

## MINUTES

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission, Regular Meeting, held at 200 Commerce Street, Spartanburg, SC, January 27, 2026, at 2:15 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 Dr. Amaechi, Mses. Barnes, and Messrs. Blanton, Montgomery, Rice, Swayngim and Willard. No one was absent.

Attendees: Guy Boyle, Cam Cole, Gene Jackson, Rick Jolley, Remsen Parrish, Kevin Smith, Ken Tuck, Corey Reid, Kevin Brown, Jennifer Candler, Hariette Stinson, John Harris, CJ Armour, Darius Murry, Jason Cass, Jon Morgan, George Brooks, Trish Heatherington, Bobby Walden, Horace Littlejohn, Dr. Huddleston, guests of Dr. Octavia Amaechi, and public guests.

Dr. Octavia Amaechi, MD, was sworn in at 1:45 p.m. in the Commission room, prior to the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission meeting.

The meeting was opened with the following statement:

This is a regular meeting of the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission. 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 mailed to local and nearby news media, at least 24 hours prior to this meeting.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Commission Chair, Louie Blanton, called the meeting to order.

### **2. INVOCATION**

Mayor Rice opened with a prayer.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 2, 2025**

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

### **4. PETITIONS AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Blanton noted that the Commission received one request to speak and the allotted time is three minutes. Mr. Blanton asked the speaker to come to the podium and state his name and address.

Mr. Charles Mann came forward and stated, my name is Charles Mann. I live at Faulkner Drive in Moore, SC. Members of the Commission, my comments are mostly directed toward Mayor Jerome Rice and the greater body on integrity. Mr. Mayor your constituents are wondering why you have been silent concerning the hasty and illegitimate appointment of Dillon Swayngim to the Public Works Commission. In the eyes of the people who voted for you and the greater Spartanburg community, do you support this hasty, illegitimate appointment led by CPW Chairman, John Montgomery. Mr. Montgomery, along with Horace Littlejohn appointed this man without public input or comment. The man who lost the election to Dr. Amaechi.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

The eyes on this manner observed that her swearing in was scheduled after the December 4 meeting. He was a loser in the Citywide vote and yet he was selected to the Commission even before the dually elected representative was sworn in. That was and is just wrong. Mr. Montgomery knows it's wrong, you know it's wrong, and other members of the Commission know it's wrong, and yet you have said nothing, and you have done nothing. If losers to public elections can be appointed by their bosses, why have elections. This appointment spits in the face of public elections. Mr. Mayor, I call on you to explain to the City of Spartanburg why this is acceptable and why this is okay. Your constituents deserve to know where their Mayor stands on such an ugly, disrespectful act of someone who sits with you and will vote with you. Please restore the integrity to this body. Thank you.

Mr. Blanton thanked Mr. Mann for his comments.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NONE**

**AGENDA ITEMS 5-9 FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT**

**5. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

A financial summary of SSSD revenues and expenditures for the first half of the year, July 1 through December 31, 2025, were reviewed 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.

**6. COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM REPORT**

Remsen Parrish provided the Commission with the annual 2025 report on the Community Benefit Program. In April 2015, the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission and The Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, SC approved a revision to the procurement policy to incorporate the Community Benefit Program. The Community Benefit Program provides vendors the opportunity through contracts, agreements, and requests for sealed bids or proposal to propose a program that will benefit the local community. Programs can include monetary donations, in-kind contributions, volunteering, etc. The programs are centered on five areas: Workforce Development, Economic Development, Environmental Programs, Education, and Community Pride.

Participating vendors contributed \$9,015 to the local community in 2025 through four different Community Benefit Programs. Since April of 2015, vendors have contributed over \$140,000 in either monetary donations, volunteer hours, or in-kind contributions as a part of the Community Benefit Program. This year's monetary donations were made by four vendors to the Spartanburg YMCA, Hope Center for Children, United Way of the Piedmont, and Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

## **7. SAFETY TRAINING AND INCIDENT REPORT**

Safety is one of our Core Values. We lead with safety as a topic in every leadership meeting and daily interaction. A major element of this core value and of our safety program is the performance of safety observations, regular, repetitive safety training, and the timely reporting of accidents and near misses.

