried.

Chairman Trey Stephens stated we have a newly re-elected Commissioner, Donnie Cooper, which means we can re-align officer positions on the Board. Commissioner Roy Shaw made a motion to keep the officer positions as they are currently; it was seconded by Commissioner Gerald McMurray and carried.  
**CONGRATUALTIONS DONNIE COOPER!**

Christy Lowe reminded the Commissioners of the SCRWA Decision Makers Conference in February for anyone that would like to attend. They would need to let Christy know in a couple weeks in order to make reservations before the deadline.

Christy Lowe mentioned to Commissioners about the new federal holiday, Juneteenth, that was approved in 2021 and to maybe think about realigning CPW's paid holidays to include this one. No decision was made at this time.

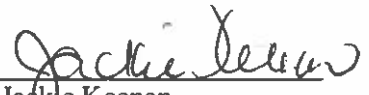
Donnie Cooper made a motion to adjourn; Roy Shaw seconds, all vote, so moved.

Attested by,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director  
Danny Lowe

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Trey Stephens  
Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donnie Cooper  
Vice Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Keenan  
Secretary-Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald McMurray  
Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Shaw  
Commissioner