

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026
8:30 AM

Present: Richard W. King, Chairman
Ronna Rowe Garrett, Vice Chairman
Donald L. Porter, Secretary
Christopher G. Davis, Treasurer

Others Present: Timothy L. Bryant, CEO/General Manager
Kirk deViere, Cumberland County Commission Chairman/Liaison
Jodi Phelps, Assistant City Manager
Media

Absent: Chancer McLaughlin, Hope Mills Town Manager

I. REGULAR BUSINESS

Chairman Richard King called the meeting of January 28, 2026, to order at 8:30 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman King led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Commissioner Donald Porter, seconded by Commissioner Christopher Davis, the agenda was unanimously approved.

II. CONSENT ITEMS

Upon motion by Commissioner Christopher Davis, seconded by Commissioner Donald Porter, Consent Items were unanimously approved.

- A. Approve Minutes of meeting of January 14, 2026
- B. Adopt PWC Resolution # PWC2026.01 – Resolution Authorizing the CEO/General Manager to Grant Powers of Attorney for The Fayetteville Public Works Commission Purposes
- C. Approve Electric Engineering and Construction Departments sole source purchase of specific equipment pursuant to a sole source exception to the competitive bidding requirements. North Carolina law allows an exception from the competitive bidding requirements for “Purchases of apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment when: (i) performance or price competition for a product are not available; (ii) a needed product is available from only one source of supply; or (iii) standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration.” NCGS §143-129(e)(6). Such an exception is only available in this instance if the Commission approves the purchase.

The sole source request is specifically to purchase Distribution Transformers (Overhead, Single-Phase Padmount, and Three-Phase Padmount) from ERMCO (Electric Research Manufacturing Company) of Dyersburg, Tennessee. A quote in the amount of \$690,155.00 was provided on October 8, 2025. This request is based on the overriding consideration of standardization and compatibility with existing PWC infrastructure and equipment. PWC previously maintained several multi-year agreements with ERMCO dating back to July 2011, the most recent of which expired in December 2023. Throughout those contract terms, ERMCO supplied the majority of PWC’s transformers, which continue to perform reliably in service today.

- D. Approve purchase award recommendation for purchase of BABA Galvanized Steel Transmission Poles to M. D. Henry Co., Inc., Pelham, AL, the lowest responsive, responsible bidder and in the best interests of PWC in the total amount of \$3,265,995.00 and forward to City Council for approval.

BABA Galvanized Steel Transmission Poles are budgeted in Warehouse Inventory.

Bid Date: August 19, 2025

<u>Conforming Bidders</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
M.D. Henry Co, Inc., Pelham, AL	\$3,265,995.00
Belfort Capital LLC, Louisville, OH	\$3,400,080.00
Meyer Utility Structures, LLC, Dallas, TX	\$3,519,615.00
Southland Industrial Coatings/Grid Structures, Amite City, LA	\$3,730,110.00
Nucor Tower & Structures, Rock Hill, SC	\$3,831,109.80
Valmont Industries, Valley, NE	\$4,197,855.00

Non-Conforming Bidders
 Cecil Energy Structures, Birmingham, MI
 Wesco Distribution, Inc, Clayton, NC

COMMENTS: The bid notice was advertised through our usual channels on July 30, 2025, with a bid opening date of August 19, 2025. Bids were solicited from thirteen (13) vendors, and eight (8) bids were received. An award was previously approved on September 10, 2025, to Wesco Distribution, Inc, Clayton, NC. However, due to an inability to reach an agreement on contractual language, the bidder is now deemed non-responsible as they are requiring amendments to the form contract to which PWC objects, including, among others, provisions to which PWC may not agree as a public entity. As a result, M.D. Henry Co., Inc., is now the lowest responsible bidder and is recommended for award. **MWDBE/SLS Participation:** M.D. Henry Co, Inc., Pelham, AL is not a small local or MWDBE business. M.D. Henry Co, Inc., Pelham, AL plans to self-perform all aspects of this project.

- E. Approve recommendation to reject all bids for the Switch, Recloser Bypass, Cross Arm Assembly, 3 Phase Project as all bids were non-conforming to PWC’s bid submittal requirements.

Bid Date: September 4, 2025

Non-Conforming Bidders
 V-Energy Sales, LLC, Columbia, SC

Wesco Distribution, Inc., Clayton, NC

COMMENTS: The bid notice was advertised through our usual channels on August 15, 2025, with a bid opening date of September 4, 2025. Bids were solicited from four (4) vendors, and two (2) bids were received. The Electric Systems Engineering and Construction Departments request the rejection of the bids submitted, as they did not conform to PWC's bid submittal requirements.

- F. Approve recommendation to reject all bids for Three Phase Padmount Transformers as all bids were non-conforming to PWC's bid submittal requirements.

The Three Phase Padmount Transformers is budgeted in Warehouse Inventory

Bid Date: September 9, 2025

Non-Conforming Bidders

AR Transformers Inc., Las Vegas, NV
Calvary Energy LLC, Warrendale, PA
Eagelerise Distribution Inc., Temple City, CA
Hyundai Corporation, Torrance, CA
JST Power Equipment, Inc., Lake Mary, FL

KLLEN Group America Inc., Simpson, NC
NexGen Power, Inc., Gardena, CA6016
Meta Power Solutions LLC, Lake Park, FL
MVA Power, Inc., Montreal, QC, Canada
Premier Transformer LLC, Princeton, NJ
PulseMac Solutions, San Antonio, TX
The Tarheel Electric Membership, Raleigh, N.C.
ULS Corporate Inc., Katy, TX
Utility Sales Associates, Midlothian, VA
Wesco, Clayton, NC

COMMENTS: The bid notice was advertised through our usual channels on August 15, 2025, with a bid opening date of September 9, 2025. Bids were solicited from four (4) vendors, and sixteen (16) bids were received. The Electric Systems Engineering and Construction Departments request the rejection of all bids received for this solicitation, as they did not conform to PWC's bid submittal and/or technical specification requirements. There are currently no plans to re-advertise for three-phase transformers.

- G. Approve recommendation to reject all bids for the Cable, 1/0 ALCN EPR 25KV, 1/C as all bids were non-conforming to PWC's bid submittal requirements.

The Cable, 1/0 ALCN EPR 25KV, 1/C is budgeted in Warehouse Inventory

Bid Date: October 7, 2025

Non-Conforming Bidders

Border States Electric, Greenville, SC
Wesco Distribution, Inc, Clayton, NC
Utility Service Agency Inc, Wake Forest, NC

COMMENTS: The bid notice was advertised through our usual channels on September 22, 2025, with a bid opening date of October 7, 2025. Bids were solicited from four (4) vendors, and three (3) bids were received. The Electric Systems Engineering and Construction Departments request the rejection of the bids submitted, as they did not conform to PWC's bid submittal and technical specification requirements.

- H. Approve recommendation to reject all bids for the Cable, 1/0 ALCN EPR 25KV, 1/C as all bids were non-conforming to PWC's bid submittal requirements.

The Cable, 1/0 ALCN EPR 25KV, 1/C is budgeted in Warehouse Inventory

Bid Date: November 13, 2025

Non-Conforming Bidders

Border States Electric, Greenville, SC
Wesco Distribution, Inc, Clayton, NC
Nextgen Metals, Inc., South Korea
Bell Electrical Supply Co. Inc., Peachtree Corners, GA
American Wire Group, LLC, Columbia

COMMENTS: The bid notice was advertised through our usual channels on October 28, 2025, with a bid opening date of November 13, 2025. Bids were solicited from five (5) vendors, and six (6) bids were received. The Electric Systems Engineering and Construction Departments request the rejection of the bids submitted, as they did not conform to PWC's bid submittal and technical specification requirements.

END OF CONSENT

III. INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION ANNUAL REPORT (WATER/WASTEWATER REHAB SUMMARY)

Presented by: Michael Smith, WR Asset Management Coordinator

Ms. Manning presented Michael Smith, one of Water Resources Management Coordinators.

Mr. Smith stated he will discuss the program information, the performance indicators and next steps forward.

Rehabilitation Program

- ▶ Strategic Rehabilitation Initiative
 - Developed in 2004
 - Outlined Costs, Approach
- ▶ Sanitary Sewer Mains
 - 1,327 miles (FY2025)
 - 318 miles over 50 yrs. old (24%)
- ▶ Water Mains
 - 1,433 miles (FY2025)
 - 430 miles over 50 yrs. old (30%)
- ▶ Manholes
 - 33,422 manholes (FY2025)

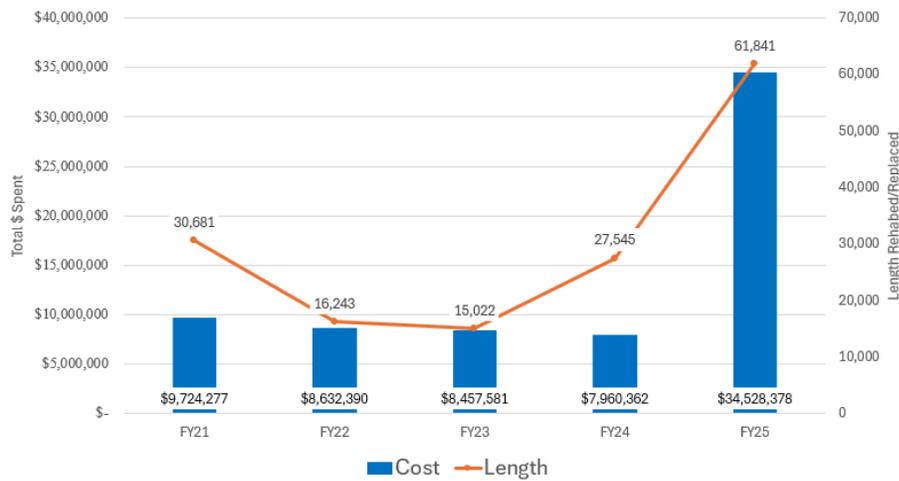
- 9,928 manholes over 50 yrs. old (30%)

Rehabilitation Program Totals

Water Main Rehabilitation

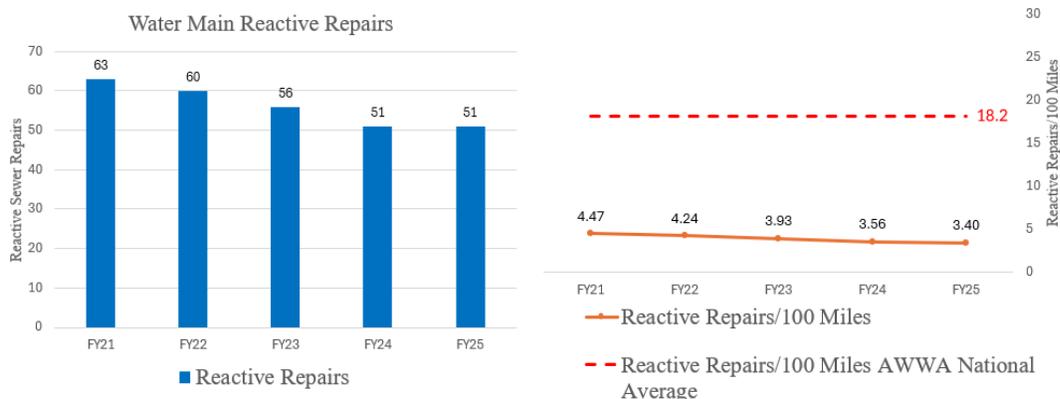
	FY25	Total (04-25)	% of system
Total Epoxy Lined	0 miles	59+ miles	4%
Total Replaced	11+ miles	67+ miles	4.6%
Total Expenditure	\$34.5M	\$166.5M	
System Size: 1,433 miles			8.6%

