

Commission of Public Works meeting, September 25, 2023
Regular monthly business.

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

Employees present: Danny Lowe, Ken Phillips and Christy Lowe

Visitors present: Larry Halicki and Carter Rhine

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.

Carter Rhine commented on how nice the new Maintenance shop looks.

Larry Halicki asked if there is any information on when the surveyors will be out to Club Dr. Danny Lowe stated he does not have any update on when they will be there.

Mr. Trey Stephens states that approving the Financial Report for August 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 August 28, 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 Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Keenan and carried.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Danny Lowe stated that he spoke with Erin Harrison who works in Senator Joe Wilson's office and discussed what needed to be done on CPW's part to request an appropriation to be added to the budget next fiscal year for a water tower. Mr. Lowe stated we will be taking action on this in the next couple weeks. In relation to other funding sources for a water tower, the PER has been signed off on for our engineer.

Mr. Lowe reported that someone from our attorney's office reached out to let us know they are doing some research on getting an easement for the property CPW is leasing from the City of New Ellenton. Danny stated we should have more information by next month's meeting.

Director Danny Lowe gave an update on the Maintenance shop.

Danny Lowe stated he spoke with our engineer and we are almost complete with the bidding process for the Darlington project to be funded by the SCIIP grant.

Mr. Lowe informed the Commissioners that we have submitted the SCIIP Grant Quarterly Report in order to stay in compliance.

Danny Lowe reported that we received the plans for Whiskey Run townhomes which are going in on Summit Dr. According to the plans submitted, there will be 163 townhomes.

Danny Lowe reported the water loss was 8.3% for the month of August.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

Office Manager, Christy Lowe, stated she has been working with our bank in order to get a separate account set up for our SCIIP Grant money to be deposited in for better tracking purposes. Mrs. Lowe proposed transferring \$250,000 from the Depreciation and Contingency Fund into the new Grant account as part of our match money. All Commissioners agreed on moving the money over when the new SCIIP Grand Account is open.


Danny Lowe reported he has scheduled a meeting with Oak Hill Water Department and SCDHEC on Wednesday, September 27th at 9:30am. Chairman Trey Stephens stated he will be attending the meeting and one more Commissioner is welcome to attend so it will not be a quorum. Mr. Lowe gave a little background information on what has led up to this meeting being called with SCDHEC. Oak Hill's operator recently retired and they have not hired anyone to take his place and they are not in a good financial position. Oak Hill Water Department has contacted Danny Lowe and Ken Phillips many times over the last several months requesting help and/or advice. Danny and Ken have spent many hours trying to help as much as they could but without having the proper authority to do so and also having to run CPW, it is just not feasible without SCDHEC stepping in. The meeting is to discuss a resolution suitable for both Oak Hill Water Department and New Ellenton Commission of Public Works as there will be significant cost involved.

Chairman Trey Stephens asked if the Commissioners were opposed to looking for another attorney so as to not be tied to just one. All Commissioners agreed to let Danny Lowe research and handle obtaining an attorney for NECPW.


Donnie Cooper made a motion to go into Executive Session; Jackie Keenan seconded it and carried. Time in Executive Session: 7:36pm. Jackie Keenan made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:55pm; it was seconded by Roy Shaw and carried.

Gerald McMurray made a motion to adjourn; Jackie Keenan seconds, all vote, so moved.

Attested by,



Director
Danny Lowe



Trey Stephens
Chairman

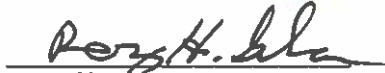


Donnie Cooper
Vice Chairman

Jackie Keenan
Secretary-Treasurer



Gerald McMurray
Commissioner



Roy Shaw
Commissioner