



Minutes

Regular Meeting

5:00 pm, March 10, 2022

Acting Chairman Leonard Bowick called the meeting to order with Commissioner Leonard Bowick, Commissioner George Yeldell, General Manager Cheryl Daniels, Operations Superintendent JR Robinson and Office Manager Deborah Peeler present.

On a Motion by Commissioner George Yeldell, seconded by Leonard Bowick, the Commissioners approved the February 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes, February 2022 Accounts Payable and the January 2022 Financial Statement as submitted.

Opening Comments by General Manager:

“We would like to welcome everyone to our monthly board meeting. I know everyone has concerns over the electric bills. Please know that we are concerned as well. Even though we have no control over the gas pricing, we are discussing other options for us, that will in turn, help our customers. We purchase our power from other sources and the prices have to be passed along to the customers. The way that we have always billed at McCormick CPW is that we set the rates and the fuel adjustment fee is calculated monthly based on our cost. . For the past several years, the prices have been reasonable, therefore the costs to you have been reasonable. We have a team working with us on more manageable options; such as, possibly changing our rate structure, possibly hedging gas prices, among other options. The high cost along with the high kilowatt consumption of most of our customers has made it an extremely tough month for us. The commissioners have agreed to waive the late fees this month. We are willing to work out a payment plan with any of our customers that need more time to pay their bill. Please contact our office and any of the ladies will be happy to assist you. Please keep in mind that the office staff, Commissioners and myself all are doing our jobs, we have no control over the costs, and we are truly sympathetic with our customers. Please be considerate of them when you call. We have print outs of how to calculate your bills and tips to be more conservative. If you can get your kilowatt consumption down, that will help out with your costs too. There is a lot of information on our website as well. If you have requested to speak, your name is listed on the agenda in the order it was received in our office. Each one will be given three minutes to speak. We ask anyone else with concerns to please put them in writing. Please put the name your bill is in and your physical address on your sheet. If you wish to speak with me, please note that on your request and put your phone number. All requests will be addressed in a timely manner. We do want to hear everyone so please, let’s keep this meeting respectful and orderly.”

Public/Employee Comments:

- The following customers spoke during the meeting with concerns regarding the 10% Fuel Adjustment added to the February bill:
 - Christine Lee
 - Toni Fuller-Mason
 - Kurtis & Kendra Dansby
 - Kennedy & Earline Tennant
 - Joy Bell-Turman
 - Toneeka Tate
 - Joe Lee Norman
 - Tanya Murray

Deborah Peeler ~ Office Manager:

- Office staff took five (5) new deposits for service during the month of February.
- Twelve (12) customers were cut off for non-payment with two (2) remaining off as of 03/07/22.
- Overall, operations are running smoothly in the office.

Safety Training – Lisa Willis

- Safety training for the month of March will be Confined Spaces.

James Robinson ~ Superintendent:

- The crew marked 60 locate tickets in February.
- The crew is having to raise up the water and sewer lids for Satterfield as they are paving some of the streets in town.
- Overall, operations are running smoothly.

Glenn Hill ~ Chief Waste Water Operator:

Mr. Bowick presented Glenn's report:

- The John Deere tractor that was at J&E Equipment has been fixed and is back at the plant. It is working good currently.
- The slope mower was sent to J&E Equipment for assessment and possible repairs.
- The rebuilt blower for our sludge thickener basin has been returned to the plant from A&A in Aiken.
- Overall, operations are running smoothly.

Furman Parton ~ Water Treatment Plant:

Mr. Bowick presented Furman's report:

- The Thurmond Lake level started the month of February at 329.04 feet and ended at 329.65 feet.
- Work on the new plant construction has been steady.
- We are still waiting on pipe to be run to the new tank on Hwy 221.
- We had to replace a 12-foot section of alum feed line on 2/15/22 due to it being stopped up.
- The raw water flow transmitter was replaced by MR Systems on 2/18/22.
- Furman attended the SCRWA Decision Makers Summit from 2/22/22 to 2/25/22.
- McCormick County Water had a massive water leak at the prison on 2/24/22. They claimed to have knowledge of it around 1:30 AM but failed to contact us resulting in our system nearly being drained.
- The new high service pumps were started up and the new 600,000 gallon clearwell was put into service on 2/25/22. We have been using them since.
- The 100,000-gallon clearwell at the old plant was taken out of service on 2/28/22 to be converted into an alum sludge holding tank for the new plant.
- We received our first shipments of salt for the brine tank for the new on-site sodium hypochlorite generator and a load of alum for the new plant.
- A preliminary punch list was done on 3/1/22.
- McCormick County Water had another big leak that affected us significantly on 3/4/22.

Cheryl Daniels ~ General Manager:

- We filed claims with the Insurance Reserve Fund for the stolen catalytic converters at the maintenance shop and the waste plant. We received \$6359.17 for the bucket truck and \$2168.15 for the F150 and Chevy van at the waste plant.
- The claim for the lightning damage at the water plant is still outstanding.
- The water plant is progressing on schedule. Progress report to be handed out at meeting.
- The meters for the water meter project are expected to be delivered in May. The project should start as soon as all materials/equipment are received.
- I propose that the CPW make a donation of \$2400.00 to Town Hall for the Veterans Memorial Park. The Veterans Memorial Park Monument costs \$2000.00, and for \$400.00 our name will be inscribed on back of the monument. Commissioner Leonard Bowick made a motion to postpone the vote until next meeting seconded by Commissioner George Yeldell.

There being no further business, Mr. Bowick made a motion to adjourn. Recording of meeting on file.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Peeler
Office Manager