Water Main Rehabilitation Summary



Water Main Repairs (Performance Indicator)

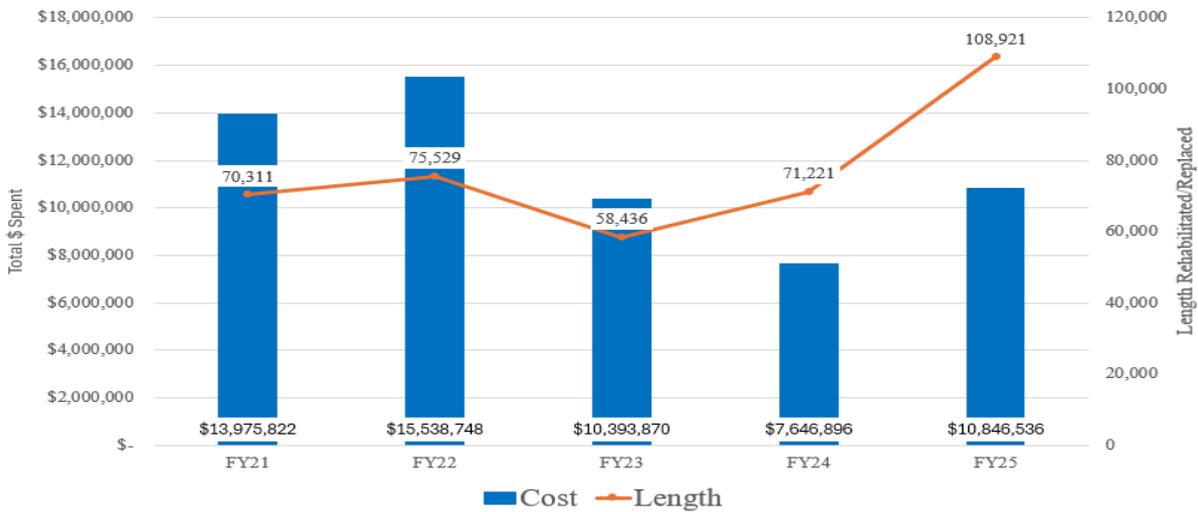
Average 3.92 per 100 mils (3.40 – FY25)



Sanitary Sewer Main Rehabilitation

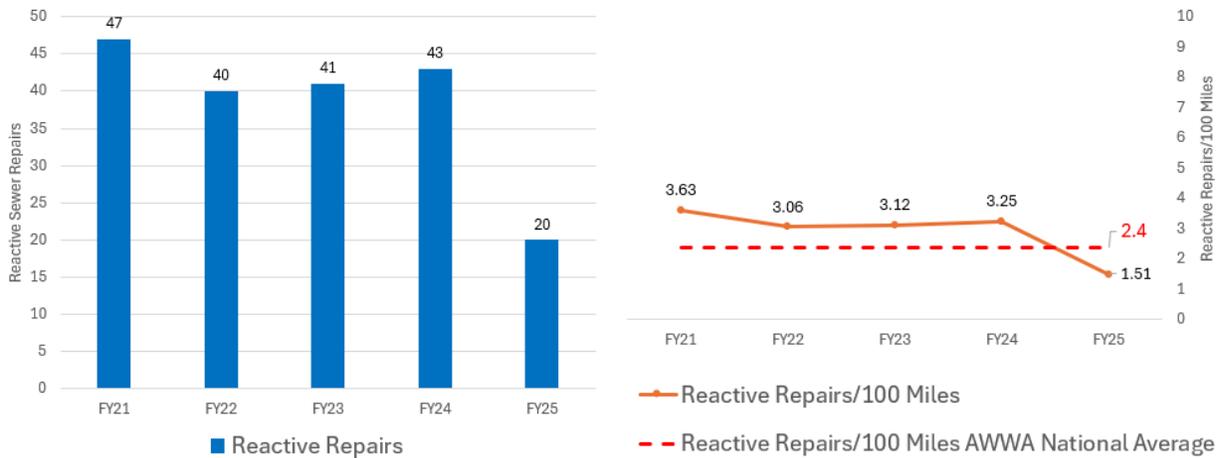
	FY25	Total (04-25)	% of system
Total Lined	20+ miles	216+ miles	16%
Total Replaced	.50+ miles	22.5+ miles	1.7%
Total Expenditure	\$10.8M	\$175.8M	
System Size 1,327 miles			17.7%