Mr. Boyle stated that the Safety Program was revamped in 2023. When the new Spartanburg Water Values were established in 2025 one of the key areas is safety for employees and for the public good. John Harris has been very instrumental in implementing this program and having a new focus on safety.

John Harris, Safety Coordinator, presented the annual Safety Training and Incident Data Report to the Commission for the 2025 calendar year. Mr. Harris stated that all Leadership Team meetings start with a safety topic, and since the Commission room was recently renovated, Mr. Harris reviewed Emergency Preparedness including exits, routes, assembly area, locations of emergency equipment, and know what to do in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Harris noted that Spartanburg Water is unique in the fact that employees are working in various areas to include facilities and out in the community. Presently, 42 of 48 policies have been updated and three new policies have been added. All facilities have had site safety inspections conducted. Training on all Health and Safety policies are being delivered to all employees via Teams or classroom, to better meet employee schedules. Personal Protective equipment (PPE) is being evaluated with comfort and wearability in mind. During calendar year 2025: 273 employees worked 555,254 hours, 200 vehicles with over 2,000,000 miles driven, over 640 hours on safety training, 56 different safety topics reviewed, 53 incidents/accidents occurred.

Mr. Harris shared a video made by employees regarding safety titled, Make it Safe, Make it Personal, Make it Home. The Commission appreciated this video and update.

Mr. Willard asked for clarification on chargeable vs. non-chargeable incidents and accidents. Mr. Harris stated that Department Managers determine if the incident could have been prevented or if it is our fault.

Mr. Boyle stated that monthly managers' safety meetings are held to go over all incidents, accidents, and near misses. Recommendations are discussed and/or implemented, including anything that could affect the public.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

## **8. 2025 ANNUAL RECRUITMENT REPORT**

In 2023, management began preparing and providing a year-end report of recruitment efforts and recruitment philosophy over the previous year.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

Mr. Boyle introduced Darius Murry, Human Resources Specialist. Mr. Murry's role began in 2023 and includes recruitment. Mr. Murry provided the Commission with an overview of 2025 recruitment. When a vacancy occurs, the department hiring manager develops a plan to fill the position. The vacancy will proceed through an internal and external application process. The internal application process allows employees an opportunity for promotion. For all positions open to the public, the vacancy may be advertised through the website, recruitment firms, colleges, career fairs, etc.

Spartanburg Water continues to increase their presence in the community by attending career/job fairs at local colleges, high schools, technical colleges and trade schools. Employees from different departments participate in these events to show students jobs that are available in the water and sewer industry. Spartanburg Water participates in quarterly OneSpartanburg Talent Council meetings, H2O Roundtable meetings with other utilities, and participates in the SCEC Workforce Collaborative.

Spartanburg Water strives to pick the right candidate by using interview panels, pre-employment assessment testing, and third-party staffing agencies assistance with niche jobs. All candidates are fairly evaluated and selected based on job-related qualifications. Compensation guidelines and philosophy are provided. This guide outlines Spartanburg Water System's total rewards philosophy. Employees are able to understand how they can expect to be compensated through merit, promotion, transfer, and regression processes.

Mr. Murry stated that Spartanburg Water has filled or backfilled 36 vacancies. Eight vacancies were filled internally and 28 through external hires. There were 29 career path progressions and three retirees in 2025. Human Resources is currently recruiting for six positions. Statistical data for departments, race, and gender were reviewed, along with turnover by departments. Mr. Murry discussed the Spartanburg Water Internship Program, noting that since 2023, this program has proudly supported and developed 24 bright high school and college students.

Mr. Murry stated that with the Recruitment Program in place, total requisitions have decreased by 58% from 2022 to 2025, reflecting improved employee retention and reduced turnover year over year. Target Goal in 2023 was to work towards an annual turnover below 15% by end of year 2025. The 2025 turnover was 14.1%.

Mr. Boyle spoke of the financial impacts of turnover and provided statistical financial data regarding these turnovers. In 2022, financial investment in employees who left: ~\$8.4 million from a 34.5% turnover. In 2025 financial investment in employees who left ~\$4.3 million from a 14.1% turnover. Spartanburg Water has over 40 disciplines and two career paths; college and non-college. Management and staff have developed relationships with local colleges and schools to make students aware of career opportunities available at Spartanburg Water.

