

MINUTES

The Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, SC, Regular Meeting, held at 299 N. Church Street, Spartanburg, SC, October 30, 2019, at 3:30 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 Ms. Viney, Mr. Littlejohn, and Mr. Montgomery. No one was absent.

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

Mr. Littlejohn moved and Ms. Viney seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

2. THE ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN WATER AGENCIES (AMWA) AWARD

On October 21, Spartanburg Water System was one of only 19 public drinking water systems nationally recognized by The Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) for its sustainable water management. AMWA is an organization of the largest publicly owned drinking water suppliers in the United States.

AMWA awards spotlight the exceptional advances of public drinking water utilities that lead the nation toward sustainability through innovative management practices, executive leadership, and employee commitment. The Sustainable Water Utility Management Award distinguishes water utilities that have made a commitment to practices that achieve a balance of innovative and successful efforts in areas of economic, environmental, and social endeavors. This includes the responsible management of resources, protection of public health, meeting obligations to the community, and providing cost-effective services to ratepayers.

Economically, Spartanburg Water System's sustainable business model utilizes long-term planning for future needs and a five-year financial plan to assure daily operational needs and required debt service are met, assets are properly managed and maintained, and infrastructure replacement needs are considered. Energy efficiency is achieved with hydroelectric generators to offset power costs and through small-scale solar installations at water tanks to power technological instruments.

Environmentally, SWS cooperates with federal and state agencies to find environmentally-safe solutions to seasonal algae problems.

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Socially, SWS implements community programs, including an employee day of service, Watershed Work Days, Water Matters Citizens' Academy, Choose Tap, and Pontoon Classroom.

Spartanburg Water System earned its first AMWA sustainability award in 2014.

Bobby Walden provided an overview of the Sustainable Water Utility Management Award noting that Spartanburg Water was one of only nineteen public drinking water systems nationally recognized by the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies for sustainable water management. Spartanburg Water is one of only seven utilities across the nation to receive this award for a second time.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

3. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Newt Pressley presented a financial summary of SWS expenditures and revenues for the three-month period ending September 30, 2019. An explanation was provided for the favorable and unfavorable budget variances.

The above was provided as information.

4. LAKE BOWEN RESERVOIR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Following months of both large group and small group discussions in late 2018 and early 2019 with adjoining property owners of Lake Bowen, Lake Blalock, and Municipal Reservoir #1, the staff received many comments to combine the policies and procedures for all three reservoirs into one document for accessibility. The staff prepared a draft Watershed and Reservoir Management Rules and Regulations governing Lake William C. Bowen Reservoir, Lake H. Taylor Blalock Reservoir and Municipal Reservoir #1. Public comments were requested from August 1-30, 2019.

After several beneficial meetings with adjoining property owners and SWS representatives to review the comments and concerns shared during the recent public comment period, it was determined that the best solution would be minimize the number of separate documents but still separate the Policies and Procedures for each reservoir.

The first document resulting from those discussions took the Spartanburg Water System Policies and Procedures for Water Supply Reservoirs, May 2017 and the Lake Bowen Irrigation Plan, January 2013 and combined into the draft Spartanburg Water System Policies and Procedures Lake William C. Bowen Reservoir. This draft document is online at <https://www.spartanburgwater.org/Bowen-policies-guidance> and it has been shared with the Lake Front Property Owners Association.

The resulting draft includes a number of changes and improvements, such as allowing simple landscaping maintenance below the 827' MSL Contour Line without a permit and the transfer of permits following the sale of property.

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Ms. Schneider stated that during the discussions between SWS and adjacent property owners to the lakes in 2018 and 2019 feedback was received about there being several documents for rules and regulations, so staff created one draft document for policies and procedures. This draft document was shared for public comment from August 1-30. After the public comment period, SWS had the opportunity to sit down with some adjacent property owners to Lake Bowen and those discussions have resulted in a single document for Lake Bowen. SWS will look at creating a single document for each of the other reservoirs.

Ms. Schneider noted that the Lake Bowen Policies and Procedures document combines the Lake Bowen Irrigation Plan and the Policies and Procedures for Water Supply Reservoirs into one document and it is very focused and streamlined. It is also very protective of the buffer area while granting access to contiguous landowners through the buffer area, authorizes maintenance activities on SWS property, allows the transfer of permits to the next owner of the property, variance appeal processes were added, as well as the updated dock specifications.

Ms. Schneider stated that members of the committee that worked together to create the Lake Bowen Policies and Procedures document were present at the meeting and may wish to share their comments about the process.

