

**Louisa County Water Authority
Board of Directors
June 8, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Judson Foster, Chairman; Mr. Douglas Smith, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Robert Hardy; Mr. Durwood Willis; Mr. Tom Filer; Mr. David Kies; and Mr. Robert Morgan

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Pam Baughman, General Manager; Mr. Eric Purcell, Louisa County Board of Supervisors; and Ms. Helen Phillips

A. Call to Order

Mr. Foster called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Foster asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. Ms. Baughman requested the addition of the following two items to the Short Notice Section: 1) Plumbing Innovators Industrial LLC estimate for LRWWTP and 2) Zion Crossroads Wastewater Treatment Plant – O & M Manual. Mr. Smith made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morgan and carried 7-0.

B. Presentations

C. Citizen Information

D. Consent Agenda

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

A. MAY 11, 2022 – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

3. TREASURER’S REPORT:

A. O & M REPORT / CAPITAL REVENUE & EXPENDITURE REPORT – MAY 2022

B. APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS – MAY 2022

C. CONSTRUCTION FUND – MAY 2022

Ms. Baughman reported that money had been earned in May on the VIP 1-3 Year High Quality Bond Fund.

The Board reviewed the Consent Agenda, including the Treasurer’s Report. Upon completion of the review, Mr. Hardy made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kies and carried 7-0.

E. Old Business

4. UPDATE – JAMES RIVER WATER PROJECT

The James River Water Authority met today, but did not have a quorum. No formal action was taken.

Work continues on the three major permits: 1) Army Corps of Engineers Permit (new); 2) Department of Marine Resources Commission (a modification to the original permit) and 3) the Department of Environmental Quality (either a major modification or a new permit). The permits should be submitted late June or early July. A fee of at least \$25,000 with \$3,000 - \$4,000 for impact fees will be paid when the permits are submitted.

The need for Phase III of the Archeological Study will not be determined until late in the permitting process.

An Archeological RFP will be advertised to conduct further studies on four identified sites.

James River Water Authority Representatives have met with Henrico County, explaining the project and informing them that JRWA will not affect the Cobbs Creek Project currently underway. The meeting reportedly went “fairly well.”

Public Notice of the application process and a Public Hearing will be held, and letters will be sent informing landowners impacted by the pipeline.

At the July meeting, preliminary budgets for legal, easement acquisition, engineering, construction administration, and construction will be provided to the JRWA Board.

The project scope is getting clearer and if things break in JRWA's favor, construction could begin within the first half of 2023; maybe even the first quarter of 2023.

Mr. Purcell added that Virginia is losing economic development prospects to North Carolina due to the requirement of meeting the same objective multiple times. Virginia is working on streamlining the process to compete in the economic development arena.

5. NORTHEAST CREEK WATER TREATMENT PLANT – SLUDGE-VAC-SYSTEM UPDATE

The engineer is currently working on 90% design completion; anticipated completion by the end of June 2022.

6. LOUISA REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT – FILTER BUILDING MODIFICATIONS UPDATE

In 2016, a flooding event caused the Louisa Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant's Filter Building to flood with approximately 18 inches of water on the floor. The only damage caused during that flooding event was a lost sampler. To prevent damage in future flooding events, the garage door entrance was blocked at about 8 feet high, and a pedestal was constructed for the sampler that had to be replaced.

In 2018, a 7-inch rain event flooded up to approximately 4 feet of water in the building, taking out many of the electrical components. The insurance claim was \$250,000 - \$300,000 and the insurance company requested we do more to protect the contents of the building from future flood events.

The method of blocking in the garage door has been an ongoing question. No plans or details of how that construction occurred have been located. Finally, the top cap was removed, and the engineering firm was assured that the blocking in of the garage door area was connected to the existing building with rebar.

On June 14, 2022, construction will begin on the filter building to provide further protection from flooding events. The entrance door on the back of the building (facing the creek) will be completely blocked in, a new entrance will be cut into the front of the building, and there will be reconfiguration of the access walkways inside the building. These efforts should protect the building contents up to a 100-year flood.

7. ZION CROSSROADS WELL SYSTEM UPDATES

A. SPRING CREEK - #1 & #2 UPDATE

Drawdown test and sampling was completed the week of May 20, 2022. Drawdown testing proved to be very similar to the previous drawdown. System curves were submitted to Sydnor Hydro the week of May 30, 2022; waiting for Sydnor Hydro to provide appropriate well pump sizing to ensure electrical design is adequate. Anticipating 90% design completion by the end of June 2022.

Ms. Baughman requested an additional \$100,000 to keep the project moving forward. The Board discussed the project and the funding request.

Upon completion of the review, Mr. Hardy made a motion to authorize an additional \$100,000 for the Spring Creek #1 & #2 development. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morgan and carried 7-0.

B. POORE WELL IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

Drawings submitted to VDH for approval on May 27, 2022.

C. ZION CROSSROADS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM HYDRAULIC STUDY UPDATE

Dewberry is currently processing the GIS Data. Demands have been calculated and all data has been gathered. Once GIS is updated, the model can be built; capacity will be assessed once the model has been built.

Mr. Hardy requested the information to be shared with Louisa County as soon as the Zion Crossroads Distribution System Hydraulic Study is completed.