Management believes employee retention has been improved due to several reasons: a good company culture, employee engagement, attractive employer brand, and increased impact on our employee talent.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

During employee recruitment, applicants now have clear and upfront job overviews, facility tours, clear and transparent communication regarding job expectations and performance standards, clear guidance on opportunities to grow and advance within the organization, reinforce the company's values and mission across the organization, engaged workplace culture, and enforcing a company-wide open-door policy with access to Human Resources, leadership, and supervisors.

Dr. Amaechi complimented the report and noted that possibly adding another category that allows people to self-identify would align with best practices for 2026.

Mayor Rice asked about internships working with Spartanburg Water. Mr. Murry stated there are three this semester. Mr. Boyle stated that garage mechanics, watershed, drinking water treatment, etc., are departments that utilize interns. These interns are brought on throughout the year, not just semesters. Mr. Boyle noted that seasonal help is an area that opens opportunity for a career with Spartanburg Water. One employee worked as a seasonal lake employee and pursued a career with Spartanburg Water and currently is a Director.

Mr. Willard asked how many budgeted full-time positions are currently unfilled. Mr. Murry stated six. Mr. Willard asked how that compared to 2-3 years ago. Mr. Murry did not know the exact number but offered to provide that information.

Mr. Willard noted that several years ago, at the Chief Executive Officer's recommendation, the Commission approved a pay scale upgrade and asked if that helped to attract and retain employees. Mr. Murry agreed that it did but noted that culture has improved and that is important to employees, also having the compensation guidelines and philosophy to assist with career paths and financial implications has been a big part of reducing the turnover.

Mr. Boyle stated that the pay-scale upgrade helped retain employees and attract new employees. Wages were not competitive in 2022. Water and Sewer Operators and other positions are skilled positions that require the proper training to perform the duties required. Management believes the pay structure, culture, and increased awareness of Spartanburg Water being an organization to pursue a career has contributed to lowering the employee turnover. This is an ongoing process, and management will continue to explore ways to continue improving retention.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

## **9. 2025 EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM REPORT**

In 2024, management launched a "health and wellness program" for employees. Hariette Stinson, Human Resources Manager, provided the Commission with a report on wellness efforts over the prior two years.

Mr. Boyle stated that the Wellness Program was launched to ask employees to be more focused on taking personal ownership of their health and to address the unsustainable rising costs of health insurance.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

Ms. Stinson noted that in August 2023, Spartanburg Water partnered with Engagement Health Group to provide all employees with a comprehensive and valuable health and wellness program. Spartanburg Water collaborated with Engagement Health Group to design and implement a program to accomplish the following: provide insights to each of our team members on their current state of health and wellbeing, support a healthy workforce to ensure exceptional service for our community, improve the financial viability of our self-funded insurance plan, and help keep employee insurance premiums affordable.

First year employee requirements were to enroll and complete Health Assessment, attend health screening for cholesterol, A1C and blood pressure, attend a results review with the provided health coach if high or moderate risk, attend 6 – behavioral health coaching meetings during the year if high or moderate risk. In 2024, completion of one health promotion activity during the program year was added.

In 2024, a total of 93 participants completed their Results Reviews with the Health Coach. With ongoing coaching throughout the year, 18 participants moved from high or moderate risk to low risk. Coaching remains a key factor in the positive change both to individuals and to the overall culture. Participants maintained or improved in every major health category from Year 1 to Year 2 with the largest improvement in lowering LDL cholesterol. Participation increased from 55% in 2023-2024 to 60% in 2024-2025. Participants remain better than the national average in every category except BMI. One participant moved their A1C a full point down from 6.4% to 5.4%. This was accomplished with diet, activity and improved sleep, not with medication. One participant is down 23 lbs., one lost nine inches in their waist, one dropped A1C from prediabetic to healthy range and lost 70 lbs. Accountability with Health Coaches that provide education, motivation, and guidance have been key to improving health.

Ms. Stinson reviewed additional data from program Year 1 compared to program Year 2. The Wellness Program has had a positive impact on sick time cost. Less sick hours used, imply healthier employees and less cost. The EHG Wellness Program for Spartanburg Water has resulted in substantial risk reduction among participants, with significant annual savings realized through risk factor elimination and overall risk level migration. Every \$1 invested in the program yields \$2.58 in direct medical savings and \$7.76 in total savings, including indirect benefits. The average program cost over the years has been approximately \$76,000, with total annual savings estimated at \$589,755.

