

MINUTES

The Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, SC, Regular Meeting, held at 200 Commerce Street, Spartanburg, SC, May 26, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

Copies of the agenda were forwarded to the following news media: Spartanburg Herald-Journal, The Spartan Weekly, Greenville News, The Greer Citizen, Hometown News, WSPA-TV 7, WYFF-TV 4, WLOS-TV 13, WHNS Fox Carolina, WORD News Radio, WOLT-FM Radio, Tribune Times, and the Times Examiner.

Commissioners present were Mr. Montgomery, and Mr. Swayngim. Dr. Amaechi was absent.

Staff in attendance: Guy Boyle, Cam Cole, Rick Jolley, Gene Jackson, Remsen Parrish, Kevin Smith, Ken Tuck, Corey Reid, Kevin Brown, Jennifer Candler, Scott Duff, Hariette Stinson, John Harris, Hal Morris, Stephanie Senchantixay, Meagan Roy, Jon Morgan, Trish Heatherington.

The meeting was opened with the following statement:

This is a regular meeting of The Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, SC. Written notice of the date, time, and place for this meeting, along with the agenda, has been posted in the lobby and on the Spartanburg Water website, and copies forwarded to local and nearby news media, at least 24 hours prior to this meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chair, John Montgomery, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Montgomery noted that Dr. Amaechi was absent, and the meeting would proceed with a quorum.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 28, 2026

Mr. Swayngim moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BUDGET WORK SESSION OF MAY 12, 2026

Mr. Swayngim moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 4 FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT

4. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

A financial summary of SWS expenditures and revenues for the ten-month period ending April 30, 2026, were provided by Cam Cole, the Chief Financial Officer. An explanation was provided for the favorable and unfavorable budget variances.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

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AGENDA ITEM 5-7 OPERATIONS

5. DROUGHT UPDATE

Ken Tuck, Director of Drinking Water, provided the Commission with an update on the current drought status. The State Drought Committee met on May 21 and all 46 counties in South Carolina are in Severe drought status.

The state average precipitation (through April 2026) has ranked 1st driest every month since September 2025 in the 131 years of record keeping. Record keeping began in 1895.

Mr. Tuck noted that the recent rainfall and cooler weather is contributing to less water demand. Mr. Tuck reviewed the recent 30-day, year-over-year rainfall totals. Mr. Boyle stated that recent rainfall helped with storage, but summer hasn't arrived yet. Mr. Tuck agreed noting that Spartanburg Water gained 60 days of storage, but this rain did not provide much gain in the streams.

Mr. Tuck stated that the Spartanburg Water main system went to Voluntary Water Restrictions on May 21, 2026. The internal Spartanburg Water Drought and Response Committee has been activated, and the Communications department has been a tremendous help in sharing conservation tips and Frequently Asked Questions messaging on social media. Press releases have been issued and letters to Irrigation Permit Holders on Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock have been sent to adjoining property owners to discontinue irrigation supplied from lakes.

Management has continued to provide status updates to the SC Department of Environmental Services, SC Department of Natural Resources, and the State Climatology Office. Management has remained in communication with regional water systems

Mr. Tuck stated that the Spartanburg Water Landrum system went to Voluntary Water Restrictions on April 28, 2026. Rainfall and lower temperatures, along with voluntary water restrictions, have reduced daily demands ranging from 8.8% to 24.6%, with current distribution system demand back to around 430,000 gallons per day. Recent rains have also improved flows to Vaughn's Creek.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

6. OYSTER SHELL RECYCLING PROGRAM UPDATE

Watershed Management Coordinator, Meagan Roy, provided an annual update to the Commission on the Spartanburg Water Oyster Shell Recycling Program and work with SCDNR.

Ms. Roy noted that immature oysters require solid surface for setting and prefer the oyster shell, which is declining due to demand from oyster fisheries. The SC Oyster Recycling and Enhancement (SCORE) program functions as a community-based habitat restoration and monitoring program.

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Since 2001, over 26 million pounds of shells have been diverted from landfills. SCORE encourages community involvement and engagement Through consumer recycling of oyster shells at drop-off sites throughout the state and construction and deployment of bagged shells or manufactured wire reefs (MWRs).