8. REGIONAL WWTP PERMIT RENEWAL AND PROCESS OPERATIONS STUDY

We requested a proposal for the Louisa Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Optimization Study. The cost of the proposal totals \$39,630 with the County and Town sharing the cost 50/50 (\$19,815/each). We will also need to add \$20,000 for sampling (\$10,000/each).

Christian Goodwin has expressed his desire to move forward with the study to determine if the FY2026/FY2027 Ammonia Nitrogen upgrade can be avoided. Originally, my thoughts were we would add the proposal costs into FY2024's budget. I have reached out to Liz Nelson, Town Manager, to see if there would be any room in the Town's budget to move forward in FY2023 (after July 1, 2022). In my humble opinion, the sooner we begin building our case the better chance we have of avoiding the \$4M upgrade with the next permit cycle, July 1, 2027, although there are no

guarantees we will be able to avoid the upgrade. The personnel of the Authority will begin to look much different in the next five years with several folks retiring out; it would help if the proposal and base data were established.

Mr. Filer asked if funding opportunities had been researched. The Board was informed that the annual solicitation for applications to receive Water Quality Improvement Funds was just received this week. Both the engineer and the General Manager have been searching for funding opportunities to cover the cost of the study.

The Board discussed the Louisa Regional Wastewater Treatment Optimization Study. Upon completion of the discussion, Mr. Smith made a motion to authorize proceeding with the study at a cost not to exceed \$65,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hardy and carried 7-0.

9. LOUISA REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT – BLOWER BUILDING ROOF REPAIRS

An insurance claim has been filed and the insurance adjuster has been on site to evaluate the roof. We have contacted the Louisa County roofing services provider and they will be onsite to make an evaluation and provide a cost estimate. Like most contractors, they are very busy and will make the site visit as soon as possible.

F. New Business

10. COUNTY OF LOUISA CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS FOR FY 2023-2042

The Board reviewed Louisa County's approved Capital Improvements Budget. The Bowlers Mill Dam and Louisa Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Ammonia-Nitrogen continuing requests were approved, along with the additional \$200,000 request needed to complete the Sludge-Vac System at the North East Creek Water Treatment Plant.

G. Reports

11. PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

Mary continues working through the FEMA / VDEM process for cost recovery incurred during the January 2-3, 2022, snowstorm Frieda, and she continues working on updates to the Employee Handbook.

H. General Manager's Report

- **May levels:** At the end of May 2022, the static well levels are down approximately 4.74 feet from the end of April 2021 levels. From May 2021 to May 2022, the well levels are down approximately 11.80 feet.

The smaller table shows static well levels located nearer to the production wells. These levels are down approximately 10.63 feet from the end of April 2022 levels. From May 2021 to May 2022, the well levels are down approximately 36.25 feet.

As of June 2, 2022, for the Northern Piedmont Region, the Department of Environmental Quality Drought Monitor indicates normal conditions for precipitation, groundwater, reservoir levels, and streamflow.

- The LCHS Envirothon team placed second at the state competition! They missed the lead by less than two points and are the state runner up for the National Envirothon competition.

- Louisa County Water Authority Cook-out June 30, 2022 – Water and Wastewater Professionals Appreciation Day.

Mr. Hardy informed the Board that there are now three functioning cameras at the Zion Crossroads Wastewater Treatment Plant.

I. Committees

J. Short Notice Items

1) PLUMBING INNOVATORS INDUSTRIAL LLC – LRWWTP ESTIMATE

Two proposals were presented to the Board for Plumbing Innovators Industrial LLC to provide an industrial vac-truck to clean the LRWWTP Septage Receiving Station of the heavier debris. The first estimate is for one day \$3,595, one load of debris, and the second estimate is for two days \$7,955, and three loads of debris.

Upon completion of the discussion, Mr. Filer made a motion to proceed with the proposal for Plumbing Innovators Industrial LLC to provide a vac-truck to clean the Louisa Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Septage Receiving Station at a cost not to exceed \$8,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith and carried 7-0.

2) ZION CROSSROADS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT – O & M MANUAL

The Board was informed that during a DEQ inspection, the Zion Crossroads Wastewater Treatment was cited for not having the O & M Manual updated to include the effluent line, the dechlorination facility, and the cascade aeration structure. Ms. Baughman reached out to Andy Wade, Economic Development Director to see if Timmons, the design engineer, had included the O & M Manual in their scope of work. Timmons was contacted and quickly produced the O & M Manual for the dechlorination facility and the cascade aeration facility but stated that Dewberry may have completed the O & M Manual for the effluent lines. Dewberry was not the design engineer, did not oversee the project, and the O & M Manual was not in their scope of work. Timmons has stated that they would provide and O & M Manual for the effluent line.

We will need to pay a fee for the update to the O & M Manual with the additions of the dechlorination facility, cascade aeration, and effluent line. Also to be included in the O & M Manual is the added communication system and the modification of the dechlorination facility to meet Sewage Collection and Treatment Regulations (SCAT).

Upon completion of the discussion, Mr. Smith made a motion to proceed with the O & M Manual updates at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Filer and carried 7-0.

K. Closed Session

Next meeting date - The next business meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2022. Mr. Foster and Mr. Kies will not attend the July meeting.

L. Adjournment

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, Mr. Hardy made a motion to adjourn at 7:03 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Filer and carried 7-0.

BY ORDER OF:

Judson Foster
Chairman
LOUISA COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY