EDGEFIELD COUNTY WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The September Regular Board of Directors Meeting of Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority was held on September 23, 2024, starting at 5:30 p.m. at 100 Waterworks Rd., Edgefield, SC (ECWSA Administrative Building). No individual or organization requested a copy of the Agenda. Notice of this Board of Directors Meeting was posted in the Administration Office 4 weeks prior to meeting and the Agenda was posted September 19, 2024.

CALL TO ORDER: Kennamer, 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Smith

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kennamer, Smith, Clark, Creswell, Kitchens, Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Washington

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator Hare, Business Manager Hope Carroway

GUEST PRESENT: Jed Jacob, Mauldin & Jenkins

AGENDA: A motion was made by Johnson to approve the September 23, 2024 Agenda. Second by Smith. Vote unanimous to approve the agenda.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Johnson to approve the August 26, 2024 Minutes. Second by Kitchens. Vote unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT FY 2024 AUDIT: Jed Jacob presented the draft of the ECWSA FY 2024 Financial Audit. Overall, the Authority's finances are in excellent shape, and the final draft should be ready for presentation at the October 2024 meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: After the reading of the bank balances, Administrator Hare discussed the Financial Statement ending July 31, 2024. Budget should be at 16.67%, Revenues were at 21.72% and Expenses were at 16.71%. Water and sewer sales were up compared to 2023.

REPORTS:

John Hare, Administrator covered the following items during the report section:

- A brief update was given on the Sewer Force main Project and the WTP SCIIP Project. A completion schedule has been requested from the contractor.
- The Board Christmas dinner will be held on December 2 at 6 pm.
- There have been no final answers on the wastewater capacity issues in the Regional Sewer system. Administrator Hare is continuing to work with all parties on this issue.

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BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE WATER USERS RULES & REGULATIONS
Administrator Hare presented minor changes to the Water Users Rules and Regulations to include a new sewer rates in response to the increase from the City of North Augusta.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
)	RESOLUTION No. 04-2024
EDGEFIELD COUNTY	ý	
	,	Revising Sewer Charges and Fees by amending Section IV of the Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority's
		User Rules and Regulations

Whereas, the Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority (the Authority) is a body Corporate and Politic and a Special Purpose District, created by Act No. 571 of the Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, regular session of 1967, as amended, whereby the Authority is given the function to acquire, construct and operate a waterworks and sewer system within its service area, which consists of the territory of Edgefield County, South Carolina and a small area in the Southwestern corner of Aiken County, South Carolina, exclusive of any area within an incorporated municipality which owns and operates a municipal water works system;

Whereas, in order to perform its statutory function to operate and maintain the waterworks and sewer system, the Authority is authorized to adjust water and sewer rates as needed;

Whereas, each residential, commercial or industrial customer of the Authority's system must pay such customer's proportionate share of costs for operation and maintenance of the system; In addition, each customer must pay an amount to share the costs of debt service and to provide for Depreciation / Contingency funds;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Board of Directors of the Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority, that a resolution approving the revised schedules of water and sewer charges and fees is adopted.

Effective as of September 23, 2024, Section IV Classes and Charges for Sewer Service of the Water and Sewer User Rules and Regulations are hereby amended and when amended shall read as follows:

1. Water Service Charge For All Classes

	Meter S	<u>Size</u>	Meter	· Size
	3/4"	\$20.27	3"	\$201.32
	1"	\$33.62	4"	\$335.39
	1-1/2"	\$67.03	6"	\$671.01
	2"	\$107.30	8"	\$1073.66
			10"	\$1717.88
2.	Residen	itial Water Rates		
	First 8,0	000 Gallons		\$3.14 Per 1,000 Gallons
	8,001-1	6,000 Gallons		\$4.02 Per 1,000 Gallons
	16,001-	24,000 Gallons		\$4.65 Per 1,000 Gallons
	24,001-	32,000 Gallons		\$5.20 Per 1,000 Gallons
	Over 32	2,000 Gallons		\$5.74 Per 1,000 Gallons
3.	Commer	cial Water Rates		
	First	100,000 Gallons		\$3.06 Per 1,000 Gallons
	Over	100,000 Gallons		\$2.69 Per 1,000 Gallons
4.	Industri	ial Water Rates		
	First	100,000 Gallons		\$2.39 Per 1,000 Gallons
	Over	100,000 Gallons		\$2.09 Per 1,000 Gallons