Management continues to look at how to improve engagement and develop a culture of wellness, while improving the health of Spartanburg Water's employees.

Dr. Amaechi asked if Engagement Health Group tracks and keeps up with the data collected. Ms. Stinson confirmed that they do.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

Dr. Amaechi stated that often it's the leg work of the people of the organization that contributes to these programs failing. Employees do not want Spartanburg Water to know their medical information, and it helps that Human Resources can say they have no idea of the employee's information.

Mr. Boyle noted that there is a trust factor that keeps some employees from participating, it appears that more employees are participating each year over the previous year and hopefully this trend will continue. Mr. Boyle stated as CEO, he wanted to implement this before just passing along increased insurance premiums. It is gaining momentum, and management wishes more would take advantage of the opportunity.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

## **AGENDA ITEM 10            OPERATIONS**

### **10.    A. MANNING LYNCH DEWATERING PAD – ENGINEERING SERVICES**

During routine vacuum truck cleaning activities around collection lines and pump station wet wells, the Collections and Distribution (C&D) personnel travel to the A. Manning Lynch facility to decant the liquid waste and then back to the C&D Complex for deposition of solids. Depositing the solids in the collection area is a very inefficient and costly process due to travel time and the deposition of waste once it is dumped.

To gain efficiencies and save overall costs, the installation of a dewatering pad at the A. Manning Lynch facility is being designed. This work will involve the siting and location of the dewatering pad, the connection of the pad-drain to the wastewater system, and an adequate turnaround space for a Spartanburg Water vacuum truck.

Management recommended hiring KCI Technologies, Inc., to complete the design work at a cost not to exceed \$39,000. Funding will be provided through operating funds.

Rick Jolley provided the Commission with an overview of the A. Manning Lynch Dewatering Pad – Engineering Services agenda item. Advantages of this project will include less travel time and less waste. Mr. Jolley noted fuel savings and increased efficiency from dumping on-site versus hauling waste to another location. The C&D site has rocks and aggregate that end up in waste and increase cost due to weight.

The proposed dump station will be a sloped concrete pad with a ring of mulch to prevent the drain from plugging. Management has made site visits and believes this project will be best suited for SSSD.

Mr. Willard asked when the Commission would expect a report back.  
Mr. Jolley stated probably 30-60 days.

Mr. Blanton asked what size the pad would be. Mr. Jolley stated that the size will be determined during the design phase.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

Dr. Amaechi asked why KCI Technologies, Inc., was selected for the project. Is there a relationship there, or are other companies considered. Mr. Jolly stated that engineering services management will match up with the best vendor that could work with SSSD on the project. Different vendors are often selected to work with SSSD depending on the size of the facility and project, and sometimes the project will go through the Request for Proposal process.

Mr. Montgomery moved and Mayor Rice seconded the motion to approve management's recommendation to hire KCI Technologies, Inc., to complete the design work at a cost not to exceed \$39,000. The motion passed unanimously.

## **AGENDA ITEMS 11-12 ENGINEERING**

### **11. OWNERSHIP AGREEMENT – IRBY GLEN**

TMC Development, LLC proposes to construct approximately 1,845 linear feet of 8-inch gravity sewer line to provide service to 45 residential lots in Irby Glen located off Irby Road. The sewer line will connect to the existing SSSD infrastructure. The domestic waste will be treated at the South Tyger River Wastewater Treatment Facility. SSSD will participate in the off-site sewer construction cost in accordance with the Sewer Extension Policy adopted January 26, 2023.

The line will be constructed according to District-approved plans and specifications, with District inspection provided. The owner will provide all necessary right-of-way and easement agreements for this project.

The form of the agreement transferring ownership of the gravity sewer to the District has been reviewed by the District's attorney and executed by TMC Development, LLC. Under the terms of the resolution adopted by the Commission on January 26, 2023, this agreement has been executed on behalf of the Commission by the Chief Executive Officer.