In addition to providing an essential habitat for diverse finfish and invertebrate species, oysters provide water filtration. A single adult oyster filters up to 2.5 gallons of water per hour, approximately 50 gallons per day. Construction and deployment of bagged oyster shells or manufactured wire reefs (MWRs) can serve as a natural shoreline stabilization.

Ms. Roy stated that Spartanburg Water partnered with SCORE in 2024 to install an oyster recycling bin and hopper at A. Manning Lynch, Jr. Wastewater Treatment Plant, although Hurricane Helene limited participation in the SCORE program that year. In 2025-2026 Approximately 3,800 pounds of shell were collected from oyster roasts and approximately 1,000 pounds was donated from consumers within the community. One load of shell was transported to coast to be bagged for reef builds.

Ms. Roy noted that five employees joined SCORE in Beaufort for an MWR reef build on May 15. Wire reefs filled with recycled shells and coconut fiber were deployed on the shoreline along Parris Island in Port Royal. Within 2-3 years, these cages will be completely engulfed by new oyster growth and backed by new saltmarsh growth.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

7. VARIANCE REQUEST – 300 WEST CALEDONIA COURT

On April 15, 2026, the adjoining property owner applied to install a boat lift in the slip of one of two marine structures, and to replace the walkway of the same marine structure.

The requested modifications would be in violation of SWS Policies and Procedures for Lake William C. Bowen, which require the removal of any non-conforming marine structures before any additions may be permitted. The property owner has two covered slip docks; per policy, the second dock would have to be removed before the boat lift was installed and the walkway replaced. Additionally, the marine structure currently includes an additional wooden floating dock secured to the metal slip dock, which is not compliant with SWS Policies and Procedures.

The property owner has requested a boat lift within the slip of one of the two docks. The second dock already has a lift within the slip. The addition of the boat lift would not affect the footprint of the existing dock and would not affect safety or water quality.

The property owner has also requested to remove an older stationary dock walkway and hinged ramp and replace them with a single, metal dock walkway. The current walkway dead-ends on stairs built into the seawall and is unstable; the replacement walkway would be anchored to the top of the seawall and would provide safer access.

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Management recommended approval of the boat lift and replacement dock walkway, and the removal of the non-conforming wooden floating dock from the slip dock where the boat lift will be installed.

Chief Lake Warden, Jon Morgan, provided the Commission with an overview of the Variance Request – 300 West Caledonia Court agenda item. Due to damage from Hurricane Helene, the adjoining property owner requested to install a boat lift in the slip of one of two marine structures, and to replace the walkway of the same marine structure. Having two marine structures is a violation of current policy. Management recommended allowing the variance for the boat lift and replacement dock walkway due to safety reasons and the adjoining property owner will remove the non-conforming wooden floating dock.

Mr. Montgomery asked if property setbacks were correct. Mr. Morgan confirmed they are.

Mr. Swayngim asked if both marine structures belong to the same adjoining property owner. Mr. Morgan confirmed that they do.

Mr. Boyle stated that approval would be for a variance to current policy. Adjoining property owners are only allowed to permit one conforming marine structure.

Mr. Swayngim moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to approve management's recommendation to approve the boat lift and replacement dock walkway, and the removal of the non-conforming wooden floating dock from the slip dock where the boat lift will be installed. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS 8-9 ENGINEERING

8. MUNICIPAL RESERVOIR #1 SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPLY EVALUATION – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Spartanburg Water owns and operates the R.B. Simms Water Treatment Facility and Myles W. Whitlock, Jr., Water Treatment Facility. The raw water source for the R.B. Simms facility is Municipal Reservoir #1, an impoundment on the South Pacolet River. The raw water source for the Whitlock facility is Lake Blalock, an impoundment on the Pacolet River. The Whitlock Water Treatment Facility is offline.

Supplemental raw water may be necessary to maintain R.B. Simms treatment capacity during a drought. Staff recently approached the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) about withdrawing raw water from Lake Blalock and received approval from SCDES to utilize Lake Blalock as a supplemental raw water source while the Whitlock Water Treatment Facility is offline.

