

**WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING  
TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH  
October 21, 2025  
10:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Jody Kleckley, Chair; David Ballard, John Drolet, Lou Rasmussen, Committee Members  
*Quorum of Members Present.*

**Absent**

John David Griffith (excused)

**Staff Present**

Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Assistant Town Administrator Dee Stalvey, Utilities Director Patrick Zemp, and Municipal Clerk Donna Rizer

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Kleckley.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Ballard moved to approve the minutes of the Water and Sewer Committee Meeting of July 15, 2025. Mr. Drolet seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Old Business**

**SCIP Grant #A-23-C065 Wastewater System Upgrades.**

Mr. Aakhus reported on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. The Town received four (4) bids for this work, and Council awarded the project to Haren Construction Company, Inc. It covered the base bid to repair the lagoon system and four of the five Additive Alternates: 1 (Aerators), 3 (Headworks), 4 (Chlorination System) and 5 (Building Improvements).

American Engineering Consultants, Inc., on the Town's behalf, then submitted an additional grant funding request to the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) to complete Alternate 2 (Duckweed Harvesting). The additional funding request was accepted, and the final component of critical improvements to the Town's wastewater system will be completed.

Mr. Zemp noted Haren Construction Company, Inc. has mobilized onto Tract M and is setting up the temporary plant. The larger of the two lagoons on Tract M is the equalization basin and the smaller lagoon is the storage basin. The liners have been installed and secured. Temporary power will be installed.

Mr. Aakhus reported on the Lift Station Project. J.S. Haren Company is the contractor on this portion of the project. Preliminary work has begun at the eleven lift stations, with panels and silt fencing being installed. The lift stations on Pompano Street and at Waterfront are priorities, as those stations have the most need. A panel was placed at the Pompano lift station, however, there

have been discussions with the homeowner as to placement, size, and material of the panel. The paint color for the panels was discussed.

Mr. Aakhus and Mr. Zemp toured the lift station sites with American Engineering this week. Efforts are being made to ensure the design aligns with the project's objectives and the control panel racks are strategically placed.

#### **Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System.**

Mr. Aakhus reported a press release will be posted to the Town website to inform residents of the launch of AMI Project. Fortiline Waterworks will be replacing the existing meters. In most cases, this will be a straightforward process involving unplugging the current meter and installing the new one. The new meters are on site and ready to be installed. The Town is coordinating with Verizon to install the collector on the existing tower.

Mr. Zemp noted the last physical meter read is going on now. The installation of new metering will begin on the north end of the Town. This approach will allow for testing to be conducted from the farthest point back to the collector.

Customer interface was discussed. Mr. Aakhus indicated there will not be a customer portal at this time, though it will likely be added in the future. For now, the Town will be alerted if a water leak is detected.

#### **New Business/Open Discussion**

There was no new business to discuss.

Mr. Aakhus noted that per the bylaws of the Water and Sewer Committee, regular meetings may be held at least quarterly or as needed. Following discussion, committee members recommended maintaining the current monthly meeting schedule; however, it was noted that if there is no new business to address, the meeting may be cancelled, with an update from the Town Administrator provided in lieu of a formal meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Ballard made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Rasmussen. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

#### **APPROVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE**

*Donna Rizer*  
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Donna Rizer, Municipal Clerk  
January 20, 2026