Gene Jackson provided the Commission with an overview of the Ownership Agreement for Irby Glen.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

### **12. OWNERSHIP AGREEMENT – WAKEFIELD SUBDIVISION**

Holly Drive Properties, Inc., proposes to construct approximately 1,163 linear feet of 8-inch gravity sewer line to provide service to 31 residential lots in Wakefield Subdivision located off Stallion Road. The sewer line will connect to the existing SSSD infrastructure. The domestic waste will be treated at the A. Manning Lynch Wastewater Treatment Facility. SSSD will participate in the off-site sewer construction cost in accordance with the Sewer Extension Policy adopted January 26, 2023.

The line will be constructed according to District-approved plans and specifications, with District inspection provided. The owner will provide all necessary right-of-way and easement agreements for this project.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

The form of the agreement transferring ownership of the gravity sewer to the District has been reviewed by the District's attorney and executed by Holly Drive Properties, Inc. Under the terms of the resolution adopted by the Commission on January 26, 2023, this agreement has been executed on behalf of the Commission by the Chief Executive Officer.

Gene Jackson provided the Commission with an overview of the Ownership Agreement for Wakefield Subdivision.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

### **13. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

**A.** Jennifer Candler provided the Commission with an overview of the 2025 Choose Tap Program. Ms. Candler reminded the Commission that the new Choose Tap van and mobile refill station was unveiled in 2025. The Choose Tap Team supported 44 community events and provided 5,035 reusable water bottles. A total of 125 coolers were loaned out in 2025 through our Choose Tap Cooler Program.

**B.** Mr. Boyle noted that Rick Jolley would provide the Commission with an update on the large main waterline break on Highway 221 that happened in December. Mr. Boyle stated that he reached out to City Council, County Council, and Legislators to ensure they were kept informed of the break and the timeline for the repairs. The initial projected timeline and cost for repairs were 14-15 days and a cost of approximately \$500,000. Mr. Boyle was pleased to share that the project was completed in 4 ½ days at a cost of \$120,000.

Rick Jolley provided the Commission with an overview of the project repairs and timeline. Mr. Jolley noted that the most challenging part of the project was the depth of the line. The 20" line was installed in the 1950's and then several years later the bridge was raised which added more cover on top of the line resulting in a line that was once 15' deep was now 30' deep. Crews had to navigate around sewer lines because you can't just shut a 30" sewer main off. There was a 15" line to that was for overflow and crews were able to shut it off. The line break was able to be isolated and shut off quickly but that resulted in discolored water.

Ms. Barnes asked if management knows what caused the break. Mr. Jolley stated that there are a lot of reasons for main breaks. The cast iron pipe had been in the ground for a long time. The cast iron will get weak and brittle. When crews removed the pipe, they were able to see the split. The split was 13-14 feet long and about ½ inch wide.

Mr. Swayngim asked if ductile was used to repair the line. Mr. Jolley confirmed it was repaired with ductile.

A 15" sewer line had to be moved to perform the waterline repair.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

This was a true testament to Corey Reid and the C&D group coming together as a team to plan and execute this repair.

Mr. Boyle noted that Corey Reid was promoted to the Collection and Distribution System Manager in 2024. This is the largest department representing approximately 95 employees. Mr. Jolley noted that the recent promotion of a 41-year employee to a planning position also contributed to this project and made sure it was implemented and followed throughout the process. The team took the time needed to plan this repair to achieve the best outcome and that contributed to the success of this project.

- C. Mr. Boyle stated that the third annual Holiday Party was held on December 11 at the Spartanburg Marriott. It was a good event and employees enjoyed the evening.
- D. Mr. Boyle provided the Commission with information regarding preparation for the recent weather storm.
- E. Mr. Boyle noted that Disney Frozen Jr., presented by the Spartanburg Youth Theatre in December, was sponsored by Spartanburg Water. Percy the penguin appeared with Olof the snowman from Frozen Jr.
- F. Mr. Boyle stated that Spartanburg Water attendees enjoyed the Mayor's Unity Breakfast and Spartanburg Water was a Justice for All sponsor.
- G. Mr. Boyle shared of a recent event where a female using the rail trail was approached by two males until another trail user came along and spooked them away. Partners for Active Living (PAL) has reached out to the community for assistance with funding to install four security cameras on various areas of the rail trail. Two of the areas in need of cameras would provide direct sight on above ground sewer infrastructure. Management has been concerned about SSSD infrastructure in these secluded areas and feel providing two cameras would fit into our security plan by monitoring this infrastructure.
- H. Mr. Boyle noted the Calendar of events and reminded the Commission that Governor Henry McMaster signed the Water Professional's Day bill in 2024, recognizing the first Monday in March as Water Professional's Day. This year Water Professional's Day will be on Monday, March 2.
- I. Mr. Boyle informed the Commission that the upcoming South Carolina Environmental Conference (SCEC) will be held March 15-18 in Myrtle Beach, SC. There will be teams competing in hydrant hysteria, meter madness, pipe tapping, and best tasting water. Please let Trish know if you would like to attend.
- J. Mr. Boyle noted that SSSD is still providing influent samples to the SC Department of Public Health to be monitored for the Measles outbreak. Dr. Amaechi asked if they are required to disclose or provide documentation of everything they are sampling for. Mr. Jolley stated