Mr. Montgomery stated that the Commissioners of Spartanburg Water were pleased to welcome Council Members David Britt and Jack Mabry, as well as other members of the Lake Bowen community that have worked hand-in-hand over the last couple of months to collaborate on the new policies and procedures document. As Chairman, Mr. Montgomery was glad to be a part of these discussions that took place over several meetings to compile a document that presents fair compromise for both parties. This draft document allows for protection of water quality, safe recreation, and truly takes into account the needs presented by those living around Lake Bowen in a simplified and consistent way. From changes to allow simple landscaping practices in the buffer zone, to the transfer of permits following the sale of a property – this new, draft document answers many of the concerns presented to our Commission through the public comment period. Our two groups went line-by-line throughout the document, and were able to discuss, disagree, and compromise in a civil and professional way – something that we hope will continue as we push forward with dialogue and meetings with Lake Blalock and Municipal Reservoir #1 residents for their corresponding documents. Mr. Montgomery said thank you again to those who partnered with SWS on this draft document. It is his hope that SWS can continue working together with you and all of our adjoining neighbors on Lake Bowen, Lake Blalock and Municipal Reservoir #1 to arrive at a relationship that is more beneficial to both parties. Mr. Montgomery introduced Councilman David Britt.

Councilman David Britt addressed the audience and Commission with an overview of how himself, Councilman Jack Mabry, Representative Eddie Tallon, Senator Scott Talley, County Council Chairman Manning Lynch became involved. Councilman Britt had been asked to assist in the beginning, but had stayed out of the situation until recently when it had not

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been resolved. County Council was continuing to be contacted by constituents and they began attending County Council meetings. County Council has always had a good relationship with SWS so they reached out and began dialogue the first week in September. After the group met with John Montgomery and Sue Schneider they decided to add three landowners from Lake Bowen to the group – Dr. Bill Stewart, Dean Anderson, and Bill McDaniel. This group began meeting and decided to use the 2017 rules as a starting point, and worked through the document line-by-line. After a number of meetings, the group had drafted the current document that is submitted for approval today. Councilman Britt stated he seen a great willingness to work through this situation and to partner together for a document that all parties could be satisfied with. Councilman Britt thanked the group for their hard work and willingness to participate and thanked the Commission for allowing this partnership to take place.

Dr. Bill Stewart spoke about being blessed with quality water and good recreation that this community enjoys. Dr. Stewart related the lakes to grandchildren and that each family (SWS and landowners) wants it their way. The bottom line is everyone loves the lakes, recreation, great drinking water, and water during drought conditions. Dr. Stewart said it is a new day and a new partnership between landowners and SWS. Everyone needs to move past this situation, life is too short. Dr. Stewart stated that he believes this to be the best rules and regulations as of yet. He encouraged everyone to sign-up for Press Pause before December 1. SWS will inventory your property and issue a permit or license. Permits will now be transferrable upon the sale of property, provided the real estate agent notifies the buyer to notify SWS to be able to do so. Spartanburg can be proud that people want to work together for the good of the community. Spartanburg is a small place and whether you live in the city or county, we are all neighbors. Bringing closure to this will provide the chance to move on to bigger issues like dredging and runoff. SWS wants input and comments for partnership into that next stage. Dr. Stewart thanked Sue Schneider, John Montgomery, Alex Evins, and the other Commissioners for allowing the group to partner together.

Councilman David Britt noted that a group will begin meeting about Lake Blalock reservoir on November 12. This group will also consist of three landowners from Lake Blalock.

Ms. Schneider stated that management recommends the Commission adopt this document and make it effective October 31, 2019. If approved, the document will still be available online and paper copies will be available in our wardens office by mid-November. SWS will get information on permit transfers to new property owners and provide it to Spartanburg realtors. SWS will continue to communicate about the Press Pause Program. The great thought about transferring the permits to the next owner only works if you have the permits. SWS wants people to have the items on their property inventoried and management is excited about the Lake Bowen Reservoir Policies and Procedures document.

Management recommended that the Commission adopt this document and make it effective October 31, 2019.

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Mr. Littlejohn moved and Ms. Viney seconded the motion to adopt the Lake Bowen Reservoir Policies and Procedures document and make them effective October 31, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

5. 2020 HEALTH INSURANCE CONSULTANT/BROKER RENEWAL

Since October 2009, Steinberg and Associates has been acting as Spartanburg Water's consultant/broker of record for health, dental, disability, and voluntary life plans. (This includes vision, prescription drug cards and reinsurance as applicable).

During these past several years, the value of having Steinberg & Associates as our agent demonstrated by their attention to details that resulted in savings and significant reimbursement to the company from our re-insurer. Their knowledge and oversight provides the expertise needed in the complicated medical insurance industry.

Steinberg and Associates submitted a renewal proposal for their professional services of \$30,000 for the 2020 calendar year. This represents no increase in cost from the previous year. Additional information was requested at the September meeting; staff will provide an update at the October Commission meeting.

Management recommended renewing the agent/broker agreement with Steinberg and Associates. The allocation between companies is \$22,500 for SWS and \$7,500 for SSSD.

Ms. Viney moved and Mr. Littlejohn seconded the motion to ratify the action taken in the SSSD meeting and approve management's recommendation to renew the agent/broker agreement with Steinberg and Associates. The motion passed unanimously.

6. REPLACEMENT OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT FOR FY 2020

Staff has evaluated the SWS vehicle and equipment fleet for replacement needs for FY 2020. Of the items considered, eleven items have been selected for replacement. All vehicles and equipment selected meet the established depreciation criteria, having in excess of 125,000 miles, being in service for 10 years, or are experiencing excessive repair needs and down time. Performance history is also factored into the recommendation.