B. <u>Sewer Service</u>

There are five (5) classes of sewer service: Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Prison, and Wholesale/Saluda County. Each sewer service will fit into one of the five classes and will be billed at the rate for that class. The sewer service charge will be charged to all customers and does not include a water-use allowance. Sewer rates will be charged on 100% of the amount of water metered each month with a cap of 12,000 gallons for residential customers.

1. Sewer Service Charge For All Classes

<u>Meter Size</u>		<u>Meter Size</u>	
3/4	\$13.52	3"	\$135.04
1"	\$22.55	4"	\$224.97
1-1/2"	\$44.98	6"	\$450.12
2"	\$71.98	8"	\$720.20

2. Residential Sewer Rate

Flat Rate \$6.01 Per 1,000 Gallons (12,000 Gallon Cap)

3. Commercial Sewer Rate

Flat Rate \$6.01 Per 1,000 Gallons

4. Industrial Sewer Rate

Flat Rate \$6.01 Per 1,000 Gallons

5. Other Sewer Rates

Flat Rate \$7.70 Per 1,000 Gallons For State and Federal

Prisons

(Based on 85% of water metered each month)

Flat Rate \$5.73 Per 1,000 Gallons for Saluda County

(Based on amount of wastewater metered each

month)

Monthly Charge \$35.49 for Sewer Only Customers (No Water

Service)

C. <u>Temporary Services</u>

- 1. Temporary services will be installed only for special services where the total time for use of the service is less than sixty (60) days. The user desiring such service will be required to pay the actual cost of the installation and the service will be billed in accordance with the water service and sewer service schedules above.
- 2. Water used from fire hydrants for other than fire protection shall be metered. The following rules will apply:
 - a. A permit fee of \$100.00, which provides service up to 30 days shall be paid before allowing water to be used.
 - b. After 30 days Rental Fee on meter = \$2.00 per day.
 - c. Water will be billed on a monthly basis at the rate of \$3.83 per 1,000 gallons
 - d. No water shall be used from the fire hydrants except for special community services as approved by the Board or Administrator, on an individual basis.
 - e. Charge for filling a swimming pool up to size 40' x 20' will be \$250.00. Charge for filling larger sized pools will be determined by the Business Manager.
 - f. The proper hydrant wrench and hose threads shall be used.
 - g. Any damage to hydrant and/or meter will be charged to the responsible user.
 - h. Authority shall install and relocate hydrant meter and have final decision on location. Meter can only be relocated by Authority staff.

DONE THIS 23rd day of September 2024, at Edgefield, South Carolina

	Approved By:	
	Chairman	
	Vice Chairman	
	Treasurer / Secretary	
	Board Member	
ATTEST:		
Secretary		

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A motion was made by Creswell to approve the resolution. Second by Clark. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.

B. RFP FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR FUTURE WTP AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM UPGRADES

Administrator Hare reviewed the RFP process with the Board concerning selection of engineering for the above referenced upgrades. Three firms were selected for interview. They were AECOM, GHD, and GMC. Based on the presentations and proposals, GMC was selected. Administrator Hare recommended to the Board that the Authority enter into negotiations with GMC on scope and pricing. No vote was required at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – A motion was made by Johnson to enter into executive session to discuss a contractual matter. Second by Kitchens. The Board exited Executive session with no action taken.

Motion was made by Kitchens to adjourn.

Second by Clark

Time: 6:30 p.m., September 23, 2024

Vote Unanimous

Approved

James Earl Kennamer, Chairman