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

they send an abbreviate report. Mr. Boyle stated SSSD only provides the influent sample, nothing else. Dr. Amaechi noted that a lot of industries want to know what is in the water and recommended confirming that they only use it for what they say they are, nothing else. Mr. Jolley confirmed staff is being very cautious with the process.

- K. Mr. Boyle provided an update and information regarding the status of the HomeServe program that Spartanburg Water is allowing to process with the Spartanburg Water logo. Mailers will begin distribution on February 4.

**14. REFERRALS**

Mr. Boyle noted that an executive session for security will be on the February agenda. Finance and Administration will have a generator preventative maintenance contract. Operations will have an SSO report. Engineering will have two professional services agreements and three annexation agreements.

Mr. Willard asked if the Commission could get an update on ARPA funded projects. Mr. Boyle stated that management will provide an update to the Commission at an upcoming meeting.

Dr. Amaechi asked about an update on the Watershed Grants that were recently approved by the Commission. Ken Tuck stated that the grants will be awarded tomorrow, Wednesday, January 28. There will also be photos and press releases pertaining to the grants.

**15. RESOLUTION TO HONOR SERVICE OF A LONG-TENURED EMPLOYEE**

Mr. Blanton asked Mr. Montgomery to call the Commission of Public Works meeting into joint session with the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission.

Mr. Montgomery asked for a motion to call the Commission of Public Works meeting into joint session with the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission. Dr. Amaechi moved and Mr. Swayngim seconded the motion to enter into joint session with the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Blanton stated that SSSD Agenda Item #15 is a Joint Resolution to Honor Mr. Bobby Walden for 48 years of dedicated service to Spartanburg Water and the Spartanburg County Community.

Mr. Montgomery stated that SWS Agenda Item #1 is a Joint Resolution to Honor Mr. Bobby Walden for 48 years of dedicated service to Spartanburg Water and the Spartanburg County Community.

Mr. Blanton stated this item consists of two Joint Resolutions to Honor Mr. Bobby Walden for 48 years of dedicated service to Spartanburg Water, especially the Collection and Distribution Division of Spartanburg Water as well as the Spartanburg County Community overall.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

Mr. Montgomery stated the first Resolution presented here today, Honors Mr. Bobby Walden for 48 years of dedicated service to Spartanburg Water, especially the Collection and Distribution Division, and if I may ask our Chief Executive Officer, Guy Boyle, to read the Resolution now.

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
OF  
THE COMMISSION OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY OF  
SPARTANBURG,  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
AND  
THE SPARTANBURG SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT**

IN RECOGNITION OF

***ROBERT F. WALDEN***

WHEREAS, ***ROBERT F. WALDEN***, was employed by Spartanburg Water on June 14, 1977; and,

WHEREAS, ***ROBERT F. WALDEN***, has diligently and faithfully pursued the goal of rendering excellent service to Spartanburg Water as Chief Operating Officer and to its customers, thereby earning the respect and loyalty of his colleagues and the Members of the Commission of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, South Carolina, and the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District; and,

WHEREAS, ***ROBERT F. WALDEN***, has also served the Commission of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, South Carolina, and the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District in a professional manner; and,

WHEREAS, ***ROBERT F. WALDEN***, originally began his career with Spartanburg Water as an Apprentice Laborer in the Maintenance and Construction Department; and,