Management proposed the following replacements for FY 2020:

- #287 – 2012 Chevy Colorado
- #RLM71 – 2014 Husqvarna 60" Lawn Mower
- #Boat5 – 2005 Nautic Star Boat
- #412 – 2011 Dodge Dakota PU, 4WD
- #640 – 2012 Ford F250 Open Service Body, 4WD
- #639 – 2011 Ford F250 Open Service Body, 4WD
- #AC21 – 2007 Sullivan D185 Air Compressor
- #AC22 – 2077 Sullivan D185 Air Compressor
- #BHL43 – 2007 JCB Backhoe, 2WD
- #BHL45 – 2009 JCB Backhoe, 4WD, Extend hoe

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#TTP03 – 2012 Hydrostatic Test Pump

Total budget: \$571,500.00

Where possible, vehicle and equipment replacement purchases will be completed through the South Carolina Materials Management Office Contracts. Applicable local dealers will be given the opportunity to meet the State Contract pricing.

Alternative fuel vehicle replacements will be evaluated based on application and the availability of gasoline/electric hybrids.

Management recommended approval of the vehicle and equipment replacement schedule to be funded from the depreciation fund.

Mr. Littlejohn moved and Ms. Viney seconded the motion to approve the vehicle and equipment replacement schedule. The motion passed unanimously.

7. BIDS FOR DUCTILE IRON PIPE

Bids were received on October 10, 2019, from vendors to furnish ductile iron pipe to the Spartanburg Water System as needed for repair, maintenance, and construction projects. The scope of the solicitation included eight sizes of pipe (3", 4", 6", 8", 10", 12", 14", 16") in three pipe categories including mechanical joint, slip joint, and restraining thrust ring pipe. Annual quantities used for bidding purposes were estimated and based on historical data. The purpose of this solicitation is to secure firm unit pricing for the contract term.

The request for bid was advertised in the local media and forwarded to prospective suppliers of which drew responses from **four** bidders. A tabulation of the bid is listed below. The costs listed represent annual totals based on estimated annual quantities.

The contract will be for an initial 12-month term with two optional renewal terms. Orders will be placed as required and actual quantities purchased will vary depending on need and construction schedules.

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF BID</u>
Hayes Pipe Supply, Inc. Greer, SC	\$426,951.70
Fortiline Waterworks Greenville, SC	\$438,801.00
Ferguson Waterworks Greenville, SC	\$441,345.90
Southern Utility Supply Greenville, SC	\$500,886.80

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Management recommended the contract be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, Hayes Pipe Supply, Inc., at a total cost of \$426,951.70.

Funding will be provided from a combination of SWS operating and capital project funds, depending on the application.

Mr. Littlejohn moved and Ms. Viney seconded the motion to approve management's recommendation and award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Hayes Pipe Supply, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

8. LEAD AND COPPER TRIENNIAL MONITORING UPDATE

John Westcott, Regulatory Compliance Manager, provided an overview of the Lead and Copper Triennial Monitoring Program. The Lead and Copper Rule requires water systems to test for these two elements every three years at residential sites throughout the distribution system that meet certain regulatory criteria. Spartanburg Water has completed its monitoring of the required 50 sites in the Spartanburg system and 20 sites in the Landrum system. Compliance is based on a 90th percentile action level for each element. SWS results meet or exceed all regulatory requirements.

For the Spartanburg System, the measured 90th percentile level for lead was 0 ppm (parts per million). The regulatory action level is 0.015 ppm. The measured 90th percentile level for copper was 0.163 ppm. The regulatory action level is 1.3 ppm. For the Landrum System, the measured 90th percentile level for lead was 0 ppm (parts per million). The regulatory action level is 0.015 ppm. The measured 90th percentile level for copper was 0.124 ppm. The regulatory action level is 1.3 ppm. Those customers whose residences were tested have been notified of their individual results.

Mr. Westcott noted that this is a detailed process and commended the laboratory staff for completing the program efficiently.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

9. WATER QUALITY REPORT

Bobby Walden stated during the month of October Geosmin values ranged from 6.6 to 11 parts-per-trillion and MIB values ranged from 43-54 parts-per-trillion in raw water sampling taken at the intake structure. The levels of taste-and-odor compounds were beyond SWS ability to manage through the current treatment process as MIB levels were as high as 25 parts-per-trillion at the point-of-entry into the distribution system. The average human detection of MIB is above 15 parts-per-trillion. A targeted application was prescribed by the consulting firm Hazen and Sawyer to address persistent blue-green algae growth at the bottom of the lake and a limited algaecide application on 41.7 acres was conducted on Municipal Reservoir #1 on October 17th. Since the October 17th application only one taste-and-odor complaint has been received within the Customer Service Call Center.

Mr. Walden introduced Doug Baughman, Associate VP and Senior Water Resource Scientist from Hazen and Sawyer, and is also the project manager of the SWS Algae Management and Monitoring Plan, and Elizabeth Crafton,

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PhD, Water Resource Engineer from Hazen and Sawyer who also works with the SWS Algae Management Plan.

