

Commission of Public Works meeting, March 27, 2023  
Regular monthly business.

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

Employees present:                       Danny Lowe, Ken Phillips and Christy Lowe

Visitors present:                         Larry Halicki

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.

Mr. Larry Halicki asked about the status of the grant that CPW applied for. Director Danny Lowe stated we still have not heard anything. Mr. Lowe stated he hopes to hear something in the next few months. Mr. Halicki asked about the PRV pit. Mr. Lowe stated the materials have been ordered but is about 4 weeks or so out from starting. Mr. Halicki asked for an update on the 3 fire hydrants that aren't working in Cedar Creek. Maintenance Supervisor Ken Phillips stated that the Meuller (fire hydrant) rep came out to look at them and has ordered the parts needed. The Meuller rep said there will be a delay on getting all the parts in. Larry asked for an update on the Whiskey/Eagle Rd. project. Danny Lowe stated the contractor is waiting on parts to come in as far as water is concerned, Danny said he could not speak for the rest of the projects progress. Mr. Halicki thanked CPW for the completion of work on Club Dr. Danny Lowe reported that Club Dr and Longshadow Dr were complete. Larry also complimented Christy Lowe on the lobby furniture.

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

Chairman Trey Stephens states that approving the minutes for February 27, 2023 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper made a motion to accept the Minutes as written; it was seconded by Commissioner Gerald McMurray and carried.

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

### OLD BUSINESS

Danny Lowe stated the engineer has started on the PER for the new tank. The engineer suggested to included everything we wanted for the system and we can always go back and take out what is not needed.

Danny Lowe stated, per the county, we need to have a contractor and engineer with certified drawings for the maintenance shed to be built on Boatner St. Mr. Lowe found an contractor for the project and the company who is building the shed has an engineer they use. All Commissioners agreed to go ahead with additional costs associated with having a contractor.

Danny Lowe reported that the patches are complete in Cedar Creek and the parts for fire hydrant repairs are ordered.

Danny stated the property on Chime Bell Church Rd. where a water tower used to be is currently listed in the City of New Ellenton's name along with the CPW from when the CPW was with the town. Mr. Lowe spoke with the City Administrator as well as the attorney on what it would cost to get the property put in CPW's name for future use. Danny stated that we need to look at getting all properties listed under CPW's name as that has not been changed over since the City and CPW were all together. Danny will report back with estimated cost to do this.

Danny Lowe stated that he will be getting the easement on Longshadow signed by the owner (Bill Beazley Development) after he gets the documents from our engineer for the PRV pit.

Chairman Trey Stephens asked Danny if he has heard anything else from the project on Summit Dr. Mr. Lowe stated he has not heard anything from him since he came in and paid the tap fees.

Danny Lowe reported water loss for March was at 6.75%.

Ken Phillips, the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, gave an update of field activities for February. Mr. Phillips reported that Field Technician Casey Rains passed his D Distribution License exam.

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

### NEW BUSINESS

Danny Lowe informed the Commissioners that the Senior Living Facility that is being built on Whiskey Rd. going into Aiken has contacted him requesting that we serve them with water because the City of Aiken cannot provide them with adequate fire protection. The City of Aiken sent a letter to CPW stating that we can encroach in their territory to provide them with water/fire protection. Danny stated he is not worried about being able to provide them with water or the fire flow protection but he is worried about the inside fire flow protection CPW can provide. Mr. Lowe stated that our engineer spoke with the engineer for the Senior Living Facilities about a week ago and we have not heard back on anything yet.

Danny stated he will let the Commissioners know if a meeting is called with the City Administrator for Aiken to discuss the project.

Danny Lowe presented the Commissioners with a 1 year progress report of everything that has been accomplished.

Chairman Trey Stephens stated we are coming up on FY Budget time. A Budget Work Session was scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

Christy Lowe stressed the importance to Commissioners of everyone doing the training videos that Intellisystems (IT/Cyber Security company) sends to employees with a company email address. These are intended to keep our system as safe and secure as possible with the many cyber threats out there now. Along with doing the training videos sent each month, each employee should be reporting any suspicious emails they receive. There is a place at the top of every email to click a suspected "phishing email" so Intellisystems can investigate it. A report is sent to Christy each month with who has or has not done their training or who has clicked on a phishing email.

Christy Lowe informed the Commissioners that since signing the MOU with the City of NE for billing of sanitation/sewer, the price of postage has gone up drastically. Due to the U.S. Post Office charging more for postage, Publiq is charging CPW more each month for postage to mail out the bills, which is a shared cost with the City of New Ellenton. Mrs. Lowe suggested that we look at renegotiating the cost charged to the city for mailing out city only bills. Chairman Trey Stephens stated that we will look at what should be done and discuss with the City in the near future.

Trey Stephens asked Danny Lowe to discuss what would need to happen in order for CPW to be able to have a lab to test water. Danny stated that it would cost about \$10,000 - \$15,000 to get a certified laboratory set up. Mr. Lowe stated that if we got the downstairs area cleaned up and some maintenance work done, that would be a perfect place to set up a lab. Danny stated he would get some pricing on the equipment needed to bring before the Commission next month.

Donnie Cooper made a motion to adjourn; Gerald McMurray seconds, all vote, so moved.

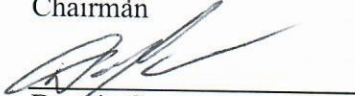
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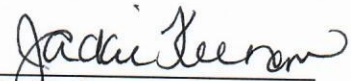
Director  
Danny Lowe



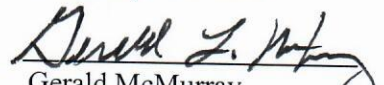
Trey Stephens  
Chairman



Donnie Cooper  
Vice Chairman



Jackie Keenan  
Secretary-Treasurer



Gerald McMurray  
Commissioner



Roy Shaw  
Commissioner