Staff requested a proposal from Wiedeman and Singleton to evaluate pumping from Lake Blalock to Municipal Reservoir #1. The proposal included the following tasks:

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- Develop and evaluate intake/pump station configurations with a conceptual design for a new raw water intake and pump station.
- Identify alternative sites for the intake/pump station assuming the new intake/pump station will be constructed on property owned by SW and downstream of the confluence of the North and South Pacolet Rivers.
- Evaluate environmental & regulatory factors including identification of the required regulatory permits.
- Address accessibility of the intake and pump station for construction, operation, and maintenance.
- Determine the raw water piping alignment to Municipal Reservoir #1.
- Address water quality considerations based on SCDES water quality monitoring stations and USGS gauge station.
- Develop a planning level construction cost estimate for the new raw water intake/pump station and raw water line.
- Prepare a Technical Memorandum (TM) summarizing the results, findings, and recommendations of the evaluation.

Management recommended awarding a professional services contract to Wiedeman & Singleton, Incorporated to complete this evaluation for a cost-plus basis, with a not to exceed amount of \$35,350. Funding for the project will be from capital funds.

Kevin Smith, P.E., Director of Engineering, provided the Commission with an overview of The Municipal Reservoir #1 Supplemental Supply Evaluation – Professional Services agenda item. Mr. Smith stated that Ken Tuck had approached SCDES about adding an intake in the northern portion of Lake Blalock to remove water and pump it to Reservoir #1 for treatment purposes. SCDES did approve that request as long as the Whitlock Plant is offline.

Management recommended awarding a professional services contract to Wiedeman & Singleton, Incorporated to complete evaluate the possibility of this intake.

Mr. Montgomery asked if an intake would require obtaining easements. Mr. Smith stated that the intake would be on Spartanburg Water property.

Mr. Montgomery asked how far down the Pacolet River would this intake be. Ken Tuck stated the evaluation would help determine the location. Gene Jackson stated it would need to be far enough to be able to capture the flow. Kevin Smith noted that more storage is obtained by going further downstream but would increase the cost to pump it back to Reservoir #1.

Mr. Swayngim moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to approve management's recommendation awarding a professional services contract to Wiedeman & Singleton, Incorporated to complete this evaluation. The motion passed unanimously.

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9. **RECEIPT OF BIDS – OLD BOILING SPRINGS ROAD 24-INCH WATERLINE REPLACEMENT**

Bids were received on May 7, 2026, for the Old Boiling Springs Road 24-inch Waterline Replacement project. The project consists of replacing 480 linear feet of 24-inch waterline along Old Boiling Springs Road and crossing Lawson’s Fork Creek, which will be constructed by open cut. Ten contractors obtained the bid documents for the project and five contractors submitted a bid. The bids were as follows:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF BID</u>
Payne McGinn & Cummins, Inc. Travelers Rest, SC	\$ 575,058.00
Double R Utilities, Inc. Gaffney, SC	\$ 836,462.70
Long & Sons Utility, Inc. Simpsonville, SC	\$ 899,713.00
HRH Engineering & Construction Services, Inc. Chesnee, SC	\$1,055,420.00
Lake Murray Utility Company, Inc. Chapin, SC	\$1,951,950.00
Engineer’s Estimate	\$ 850,000.00

Management recommended awarding the contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Payne, McGinn & Cummins, Inc., of Travelers Rest, SC for the amount of \$575,058.00. This project will be funded by distribution system rehabilitation funds.

Staff Engineer, Hal Morris, P.E., provided the Commission with an overview of the Receipt of Bids – Old Boiling Springs Road 24-Inch Waterline Replacement agenda item.

Mr. Montgomery noted that some work has already taken place on this waterline.

Mr. Swayngim asked if management knew the reason for the gap in pricing. Mr. Morris noted that the line item for fittings was lower on the Payne, McGinn & Cummins, Inc., bid.

Mr. Swayngim moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to approve management’s recommendation to award the contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Payne, McGinn & Cummins, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

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10. AGREEMENTS EXECUTED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION

The following agreements have been executed on behalf of the Commission by the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Commission on January 26, 2023.

A. Inside City Private Fire Service Agreements

(1) HUNTINGTON BANK HILLCREST FS

Huntington Bank Hillcrest, located at 2074 East Main Street in Spartanburg, wishes to connect a 6-inch water line to the Commission's 12-inch water line along East Main Street to serve a private hydrant for the above-mentioned retail banking facility. Asheville Partners, LLC wishes to enter into an agreement for this service.

