

**MEETING MINUTES**

CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION

**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/8597396715](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8597396715)

Meeting ID: 859 739 6715

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 3 of 14

Chairman Days noted the Sheriff’s email continued by explaining what the additional costs would be.

Chairman Days encourage the Commission to consider these emails as the Commission met to order projects.

\*\*\*\*\*

Chairman Days returned to a discussion of the information he received from various Commission members. Based on what he received prior to the meeting, he provided the following list of projects by tier or level of importance:

First Level

1, 23, 24, 33, 68, 101

Second Level

47, 114, 116, 67, 31, 63, 64

Final Level

118, 98, 104, 105

Chairman Days suggested a number of ways of ordering projects, for example, (a) placing those approved during the first night of consideration higher on the list, followed by those that were approved on the second night of consideration (that is, those originally tabled), (b) placing them numerically on the list according to application number, (c) ranking the projects by high, medium, and low importance and ranking the projects in each tier, then create additional tiers below each tier, and (d) placing the AEDs on the top of the list and working from there.

Mr. Loflin inquired if there was any real reason to order the projects if everything was going to get funded. Attorney Kozlarek explained there was a potential political reason (voter acceptance) and a funding reason to order the projects from highest to lowest on the list. It is possible not all projects would be funded.

Chairman Days reiterated the political considerations of having projects at the top of the list that more voters would likely approve.

Mr. Loflin questioned what the top priority for the Commission should be, whether the Commission was looking for voters to agree with the order of the projects. Attorney Winters suggested voters would scrutinize the list and be less likely to vote for the referendum if the project list contained “fluff.” The project list needs to be palatable to voters and “above the line” for borrowing purposes to ensure those projects would be completed.

County Treasurer Darby explained that he had reviewed the potential borrowing scenarios and the proposed \$17,250,000 estimate of collections and was comfortable with both. He reiterated the borrowing scenario echoed how the County handled the borrowing for the 2014 CPST referendum.

Ms. Jennings asked Mr. Darby what the status was of the 2014 CPST collections. Mr. Darby indicated the

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 4 of 14

collections had been strong through the last quarter. He was uncertain how COVID-19 would impact the collections, but he estimated the County would be able to pay-off the bonds about a year early.

Mr. Jennings asked whether the bonds related to the 2014 CPST referendum would be retired before the current CPST would be on the ballot. Mr. Darby said there was a good possibility of that happening.

Ms. Jennings indicated the Commission needed to be focused on getting the voters excited about the project list. There needs to be something for the voters’ children high on the list.

\*\*\*\*\*

Chairman Days read a letter from the Chair of the Fort Lawn Fire Protection District, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A. The letter requested the withdrawal of projects 19-21. In response to the letter, Mr. Lutz moved to remove the projects from further consideration. Mr. Moyd seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous.

\*\*\*\*\*

Chairman Days returned to the consideration of the project list, suggesting the AEDs might be pulled together as one project. Mr. Lutz suggested that consolidated project should be in the top ten.

Mr. Moyd reminded the Commission it had 55 projects to order. He also stated he though the projects should be ordered from lowest cost to highest cost, which would cover almost all the projects in the first two rounds of borrowing. Chairman Days reiterated there were any number of ways of ordering the projects.

Mr. Lutz commented that listing the projects from least to most expensive would cause the referendum to fail. He suggested the projects needed to be selected and placed in a specific order to attract the voters.

Mr. Loflin requested Chairman Days to relist the projects by tier that he had described earlier and provide a project description at the same time.

First Level

1, 23, 24, 33, 68, 101

Second Level

47, 114, 116, 67, 31, 63, 64

Final Level

118, 98, 104, 105

Ms. Jennings asked Mr. Loflin when Great Falls anticipated the whitewater rafting park being available. Mr. Loflin indicated sometime in 2022 and Great Falls wanted the visitor center at that time. Mr. Jennings suggested she understood the project to have a 5-7-year timeframe. Mr. Loflin indicated the Duke Project (whitewater) and the State Park were different items. He suggested having the visitors center built would spur an earlier construction of the state park.

