

LITTLE ROCK WATER RECLAMATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting Held
December 3, 2025

The Little Rock Water Reclamation Commission (“LRWRC”) met at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at the LRWRA Conference Room and via livestream.

Little Rock Water Reclamation Commission

Jonathan Semans, Chair
Daryl Brown, Vice Chair
Prentice O’Guinn, Secretary
Schawnee Hightower, Commissioner
Chris Marsh, Commissioner
Molly McNulty, Commissioner
Christina Clark, Commissioner
Director Lance Hines, Ex Officio Member

Little Rock Water Reclamation Authority Personnel

Jean Block, Chief Executive Officer
Michael Rhoda, Chief Financial Officer
Ryan Benefield, P.E., Chief Operating Officer
Deanna Ray, Chief Legal Officer
Rebecca Burkman, Director of Environmental Affairs
Harold Hounwanou, P.E., Director of Collection System Maintenance
Les Price, P.E., Director of Engineering Services
Doug Roe, Director of Accounting & Finance
Kenetta Ridgell, Director of Communications and Community Engagement
Angela Brooks, Director of Human Resources
Jody Sims, Director of Facilities Asset Management

Attendees included: Commissioners Semans, McNulty, Marsh, Hightower, and Director Hines appeared in person. Commissioners Brown, O’Guinn, and Clark were absent. Senior Staff Members: Jean Block, Michael Rhoda, Ryan Benefield, Deanna Ray, Harold Hounwanou, Rebecca Burkman, Angela Brooks, Les Price, Jody Sims, Doug Roe and Kenetta Ridgell appeared in person.

Chair Semans brought the meeting to order and called for Mr. Roe to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, Chair Semans asked the Commissioners if they had reviewed the minutes of the October 29, 2025, meeting. Being that there were no revisions, Chair Semans asked if there were any objections to approving minutes. Hearing none, Chair Semans asked if

there was a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Chair Semans then asked if there were any public comments, and there were none.

Terrian Tyler, Project Engineer, then presented Vern Stubbs, Inspector – Construction, with a 25-year service award. He gave brief remarks on his career and thanked him for his service.

Jean Block, Chief Executive Officer, presented Consideration of 2026 LRWRC Officers. Ms. Block presented the slate of Jonathan Seamans for Commission Chair, Daryl Brown for Commission Vice-Chair, and Prentice O’Guinn for Commission Secretary. There were no objections to the nominations, and Chair Semans requested a motion to approve.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Ms. Block then presented Consideration of 2026 LRWRC Meeting Dates. There were no objections to the dates, and Chair Semans requested a motion to approve.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Michael Rhoda, Chief Financial Officer, presented the 2026 Budget. He gave a brief summary of the presentation that he made last month to the Commission. He noted projected revenues, operating and maintenance expenses, capital investments, and debt service. Mr. Rhoda requested the Commission approve the 2026 Total Operating Budget and Financial Plan.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Harold Hounwanou, Director of Collections System Maintenance, presented purchase authorizations for 2026 vehicles and equipment. Mr. Hounwanou presented the purchase requests for a combination cleaning truck, hydro jetter trailer, two F-550 service trucks, a Blue Light CIPP machine, and a 50-ton pipe burst machine. The total amount for these items was \$1,267,684.

Staff requested the Commission to approve of a purchase authorization of Staff is requesting that LRWRC approve a purchase authorization for: One (1) combination cleaning truck in the amount of \$557,000.00 and to authorize CEO Jean Block to enter into a contract with Improved Construction Methods (ICM); and, One (1) Hydro Jetter Trailer in the amount of \$108,000 and to authorize the CEO to enter into a contract with Vacuum Truck Sales.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Mr. Hounwanou then requested two (2) F-550 Service Trucks in the amount of \$203,971 and to authorize CEO Jean Block to enter into a contract with Chastang Enterprises, dba Chastang Ford of Houston, Texas; and One (1) 50-ton pipe burst

machine in the amount of \$268,552 and to authorize the CEO to enter into a contract with Scandinavian No Dig Centre of Denmark; One (1) Blue Light CIPP machine in the amount of \$130,161 and to authorize the CEO to enter into a contract with Hammerhead Trenchless.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Les Price, Director of Engineering Services, presented a Purchase Authorization for the FCWRF Scum Pump Station Improvements. Mr. Price gave a summary of the Scum Pump Station and it's part of the treatment process and the need for improvements.

Staff requested the Commission to approve a purchase authorization for the FCWRF Scum Pump Station Improvements in the amount of \$143,328.00 and authorize CEO Jean Block to enter a contract with IHP Industrial Inc.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Kenetta Ridgell, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, presented on a new partnership with the Clinton School of Public Service exploring the public perception of non-potable water reuse in Little Rock. She noted the project has four students from the school, and they will be involved with surveys and focus groups with a final report expected in May.

Doug Roe, Director of Finance & Accounting, presented a summary of the October Financial Report. He noted Operating revenue is slightly ahead of budget, mainly due to higher residential usage, and the utility remains in a strong cash position despite significant debt service and capital investments.

Deanna Ray, Chief Legal Officer, gave the Legal Update. She noted continued work on reviewing contracts; reviewing safety sensitive positions; work with Environmental Affairs with Special Use Permits; working with procurement; reviewing and updating policies; addressing personnel matters; and a new agreement with Little Rock Quick Rice.

Jean Block, Chief Executive Officer, gave the CEO Highlights that included: Our House; Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment Meeting; Arkansas Department of Health Meeting; Congressional Tour; Jane Mendal Reading Day; ANRD Wastewater Overview; Tabletop Exercise.

Chair Semans called for any old business, and there was none.

Chair Semans called for any new business, and there was none.

Commissioner Marsh stated the next LRWRC meeting would be January 14. He then asked if there were any objections to adjourning the meeting. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Prentice O'Guinn

Prentice O'Guinn, Secretary