Mr. Baughman discussed the MIB levels in raw water that increased between October 7 and October 14 from 34 ng/L to 50 ng/L and finished water entering the distribution system remained around 14 ng/L. Licensed Commercial Applicators applied precise doses of an algaecide, Algimycin, to Municipal Reservoir #1 on October 17. The application focused on a limited area where blue-green algae was growing on the bottom of the lake. No adverse side effects were noted as a result of this prescribed application. Algimycin is an algaecide registered with the EPA to safely and effectively control a broad range of algae and cyanobacteria growth in potable water sources including reservoirs, lakes, ponds, and related water conveyance systems. Algimycin is also independently certified by the National Sanitation Foundation NSF/ANSI standard 60 that provides assurance that the product is safe for use in drinking water.

Dr. Crafton noted that as a result of the Algae Management and Monitoring Plan, some tasks have been identified to build on that plan to enhance and expand the proactive strategy. One task is to expand the flow cam library to include up to 20 additional species that do produce MIB and Geosmin. Another task will be to sample the bottom of the lake algal mat which is the main source of algal growth and seasonal trends. Dr. Crafton said the team will also revisit the Algae Management and Monitoring Plan to continue to improve and enhance algal management strategies.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

10. REPORT ON DRINKING WATER RESERVOIRS

Ms. Schneider stated that Land Permits continue to increase and there have been 1197 land permits issued. The Press Pause Program was designed from the comments received at the listening sessions with Lake Bowen residents. It was designed to allow all existing improvements, semi-permanent and permanent structures already below the 827' MSL to remain in place if the adjoining property owner participates in the Press Pause Program. Some adjacent property owners may assume that permits and authorizations are in place – if they don't know for sure, then this is the time to set the baseline. This is a limited one time period for 14 months to work with SWS staff and establish a baseline for each adjoining property owners that participate – October 1, 2018 through December 1, 2019. Adjoining property owners who participate can have confidence that their investments are recognized, appreciated, and secured for the future. Adjoining property owners can participate by:

Email Notification: presspause@spartanburgwater.org, Voice Mailbox: 864.580.2095, Register Online at:

www.spartanburgwater.org/OurLakes/PressPause/ and click the online link or stop by the Lake Bowen Warden's Office and complete a form. Adjoining property owners at Lake Bowen who have not signed up to participate will receive further reminders through letters, the Healthy Lakes Newsletter, and Lake Alerts. Ms. Schneider noted some things on the horizon are Irrigation Permit Renewals will begin on December 1, Watercraft Permits will be mailed mid-March and begin March 15, 2020. The Portable Fire Ring Program will

not require a renewal. Annual dock inspections are scheduled to begin in November.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

11. VARIANCE REQUEST – 568 BROWN ARROW CIRCLE

The adjoining property owner is requesting a variance of the Standard Specifications for a marine structure regarding the 14' minimum set back requirement from a side lot property line.

Property owner has requested a permit to install a boat lift and personal watercraft lift on the existing dock. However, the dock touches the extended property line on the left side (facing the water). On the right side, the neighboring dock placement extends past the extended right side. Permit application was denied by staff due to inadequate distances.

The neighboring property to the left of the requesting property owner does have adequate distance for the installation of the requested lifts and the installation of the structures would not create a safety concern.

Management has reviewed the request for variance, evaluated the site and have no objections to the variance as described above.

Charlie Logue reviewed the requested variance for a boat lift and personal watercraft lift variance for 568 Brown Arrow Circle. Mr. Logue stated there is adequate distance for the installation of the requested lifts and the installation of the structures would not create a safety concern.

Ms. Viney asked if the adjoining property owner minded the requested placement. Ms. Schneider stated staff sites all docks. It is still going to be accessible and will not cause any safety issue.

Mr. Littlejohn moved and Ms. Viney seconded the motion to approve the variance request at 568 Brown Arrow Circle. The motion passed unanimously.

12. SUMMARY CHANGE ORDER – BLACKMAN CIRCLE WATERLINE INSTALLATION PROJECT

The Blackman Circle Waterline Installation Project is now complete. The project was installed by NWF Industries of Lexington, SC and included approximately 1,960 linear feet of 6-inch ductile iron pipe. The project was a participation project to extend water service along Blackman Circle.

Change order #1 was The Summary Change Order for a \$2,775 decrease in the contract price for adjustment of the unit quantities based on actual work done. This change order was executed as per current water system policy.

The financial summary of the project construction is as follows:

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Original Contract Price	\$106,585
Change Order No.1	<u>\$(2,775)</u>
Final Contract Price	\$103,810

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

13. 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 March 28, 1989.

A. Inside City Private Fire Service Agreement

(1) Center for Philanthropy FS

Center for Philanthropy located at 431 East Kennedy Street in Spartanburg, SC wishes to connect a 6-inch water line to the Commission's 8-inch water line along Kennedy Street to serve a private fire protection system for the above-mentioned philanthropic center. The Spartanburg County Foundation wishes to enter into an agreement for this service.

