

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Cleveland County Water Board Room

June 10, 2025
Tuesday, 6:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Donald Melton; presiding, Vice Chairman Bill Cameron, Secretary Amy Elliott Bridges Commissioners Tony Brooks, Bruce Martin, Pamela P. Maddox and Pete Pedersen. Attorney Delton W. Barnes and General Manager Brad Cornwell were present.

Chairman Donald Melton called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, welcomed all who were in attendance and recognized Commissioner Pamela Maddox who gave the invocation and Commissioner Pete Pedersen led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

A. Approval of Agenda:

Chairman Melton asked Commissioners if anyone had any questions related to the adoption of the agenda. Chairman Melton requested a motion to adopt the agenda as amended.

ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mr. Cameron and second by Mr. Pederson, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the agenda.

B. Public Hearing

1) Proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Annual Operating Budget for Cleveland County Water

The public hearing was opened at 6:02, upon a motion made by Mr. Pedersen and seconded by Mr. Cameron, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to open the public hearing.

Mr. Cornwell noted that nobody requested to speak at the public hearing. The legal ads for public hearing were published in the Shelby Star newspaper. Mr. Cornwell mentioned that the advertisement contained instructions for public comments. No such written documentation or telephone calls were received by the General Manager.

The public hearing was closed at 6:03, upon a motion made by Mr. Cameron and seconded by Mrs. Maddox, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

- a. Consideration of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Budget Ordinance:
Ordinance No. 8-2025
ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mr. Pedersen, second by Mr. Cameron, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance Number 8-2025 *Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Budget Ordinance: Ordinance No. 8-2025*
- b. Consideration of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Supplemental Budget Ordinance No. 9-2025
ACTION TAKEN: Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mrs. Maddox, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance Number 9-2025 *Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Supplemental Budget Ordinance No. 9-2025*

C. Public Comment

No public comments were presented.

D. Consent Agenda:

ACTION TAKEN: Chairman Melton presented the Consent Agenda Items. Upon a motion by Mr. Brooks, second by Mr. Cameron, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

- 1) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 13, 2025
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the Closed Session of May 20, 2025
- 3) Consideration of Ordinance Number 7-2025 An Ordinance Amendment for a Capital Project Ordinance and Budgets for Cleveland County Water's Flocculation and Sedimentation Improvements Project
- 4) Consideration of Resolution Number 19-2025 A Resolution By Cleveland County Water for the Hurricane Helene Grant for Regionalization with the Town of Kingstown Project Number HEL-RTA-01
- 5) Consideration of Resolution Number 20-2025 A Resolution By Cleveland County Water for the Hurricane Helene Grant for Regionalization with the Town of Grover Project Number HEL-RTA-03
- 6) Considerations of Resolution Number 21-2025 A Resolution Approving Membership in the Carolina Public Entity Cooperative for the Purposes of Employer Provided Health Insurance

7) Consideration of Ordinance Number 10-2025 A FY 2024-2025 Ordinance
Amendment No. 2 for Cleveland County Water

E. Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business at this time.

F. New Business:

There was none at this time.

G. General Manager's Report:

Mr. Cornwell introduced the Finance Director, Ginger Fern, to present the financial reports. Mrs. Fern noted that her presentation would be the financial report for May and that she would provide an update on the interim audit. The local options sales tax was 25% better than budgeted for eleven months of the twelve-month period. The salary accounts for May are increased because five payrolls were paid in the month of May. The maintenance materials account for May has a negative balance because of the capital project transfer in the amount of \$24,000.00 for the North Lafayette Street water line materials. The yearly software subscription fee for Tyler Technologies was due and paid in the amount of \$82,776.00. The auditors conducted the interim financial audit during the week of May 12, 2025. The audit was completed virtually with no on-site visits. The Senior Manager, Matt Braswell, at Martin & Starnes noted appreciation for the hard work and no findings or issues have been reported. The final portion of the audit will be conducted during the last week of August. Michelle Alexander, Customer Service Director, continued with the disconnection and billing report. The numbers are in the agenda packet for reference. The billing usage showed an increase of 16.5% and the billing revenue increased 11.3%. The call notification system for disconnections continues to work well. There were 345 accounts locked for nonpayment. There were 193 leak telephone calls with only 15 adjustments. There were 114 payments collected at the Lawndale KIOSK. Mr. Cornwell referred the members to the project sheet located at their seats. It was noted that several projects are nearing completion and will be removed from the project sheet. Mr. Cornwell noted appreciation to Garrett Gilbert, Water Plant Superintendent and Chris Hayes, Project Manager, for their hard work in updating the projects and overseeing the projects every day. The maintenance and water plant numbers are included in the packet for reference. Mr. Cornwell recognized

Mr. Gilbert and Mrs. Esther Porter, Human Resource Manager, for their work in improving safety at CCW. There have been several changes made to employee safety, including the addition of monthly safety meetings and the recent addition of a safety committee. Mr. Cornwell introduced Mr. Gilbert and Mrs. Porter to share information about a recent award that the District received. Mrs. Porter reported that they attended the NC Department of Labor Safety Awards banquet last month. The District was awarded the gold award. Mrs. Porter explained that the gold award means that there were no lost days of work due to injuries. There were also no restrictions or transfers, this means that no light duty or special accommodation was required. Mr. Cornwell noted appreciation for the injury free year and the hard work of the staff for maintaining safety. Mr. Cameron inquired about the Mooresboro interchange. Mr. Cornwell noted that the work pertaining to the water lines has not begun yet. The grading for the site has begun. The NC Public Water Supply has not permitted the project yet. Mr. Pedersen asked if all the conflicts had been addressed. Mr. Cornwell clarified that the conflict was the result of several utilities being inside the same construction zone. The conflicts were not just the District but included all utilities affected in this construction site. Mr. Pedersen inquired about the roundabout on the interstate. Mrs. Bridges noted that the roundabout would not be on the actual interstate but on the road to Lattimore.

H. Board Members Announcement and Remarks

The members noted appreciation for hard work and service. Mr. Brooks noted appreciation for all the hard work on the fiscal year budget. Mrs. Maddox noted her regret in not being at the budget workshop. She noted appreciation for the mailing which included the well written budget documentation. This information allowed her to be educated in making her vote for the budget hearing at this meeting.

I. Adjournment

Action Taken: Chairman Melton called for a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion by Mr. Cameron, second by Mr. Brooks, the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:15 PM.



Respectfully submitted,

Amy Elliott Bridges, Secretary