Sanitary Sewer Main Rehabilitation Summary



Sanitary Sewer Main Repairs (Performance Indicator)

Average 2.91 per 100 miles (1.51-FY25)



Rehabilitation Program Totals

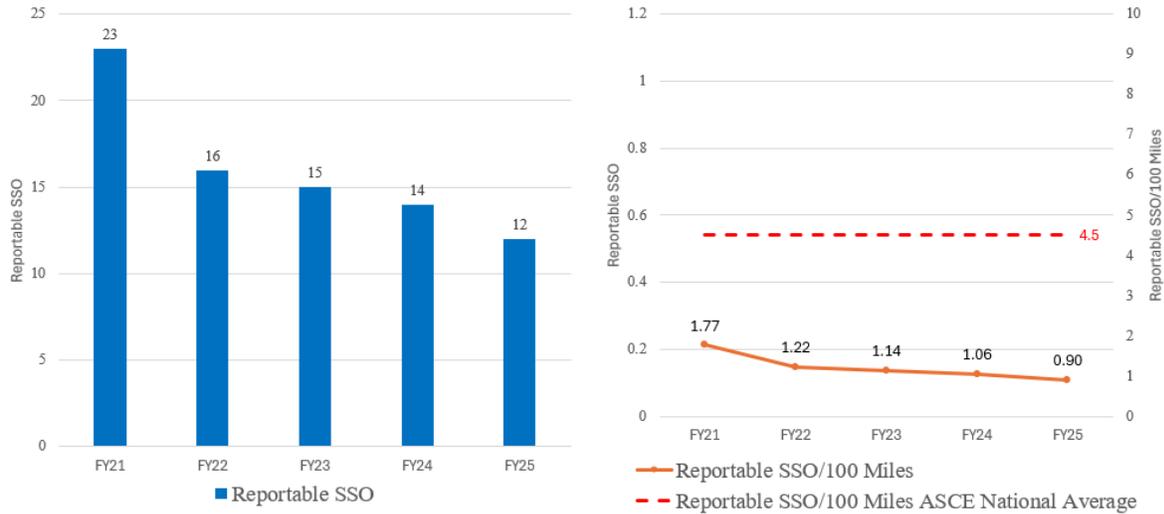
Manhole Rehabilitation

	FY25	Total	% of System
Total Lined	344+	4,239+	12%
Total Expenditure	\$1.5M	\$22.2M	
System Size 33,422 manholes			

SmartCover Flow Monitoring System

In FY 2025 there were 41 Sanitary Sewer High Alarms that were triggered by the SmartCover System assisting in the prevention of SSOs. Estimated Savings: \$525,000.00

Sanitary Sewer Overflows (Performance Indicator)



Projected Expenditures (10-Year CIP)

System Rehabilitation

- \$237 Million Sewer
- \$189 Million Water

Lift Stations

- \$71 Million

Sanitary Sewer Outfall Rehabilitation

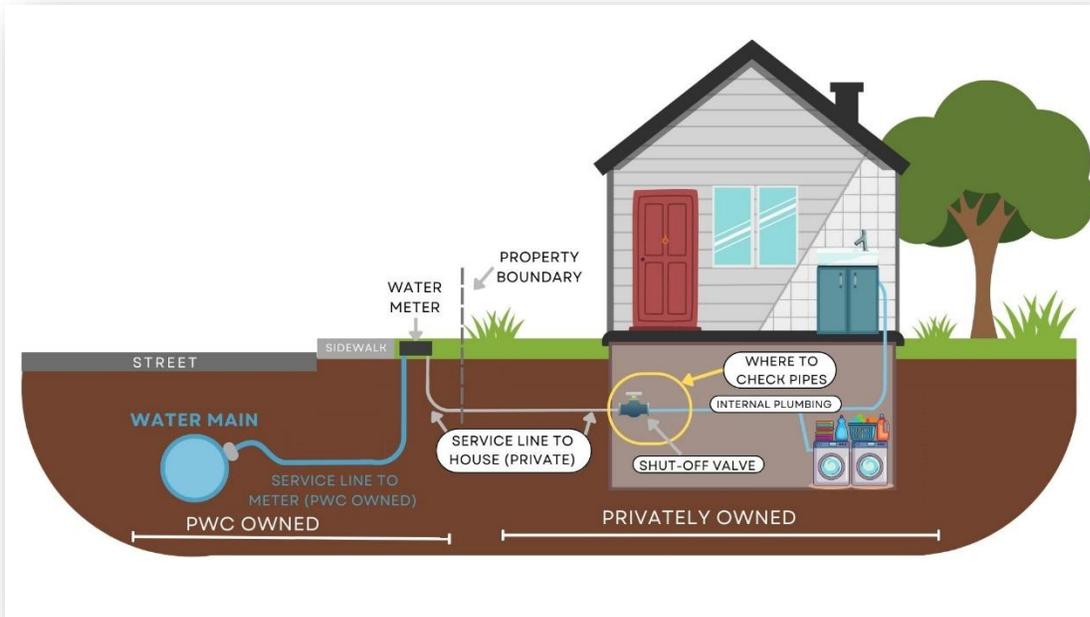
- \$67 Million

TOTAL = \$564 Million

IV. LEAD AND COPPER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (OPERATION CLEAN AND CLEAR) Presented by: Michael Smith, WR Asset Management Coordinator

Mr. Smith stated during this presentation he will provide a regulatory history; update the commission on the status of the program and then go through the next steps.

Definitions



Mr. Smith stated to the best of our knowledge, PWC did not install lead service lines from the main to the meter.

Prior to early 1960's PWC installed galvanized and copper services from main to meter. Lead Gooseneck fittings were used prior to 1939.

- 1980-2007 – installed polyethylene services
- Since 2007 – installing copper services

Regulatory History

- How Does Lead Get in Drinking Water?
 - Plumbing Materials Corrode (solder)
 - Common Lead Containing Sources:
 - Pipes
 - Fittings
 - Faucets
 - Lead Pipes Were Common in Older Cities and Homes Built Before 1986
- Lead services were never a PWC standard with water service installation.



Lead used in solder for copper fittings can be a big source of lead. These soldered fittings are most likely inside a house. Corrosion between the pipe material and the water is the most likely source

of lead leaching into the water. That varies depending on the chemical content of the water and the pipe material.

1986 – Safe Drinking Water Act

- Prohibited use of lead piping

1991 – Lead and Copper Rule

- Sampling Protocols
- Corrosion Control Treatment (CCT), effective January 1997

2011 – Lead “Free” Fittings and Fixtures reduced the amount of lead in fitting

- Effective January 4, 2014

2021 – Revised Lead and Copper Rule lowered action level

- Revised Sampling Protocols
- Inventory Requirements
- Communication Requirements
- Compliance Date – October 16, 2024

PWC has revised our treatment processes and procedures to ensure compliance with these rules and regulations.

PWC’s water meets or exceeds all regulatory requirements for water quality.

Established action levels for lead and copper. LCRI lowered from 15 ppb to 10 ppb October 2024.

Example Parts Per Billion 1 drop of water added to a 10,000-gallon swimming pool. One part per million, or one milligram per liter (mg/l), would be equal to putting ONE drop of water from an eyedropper into 10 gallons of water.

Established protocols for taking samples (first liter after 6 hours of no use).

PWC is currently on the triennial sampling frequency (every 3 years).

PWC has implemented a corrosion control treatment program. This program adds a chemical to the water that essentially coats the interior of the pipes to reduce the likelihood of any lead leaching into the water supply.

Current Status

Communication

- Operation Clean and Clear – Ongoing

Sampling

- Completed Summer 2023
- All Results “Non-Detect for Lead”

Service Lateral Inventory

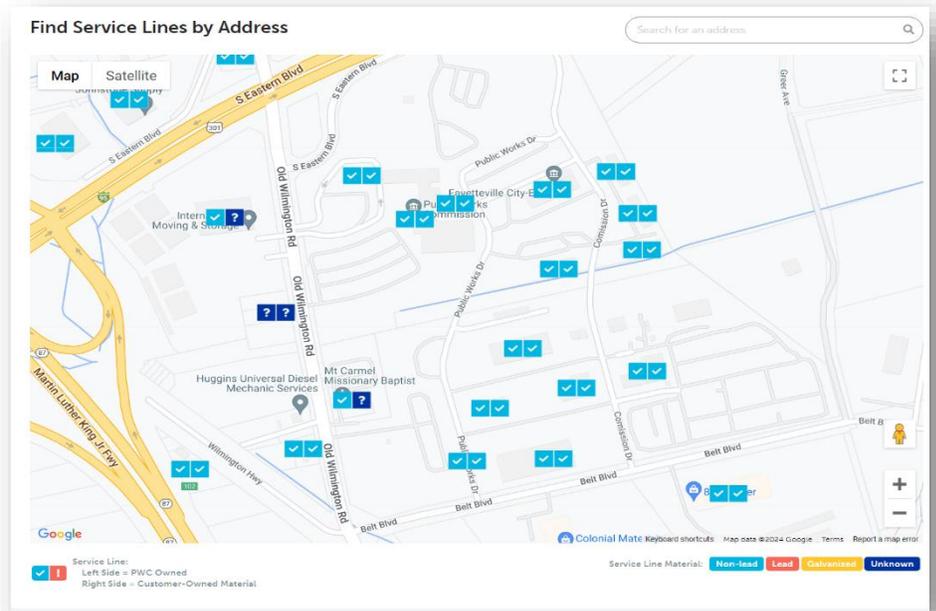
- Schools and Daycares – Completed
- Public and Private Laterals
 - Desktop Inventory – Completed
 - Physical Locates – Ongoing
 - Predictive Modeling – Ongoing



Service Lateral Inventory Update

Total over 104,000 Water Services

- 0 Lead
 - 93,400 Non-Lead
 - 2,800 Galvanized
 - 8,200 Unknown
- (FY2024: More than 32,000 Unknown)



Communication Update

- Unknown Service Line Material (7,500 letters mailed)
- Galvanized Required Replacement (2600 letters mailed)
- EPA required language in the letters
 - Health Effects of Lead
 - Precautions you take if you are concerned about lead in drinking water
 - Learn what your service line material is
 - Learn about construction in your neighborhood
 - Have your water tested
 - Testing for blood lead levels
 - More information on reducing lead exposure

Note: In 2024, 32,000 Unknown Material and 244 GRR letters were mailed.

Future Steps

The steps below were outlined by Mr. Smith.

Service Lateral Inventory

- Complete Physical Locates
 - These are used to identify service lateral materials.
 - This information will be used in additional machine learning models
 - Determine GRR Replacement Program
- NCDEQ Coordination
- Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning
- Service Line Replacement Program

Communication (Operation Clean & Clear)

Schools and Daycares

- Coordinate Efforts
- Sampling Protocols

Funding

- Continue pursuing additional funding opportunities

Staff responded to Commissioners' questions and comments.

V. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Safety

Mr. Bryant stated overall the PWC team continues to work safely. Current total recordable injury rate is 0.64. The TRIR is very low relative to the work that we have in front of us.