Annual Stand-by Revenue - \$148.76

(2) John B. White Self Storage FS

John B. White Self Storage located at 1640 John B. White Sr. Boulevard in Spartanburg, SC, wishes to connect a 6-inch water line to the Commission's 8-inch water line along Camelot Court to serve a private fire protection system for the above-mentioned storage facility. 1640 John B. White Sr. Blvd., LLC wishes to enter into an agreement for this service.

Annual Stand-by Revenue - \$148.76

(3) Spartan Main FS

Spartan Main located at 2125 East Main Street in Spartanburg, SC wishes to connect a 6-inch water line to the Commission's 8-inch water line off East Main Street and along the entrance to Eastpointe Shopping Center to serve a private fire protection system for five mixed used units, retail and medical. Spartan Main, LLC. wishes to enter into an agreement for this service.

Annual Stand-by Revenue - \$148.76

B. Outside City Private Fire Service Agreement

(1) Boiling Springs Dialysis FS

Boiling Springs Dialysis located at 131 Parris Bridge Road in Boiling Springs, SC wishes to connect a 6-inch water line to the Commission's 8-inch water line along Sloane Garden Road to serve a private fire protection system for the above-mentioned medical clinic. Dialysis Venture Partners of Boiling Springs, LLC. wishes to enter into an agreement for this service.

Annual Stand-by Revenue - \$223.16

(2) Comfort Storage FS

Comfort Storage located at 1581 Boiling Springs Road in Boiling Springs, SC wishes to connect a 6-inch water line to the Commission's 12-inch water line along an unnamed road, off Boiling Springs Road to serve a private fire protection system for the above-mentioned self-storage facility. Brilliant Group Hwy 9, LLC. wishes to enter into an agreement for this service.

Annual Stand-by Revenue - \$223.16

C. Lake Agreements

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

- (1) W. McA. Davis** desires to stabilize the shoreline on Lake Bowen.
- (2) Toy R. and Donna R. Rawls** desire to stabilize the shoreline on Lake Bowen.
- (3) J. Ray Truluck, Jr.** desires to stabilize the shoreline on Lake Bowen.
- (4) Billy J. Israel, Jr. and Susan R. Israel** desire to stabilize the shoreline on Lake Bowen.

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

- (1) Allen A. Annis and Renee S. Annis**, dock replacement on Lake Blalock.
- (2) Joshua Brian Barnhill and Stephanie McGill Barnhill**, dock replacement on Lake Blalock.
- (3) Richard S. and Delores S. Bruce**, hard pathway, boat lift, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.

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- (4) **Linda Walker and Jackie D. Walker**, shoreline stabilization and boat ramp on Lake Bowen.
- (5) **Patrick F. Donnelly**, dock replacement and boat ramp on Lake Bowen.
- (6) **Betty I. Gonda**, shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (7) **Richard W. Johnson, Sr. and Sonja R. Johnson**, hard pathway on Lake Bowen.
- (8) **Karen H. McCutcheon**, two docks on Lake Bowen.
- (9) **James R. Settle and Julie K. Settle**, boat lift and personal watercraft lift on Lake Bowen.
- (10) **Jay S. Shelley, Trustee of the Jay S. Shelley Revocable Trust U/A Dated 11/30/2005**, hard pathway and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (11) **Betty B. Warlick and Colonial Trust Company, as Co-Trustees of the Betty B. Warlick Revocable Trust U/A Dated 7/22/15**, hard pathway on Lake Bowen.
- (12) **Johnny Richard Cannon**, hard pathway, boat lift, and personal watercraft lift on Lake Bowen.
- (13) **Archie L. Shue and Reba B. Shue**, dock replacement and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (14) **Kenneth Ray Morris and Virginia W. Morris**, boat ramp, boat lift, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (15) **Kenneth F. Maloy and Twinkle F. Maloy**, boat ramp, hard pathway, boat lift, personal watercraft lift, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (16) **Joseph L. Byers, Jr.**, dock replacement and two hard pathways on Lake Bowen.
- (17) **Harold A. Outz and Robin Lynn Outz**, personal watercraft lift on Lake Bowen.
- (18) **Jeffrey B. Poland, as Trustee of the Jeffrey B. Poland Revocable Living Trust**, personal watercraft lift and dock replacement on Lake Bowen.
- (19) **J and M Investments**, personal watercraft lift, boat lift, and two dock replacements on Lake Bowen.