Annual Stand-by Revenue - \$297.52

(2) JESSE BOYD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FS

Jesse Boyd Elementary School, located at 300 Webber Road in Spartanburg, wishes to connect an 8-inch water line to the Commission's 12-inch water line along Webber Road to serve a private fire protection system, including four hydrants, for the above-mentioned public school. Spartanburg County School District Seven wishes to enter into an agreement for this service.

Annual Stand-by Revenue - \$912.04

B. Outside City Water Main Extension Agreements

(1) LEES DAIRY

ECS Development, LLC is developing Lees Dairy located off Fairwinds Road in Landrum. This development will consist of 199 residential lots, approximately 2,853 linear feet of 6-inch water main; 2,113 linear feet of 4-inch water main; 611 linear feet of 2-inch water main; and four hydrants. The developer will bear all costs.

(2) SEQUOIA CHASE

Riverside One, LLC is developing Sequoia Chase located off Sequoia Drive. This development will consist of 16 residential lots, approximately 18 linear feet of 6-inch water main; 218 linear feet of 2-inch water main; and one hydrant. The developer will bear all costs.

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11. PERMITS ISSUED AT THE RESERVOIR

Applications have been submitted and all fees have been paid on the following Lake Agreements associated with new construction and replacement.

LAKE BOWEN RESERVOIR

- (1) **Robert C. Holt and Jean McCurry Holt**, desire to replace dock on Lake Bowen.
- (2) **Thomas Jeff Miller and Laura Miller**, desire to construct hard pathway on Lake Bowen.
- (3) **Todd Theiss**, desires to construct a personal watercraft lift on Lake Bowen.
- (4) **Daniel A. Thornton and Amy P. Thornton**, desire to construct boat lift on Lake Bowen.

LAKE BLALOCK RESERVOIR

- (1) **Ronnie W. Kidwell and Emily A. Kidwell**, desire to construct a dock permit on Lake Blalock.
- (2) **Mabel C. Smith**, desires to replace a dock on Lake Blalock.
- (3) **Jerry D. Steadman**, desires to replace a dock on Lake Blalock.
- (4) **Patrick Alan Tinsley and Jackie E. Tinsley**, desire to replace a dock on Lake Blalock.
- (5) **Ronald L. Vickers and Lori J. Vickers**, desire to replace a dock on Lake Blalock.

MUNICIPAL RESERVOIR 1

NONE

Applications have been submitted and all fees have been paid on the following Lake Agreements, associated with acknowledgement of ownership.

LAKE BOWEN RESERVOIR

- (1) **Floyd D. Elliott**, dock replacement and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (2) **Trang Nguyen**, boat ramp and dock replacement on Lake Bowen.
- (3) **David Sharek and Dana Melton Sharek**, boat lift, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.

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- (4) **Tong Ngouan Tang and Eang Uy Tang**, boat lift, dock replacement, and Personal Watercraft Lift on Lake Bowen.

LAKE BLALOCK RESERVOIR

- (1) **Gerald W. Lukosavich**, dock replacement and hard pathway on Lake Blalock.

MUNCIPAL RESERVOIR #1

NONE

12. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Mr. Boyle informed the Commission that SWS received 1.5 million in RIA Grant funding for the Landrum project.
- B. Mr. Boyle stated, in accordance with the Bylaws, an Audit Reviewer will need to be designated at the June meeting.
- C. Mr. Boyle stated that management recently met with OneSpartanburg and Iron Man International at the Lake Blalock Park office. They are discussing a local Iron Man Triathlon and wanted to discuss the having the swim portion at Lake Blalock. This would tie up the park for several hours for the swimming portion but would move to other locations for the remaining parts of the competition. Management will continue to communicate and let the Commission know of any updates.

13. REFERRALS

Mr. Boyle stated that Finance and Administration will have the Budget Approval and Operations will have an update on the Drought status. Engineering will have two participation projects: 120 Bedrock Road and Goldmine Road Phase III, and a summary change order for 4th Street Valley Falls Road waterline relocation.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Camlyn M. Cole
Secretary-Treasurer

tbh