Mr. Bryant challenged all to continue to adhere to our safe work practices including job planning, job safety discussions and stopping to adjust the work plan when conditions change. He stated doing those things in advance our PWC safety culture and ensures that each one of us returns home safely each day by keeping our head in the game.

People

Mr. Bryant thanked the entire PWC team for our response to Winter Storm Fiona over the last week. The teamwork, collaboration and flexibility demonstrated across all divisions allowed us to effectively respond to the ever-changing winter weather conditions, allowing us to live up to our mission of delivering safe, reliable and affordable electric, water and wastewater services.

With the current weather forecast, we will most likely get another opportunity to execute our winter weather plan this coming weekend and within the next three to four days. He stated we will continue to stay focused on delivering outstanding service even during these changing winter weather conditions.

Community/Customer Engagement

Mr. Bryant stated during the last commission meeting, he mentioned we are in the most extreme cold weather time of the year, which could be impacting bills. We are very cognizant of that from a leadership perspective as well as from a customer facing perspective, we continue to urge customers to make sure that as much as they want to minimize shifting the thermostat because those little shifts can result in big bill impacts.

He encouraged customers to maintain/prepare their exposed piping to prevent freezing during these temperature extremes as well. He also encouraged customers to go to our faypwc.com website for water freeze alert details to look at how they can literally save on utility bills as well as take protective measures to secure their homes and their businesses throughout this wintry weather season.

Running the Business

Mr. Bryant offered an extremely big thank you to Senator Thom Tillis and his office. He stated PWC was notified earlier this week that we received \$4.5 million federal funding for PO Hoffer and Glenville Lake drinking water granular activated carbon project. We do not typically get federal funding for these types of projects, but through our efforts lobbying Senator Tillis' office, we were able to get that \$4.5 million earmark. He applauded the team as well. We looked to make deployment of this technology a lot more cost-effective for all customers.

VI. COMMISSIONER/LIAISON COMMENTS

County Commissioner Kirk deViere

County Commissioner deViere stated he appreciates all the work and coordination during the winter event. They have not discussed if they will go back into a state of emergency this weekend.

He stated the County working with their economic development team Robert Van Goens will take a 30K foot view of the infrastructure across our communities as we look at economic development growth. We need to have the capacity to bring industry here. He stated PWC will be at the table with the County as a partner. They will look at all pieces of the County, all pieces of infrastructure. They will convene an infrastructure summit more than likely late in February.

Assistant City Manager Jodi Phelps

Ms. Phelps stated City Councilman Thompson sent his regrets for not being in attendance today. He expects to be present at the next meeting. He asked her to share his appreciation for all our hard work.

Commissioner Donald Porter

Commissioner Porter stated calls he received during the storm were positive. He appreciates all the arduous work from the CEO and staff.

Commissioner Christopher Davis

Commissioner Davis also thanked the staff for all the work they do. Excellent job and continue to do it. He also commended Mr. Bryant for continuing to be flexible and resilient.

Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett

Commissioner Garrett thanked Mr. Bryant for his leadership and the PWC teams for their efforts.

Commissioner Richard King

Commissioner King stated PWC did an excellent job. He did not receive any phone calls. He was proud of the team and the way everyone worked together.

He applauded Ms. Manning and Mr. Smith for the presentation. He stated if we can find better technology to make it cheaper for our rate payers that would be great.

VII. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

- A. Monthly Cash Flow Report – December 2025
- B. Recap of Uncollectible Accounts – December 2025
- C. Financial Statement Recaps
 - Electric – October 2025

- Water/Wastewater – October 2025
- D. Career Opportunities
- E. Approved N.C. Department of Transportation Encroachment Agreement(s):
 - Encr. # 19882 – Removal of existing water services @ 3211 Bragg Blvd
- F. Actions by City Council during the meeting of January 12, 2026, related to PWC:
 - Approved - Construction Award for the Re-advertised Water Main Replacement & Rehabilitation

III. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Donald Porter, seconded by Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett, and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.