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- (20) **Brian R. Pletcher and Ann M. Pletcher, as Co-Trustees and Successors in Trust, under the Brian R. Pletcher and Ann M. Pletcher joint Revocable Trust U/A dated 5/23/16**, personal watercraft lift and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (21) **Glenn Gould and Catherine M. Gould**, hard pathway, two personal watercraft lifts, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (22) **Justin Owens**, boat lift, personal watercraft lift, and dock replacement on Lake Bowen.
- (23) **James B. and Paula H. Walker**, hard pathway, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (24) **Todd David Danielson and Rae Fuller Danielson**, hard pathway, two dock replacements, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (25) **Charles R. Dobson and Marcia N. Dobson**, boat ramp, hard pathway, personal watercraft lift, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (26) **Dustin Lane Craig Humphries**, dock replacement and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (27) **James W. and Heidi P. Bolton**, personal watercraft lift on Lake Bowen.
- (28) **Jonathan Michael McDaniel and Brandy Marie McDaniel**, dock replacement and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (29) **Joyce A. Betenbaugh**, hard pathway and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (30) **Timothy A. Ridgeway and Sharon C. Ridgeway**, hard pathway and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (31) **Robert R. Marshall and Brenda J. Marshall**, two hard pathways, personal watercraft lift, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (32) **William D. Howell and Christy Howell**, boat ramp and dock replacement on Lake Bowen.
- (33) **John Davis Kimberly and Lizbeth Packer Kimberly**, hard pathway, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (34) **Randall B. Duncan and Debbie M. Duncan**, dock replacement and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.

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- (35) **Erin Lausch and Jo-Ellen Easson**, dock replacement on Lake Bowen.
- (36) **Arlon Keith Dye and Belinda H. Dye**, dock replacement, hard pathway, personal watercraft lift, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (37) **Bradley W. Appier and Constance R. Appier, Trustees in interest of the Bradley W. Appier and Constance R. Appier Living Trust dated 7/9/15**, boat lift, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (38) **Danny L. Franklin and Teresa B. Franklin**, dock replacement and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (39) **Kennon P. Vise and Mitzi G. Vise**, boat lift, hard pathway, personal watercraft lift, and dock replacement on Lake Bowen.
- (40) **Alan C. Petty and Karon W. Petty**, hard pathway, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.

14. NEGOTIATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

There were no negotiations or miscellaneous administrative matters.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Montgomery shared a statement with the attendees prior to the Public Comment agenda item.

“If you don’t say anything then it must be true.” This statement seems to speak to the current climate of conversation we find ourselves in. Building trust is not easy, and I feel that we have begun the delicate process to begin reconstructing this trust with those we have faced disagreements, first through the launch of the Press Pause Program to ensure the investments that adjacent property owners have made on SWS property can remain for their enjoyment. Additionally, our work together in partnership on the Lake Bowen Policies and Procedures document, which has now been approved; ensure that these permits will transfer to future property owners. This new document is a great collaboration between our two groups, and again, we see it as another step in creating a more sound partnership that is built on communication and meaningful dialogue. Though Spartanburg Water System has begun to make progress in rebuilding this relationship, there have been those in a small, but very vocal group of individuals who have not stopped sharing misinformation across many channels, including in public forums, and with the media. Many of these statements are entirely inaccurate and untruthful, yet they have continued to be shared over these many months and as recently as today on Facebook. Even so, for quite some time we have remained silent and attempted to let the conversation take its course. Then following our most recent Commission meeting in September, we finally understood that by not speaking out and sharing true statements to defend against the wave of misinformation, we were in fact hurting all of our customers by saying nothing. This is why we felt it was important to set

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the record straight on the misinformation that they have been seeing for so long, and that continue to be propagated. By sharing our messaging with the broader public, our goal is not to be condescending or hurtful to anyone, but rather to be factual, to-the-point, and truthful.

I also want to clarify, that the statements we have made relate only to Spartanburg Water System and our customers – not to the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District. While we share a name for marketing purposes, we are completely separate organizations, with separate billing, pricing, and enabling legislation. It is unfortunate that even with our messaging that shares the factual side of so many misstatements, there are many who refuse to accept the facts and instead continue their dialogue of untruths that is shared in language far more condescending and malicious than any of the messaging we have shared.

At this I will open up the Public Comment period to begin making their statements. I will remind you that as we move forward please refrain from loud outbursts, in an effort to ensure we can allow as many individuals to speak in the 45 minutes we have reserved for comments. At this time, I will ask Gene Jackson to moderate the Public Comment period.

Mr. Jackson opened the Public Comment period and requested that each person speaking state their full name and address before making comments. Mr. Jackson also noted that he is the timekeeper and when the commenter hears the timer, please wrap up their comments.

Mr. Jackson called Angela Johnson Blanton to the podium. Ms. Blanton was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Jackson called Mary Lou Hodge to the podium. Mary Lou Hodge, a resident of Lake Bowen, and one of the 1% of SWS customers who live on the lake deeply concerned for the other 99% of SWS customers. Ms. Hodge stated that her husband is a recreational fisherman. For the last year and a half, many of the gamefish he has caught off of their dock have had red inflamed gill plates and throats. Some are sick with sores and they don't eat them anymore. He has also noticed that there has been a huge decrease in fresh water mussels, crayfish, and softshell turtles. This is your water and our water, and we are concerned about that. Does DNR need to be monitoring that or is SWS monitoring that? Thank you.