WHEREAS, ***ROBERT F. WALDEN***, was promoted to and held the positions of Assistant Superintendent for Maintenance and Construction, Assistant Department Manager for Maintenance and Construction, Department Manager for Maintenance and Construction, Director of Water Distribution and Collection, and most recently served as the Chief Operating Officer for Spartanburg Water; and,

WHEREAS, ***ROBERT F. WALDEN***, has conducted himself in a manner which reflected positively on Spartanburg Water for over forty-eight years; and,

WHEREAS, ***ROBERT F. WALDEN***, has now elected to retire from his position as, ***Chief Operating Officer*** for ***Spartanburg Water*** on ***January 9, 2026***.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chairman of the Commission of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, South Carolina, and the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District, along with the other Members of the Commissions express their sincere appreciation and deepest gratitude to ***ROBERT F. WALDEN*** for ***over 48 years*** of dedicated and distinguished service to Spartanburg Water, its customers, and the citizens of Spartanburg County.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Members of the **COMMISSION OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY OF SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND THE SPARTANBURG SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT**, have hereunto set their hands and caused the seal of both organizations to be affixed this **27th day of January, 2026**.

**The Commissioners of Public Works  
of the City of Spartanburg, South Carolina**

**Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District  
Commission**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
John D. Montgomery, Chairperson

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Louie W. Blanton, Chairperson

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Octavia Amaechi, MD

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Woody Willard, Vice Chairperson

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dillon I. Swayngim

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara J. Barnes

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Octavia Amaechi, MD

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
John D. Montgomery

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dillon I. Swayngim

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Jerome Rice, Jr.

Both Commissions and attendees applauded and congratulated Mr. Walden.

Mr. Walden stated that he was very honored and humbled by the Resolution and appreciated serving with his coworkers and friends.

Mr. Blanton stated the second Resolution presented here today honors Mr. Bobby Walden for 48 years of dedicated service to Spartanburg Water and the naming of the Spartanburg Water Collection and Distribution building located at 345 South Avenue, to the Spartanburg Water, "Bobby F. Walden Collection and Distribution Building" and affixing this formal name change to the outside of the building. If I may ask our Chief Executive Officer, Guy Boyle, to read the Resolution now.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
OF  
THE COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY OF  
SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA  
AND  
THE SPARTANBURG SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT  
NAMING THE SPARTANBURG WATER C&D BUILDING**

**WHEREAS**, Robert “Bobby” F. Walden served Spartanburg Water since June 14, 1977; and

**WHEREAS**, through his tireless leadership, pursued the goal of rendering excellent service to Spartanburg Water as Chief Operations Officer and to its customers, thereby earning the respect and loyalty of his colleagues and the Members of the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, South Carolina, and the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District; and

**WHEREAS**, Robert “Bobby” F. Walden has conducted himself in a manner which reflects positively on Spartanburg Water over the course of a forty-eight-year career; and

**WHEREAS**, the naming of a facility is an appropriate recognition for such a distinguished person; and

**WHEREAS**, the Spartanburg Water C&D building is where Robert “Bobby” F. Walden spent the majority of his career with Spartanburg Water guiding the Collections & Distribution Division,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg South Carolina and by the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District hereby names the Spartanburg Water C&D Building the “Spartanburg Water - Bobby F. Walden Collections and Distribution Building” in honor of Robert “Bobby” F. Walden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg South Carolina and the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District directs that an appropriate ceremony be held to mark the naming of the “Spartanburg Water - Bobby F. Walden Collections and Distribution Building” at an appropriate time and date to install the new signage.

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John D. Montgomery, Chairman  
Commissioners of Public Works of the City  
of Spartanburg South Carolina

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Louie W. Blanton, Chairman  
Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District

Both Commissions and attendees applauded and congratulated Mr. Walden.

Mr. Walden thanked the Commission for this Resolution.

Mr. Blanton asked for a motion to approve both Joint Resolutions to honor Mr. Bobby Walden.

Ms. Barnes moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to approve both Joint Resolutions. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Blanton stated if there was no further Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District business he would accept a motion to adjourn the SSSD meeting.

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission – Regular Meeting,  
January 27, 2026

Mayor Rice moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to adjourn the SSSD meeting.

Mr. Montgomery stated that the Commission of Public Works will remain in session and will resume following a brief break.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

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Camlyn M. Cole  
Secretary-Treasurer

tbh