Mr. Jackson called Donald Jones to the podium. Mr. Jones was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Jackson called Les Casterline to the podium. Les Casterline, of 80 Coastline Drive, stated he is also 1% of SWS customers that live on Lake Bowen. Everyone wants clean high quality water in our reservoirs. Thank you for listening to the comments we made during the public comment period and for meeting with the County Council members and property owners, and for modifying the rules and regulations. Per the rules, adjacent landowners are forbidden to trim trees, bushes, or put any organic matter into the lake yet have not been allowed to remove trees that have naturally fallen into the lake even at their own expense. Why is it that intentionally putting trees into the lake harms water quality, yet SWS isn't for removing

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the trees that naturally fall into the lake. Have you considered that letting lake banks grow up with more trees could contribute to the amount of leaves in the lakes. Some studies have shown decomposing leaves could be a contributor to excessive nutrients which in turn fuels the over growth of aquatic plants and algae leaving us with poor tasting water. Thank you.

Mr. Jackson called Dava Funke to the podium. Dava Funke, of 127 Timberlake Circle, said she would like to address the depth of the water, the shallowness of it. She has sent pictures to the Commission. These lakes are getting very silty and that is not good for the water or the environment. She asked the Commission to consider dredging that lake. It has been there almost 100 years and we all know when water slows or stops it settles. It is a settling pond, and is almost full of sediment; and I wish you would consider that. Thank you.

Mr. Jackson called Allison Wilson to the podium. Allison Wilson, lives in the City and has a house on Lake Bowen. Ms. Wilson stated she is one of the 1% who cares about the other 99% of SWS customers. She questioned why we were here. Property owners of the three lakes did not want this. They have worked well with SWS over the years. Lakefront property owners care about the quality of our water as much if not more than anyone else. However, SWS came after us claiming we were causing the water quality concerns in the three reservoirs. The report from SWS in March 2018 to SC DHEC on their website proves that. This report focuses on the thousands of acres around the three reservoirs. You have focused your time and energy on lake owners, causing us to spend almost \$100,000 just to get to the table. However, good has come from it. We have made great friends, and SWS has opened the opportunity for the public to get involved. SWS portray's us as disgruntled property owners who don't care about anything else but our property. Those who know us, know that is not true. Why has SWS recently spent customers money on a deliberate attempt to influence the outcome of an election. SWS spent thousands of dollars on Facebook ads, radio ads, and newspaper ads and the fact that the radio ads are scheduled to end the week of the election proves that this is an undeniable politically motivated move. Thank you for the time to speak

Mr. Jackson called Jane Rhinehart to the podium. Ms. Rhinehart was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Jackson called Dr. John Lindsell to the podium. Dr. John Lindsell, of Pinecove Drive of Lake Bowen, stated SWS characterized him as a disgruntled property owner and he is proud of that. He said he might be a disgruntled property owner if he cares about water quality; disturbed by the huge fish kill and cover up that cost about \$500,000; if he worries about the value of his largest single investment -his primary residence; or if SWS paid a premium of an extra \$200,000 for 71 acres just weeks after the property was bought by another entity; or if he is am alarmed by the number of rotting trees in our lakes; cares about lakeshore re-stabilization; or is disturbed by pollution coming into our lakes from the headwaters and agricultural runoff. None the less, we are trying to go high when others go low, but we won't go away. Dr. Lindsell said property owners are very happy for the progress that has been made and thanked the committee that has done such great work, but let's make no mistake about it; without our

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participation and organization that progress probably wouldn't have happened. I am proud of the POA. I am proud that they have supported us and enabled us to have these successes and I look forward to successes in the months to come. Thank you very much.

Mr. Jackson called Rev. Dr. Louis Jamison to the podium. Rev. Dr. Louis Jamison, of Coastline Drive on Lake Bowen thanked the Commission for the opportunity to speak. Dr. Jamison is concerned about water quality as sometimes he experiences an unpleasant odor from the water while brushing his teeth or showering. As lakefront property owners, we want to maintain and protect that waterfront from any kind of erosion or pollution. Thank you to the committee for the progress that has been made. Thank you for putting carp in the lake instead of chemicals and reducing the water level in the wintertime so that the frost and freeze can kill algae. In the future Dr. Jamison hopes SWS will use more environmentally friendly strategies and less chemicals. We are only 1% of SWS customers but we are 100% effected by the rules and regulations and the quality that meets us at our docks and waterfront. Thank you.

Mr. Jackson called Lewis Bishop to the podium. Lewis Bishop, of Lake Bowen Drive, stated he has owned lakefront property for over 30 years and lived there for almost 20 years. Lake Bowen residents have picked up tires, trash, and other debris in the lake, and would like to know what SWS is doing to prevent it. Many other pollutants enter the lake at the head source. There are federal funds available for dredging and SWS needs to apply for these funds to dredge the lakes and increase their longevity. Our cove was dredged 15-20 years ago and it improved the situation for a longtime without any negative impacts. This was paid for by property owners, not SWS. Mr. Bishop suggested allowing the farmers to pump water from the lake and put it in a watering trough so the cattle won't go into the lake to drink water. Duke Energy controls 26 lakes and enforces the use of seawalls to protect the shoreline, similar to Lake Lure. Will SWS be looking into more shoreline stabilization. I noticed in today's agenda that out of the 40 or so items listed, about 70% of them included stabilizing the shoreline and I applaud that. Thank you.

Mr. Jackson called Charles Gray to the podium. Charles Gray, of 195 Kaplan Korn Place on Lake Bowen thanked Commissioner Viney for acknowledging his response to the public comment period, Commissioner Littlejohn for the opportunity to speak, and said to Commissioner Montgomery that it was his privilege to interact with his Dad and Grandfather. In 1787 at the close of the Constitutional Convention Ben Franklin was asked the question, and we all know what his answer was – a republic if you can keep it. As citizens we must listen intently to the issues, consider the facts, make impartial decisions, and favor no one. Water Quality – the POA and SWS have equal responsibilities for water quality. To SWS we acknowledge the value of the water service at Reservoir #1, Lake Blalock, and Lake Bowen and for the contiguous buffer areas we promise you to be a good partner. Economic Impact – real estate values and equal fees and services for private and business. We strongly believe that SWS has the capacity and the resources to be the economic driver in the Upstate. Thank you.

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Mr. Jackson called Bill Hildebrandt to the podium. Bill Hildebrandt of Reidville Road stated he has owned lakefront property for 20 years. He has witnessed an improvement in water quality as agricultural and weekend retreats have been replaced by well maintained, year-round residences. Everyone in this room wants to protect the water resources for the citizens of Spartanburg County and yet money is being spent on both public relations and legal counsel. Volunteer cooperation and mutual respect have always ruled the day. The lakefront residents are a valuable front line willing coworker. Mr. Jackson requested that the Commission make every effort to utilize these residents as the valuable resource they represent. He does appreciate the changes that have been made, but wants to be sure it continues. Thank you.

Mr. Jackson called Larry Flynn to the podium. Larry Flynn, of Montgomery Drive, addressed the Commission regarding the March 2018 report that SWS submitted to SC DHEC which detailed a comprehensive watershed plan to deal with the nutrient load reduction in the lakes. A 128 page report included a 20-25 year plan at an estimated cost of \$46 Million to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and deal with the algae issues in the lakes. The South Pacolet Watershed contains 91.5 square miles stretching into Greenville County and includes all parts of Landrum, Campobello, Inman, Chesnee, and large unincorporated parts of Spartanburg County. The report lists watershed priority areas as the streets and sidewalks located near streams, stream erosion and heavy concentrations of cattle and horse farms, keeping livestock out of streams, and monitoring new developments. The report does not mention regulating swing sets, sitting areas, or grass cutting. Mr. Flynn said he was not lobbying to spend \$46 Million, but the report is not available on the SWS website and has not been discussed at a Commission meeting. The cost and reasons of why the report was required to be submitted to SC DHEC has not been shared with the water customers. The opposing rules hurt lakefront property owners while SWS is ignoring the report, which details strategies to improve the watershed. As Winston Churchill said "However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results." Thank you.

Mr. Jackson called Matt Spencer to the podium. Matt Spencer, of 712 Brown Arrow Circle, stated he wanted to talk about transparency and facts. At the Board meeting on June 25, 2019, your CEO made a brief comment about purchasing property on Rainbow Lake Road but nothing involving the details of the financials. Mr. Spencer stated that these are the facts. On May 29 Greenville Homes bought 71.70 acres of land near Fingerville from the Trustees of Elizabeth Lee Huey Trust for \$575,000, list price. Deed Book 123-Z Page 172-174 -- Fact. Just 22 days later, Greenville Homes sold this property to the Commission of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg for \$800,000 cash. Deed Book 124-F Page 447-449 -- Fact. That is you folks sitting at this table. That is a profit of \$225,000 in 22 days, \$10,000 a day. Mr. Spencer couldn't believe the Commission paid \$800,000 for a piece of property that is only valued at \$379,000. As I said, it sounds like a financial deal doesn't it. To pay that much more money than the market price, \$575,000 with a tax value of \$379,000. Why didn't you get in on the \$575,000 deal and offer \$600,000, why did you have to pay \$800,000. Is this how you spend our money? Thank you very much.

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Mr. Jackson called Roger Tinsley to the podium. Roger Tinsley, of 708 Brown Arrow Circle, stated he wanted to thank everyone for their hard work over the last two months to take the rules and regulations back to where they were. As a homeowner, I would love to work and buy into the plan that you have as leadership. I would like to see a financial 5-10-20-50-year plan for what's going on at Lake Bowen, at Reservoir #1, and at Lake Blalock. That would give us some idea about what you are doing with the money. I don't blame anybody for paying that much more for land if they have plans of what to do with it, but since SWS didn't get in on the purchase the first time, that tells me you didn't have a plan. We have heard that SWS has checked on other properties on Reservoir #1 and that's okay too if there is a plan to do something there. Share your plan with us, we want to buy into it and be a part of the future. We would appreciate it. Thank you.

Meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

G. Newton Pressley
Secretary-Treasurer

tbh