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 5 of 14

Ms. McDow asked whether project 99 was off the list. Chairman Days stated projects 19-21 had been removed but 99 was on. Ms. McDow asked to confirm project 99 was the Fort Lawn Walking Track. Chairman Days stated that was project 55, and it was also on the list.

Mr. Loflin asked how much money the first three tiers of projects cost.

First Level

1, 23, 24, 33, 68, 101

Second Level

47, 114, 116, 67, 31, 63, 64

Final Level

118, 98, 104, 105

Attorney Kozlarek indicated the total was approximately \$10,700,000.

Chairman Days reminded everyone the radio project is project 32. Mr. Loflin comments this was a Countywide project so maybe it should be at the top of the list. Chairman Days questioned whether there was any concern that County Council had not formally acted on the project. Ms. McDow suggested the Commission should wait on this project. Mr. Loflin disagreed and suggested this needed to be on the list.

Chairman Days asked Attorney Kozlarek whether having the radios on the list would slow down the process of completing projects. Attorney Kozlarek indicated he could not answer a political question of how County Council might vote regarding the radios but if the County borrowed for approximately \$8,000,000, then the radios (at the top of the list) would not hold up the other projects.

Chairman Days alerted the Commission that only one Commission member who submitted information to the Chairman had listed the radios in the top 15 of priority. All others had it in the middle of the priority list.

Mr. Loflin moved to accept the priority list as follows:

First Level

1, 23, 24, 33, 68, 101

Second Level

47, 114, 116, 67, 31, 63, 64

Final Level

118, 98, 104, 105

Mr. Lutz seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous. This project list in order as approved is attached as

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 6 of 14

Exhibit B.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Loflin moved to place those items that were approved by anything less than a unanimous vote be placed at the bottom of the list in numerical order by application number. Attorney Kozlarek reviewed the minutes for the Commission and indicated projects 93, 94, and 99 received less than unanimous votes. Mr. Lutz seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous. This project list in order as approved is attached as Exhibit C.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Moyd questioned whether the courthouse was supposed to be at the bottom of the list to received “left-over” funding.

Chairman Days explained his understanding was the funds were remaining from the Gateway Bond with that concept that approximately \$2,000,000 would be allocated from Gateway Bond funds for additional portions of the project.

Mr. Loflin asked whether the project descriptions would be changed to reflect project changes made by the Commission.

Chairman Days reiterated that funding for the courthouse might come from another source. Attorney Kozlarek and Mr. Darby reiterated that the courthouse was one of a few projects for which Gateway Bond proceeds were permitted to be used. Mr. Darby also explained the County’s request for the courthouse is approximately \$5,200,000. There are unlikely to be enough funds remaining from the Gateway Bond to fund that entire request.

Chairman Days also noted the motion on the courthouse was not to place it at the end of the project list even though the discussion of the courthouse was at the end of that night’s meeting.

The Commission engaged in a general, unstructured discussion about from where funds would come to provide for the courthouse project, following which, Mr. Loflin moved to place the courthouse at the end of the project list. Mr. Moyd seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Chairman Days commended the Commission on its work so far and reminded the Commission that many projects remained to be ordered.

Mr. Loflin interjected that first-time projects should be funded before projects receiving funding for a second time. Mr. Darby noted, for example, project 116 (2020 CPST request) was the first item on the 2014 CPST referendum but was allocated \$125,000, which was vastly underfunded. The Fort Lawn fire station suffered from a similar problem, but Fort Lawn was able to secure its own additional bond funding to complete its project.

Chairman Days asked Attorney Kozlarek to read the project list for the 2014 CPST referendum, a copy of

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<sup>1</sup> Please note, each project description as listed in Exhibit B is updated to reflect Attorney Kozlarek’s suggested referendum language for that project.

<sup>2</sup> Please note, each project description as listed in Exhibit C is updated to reflect Attorney Kozlarek’s suggested referendum language for that project. Those projects not ordered on either Exhibit B or Exhibit C, which received prior approval, are listed on Exhibit D.

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 7 of 14

which is attached as Exhibit E.

Ms. McDow asked why Fort Lawn received only \$125,000 in the 2014 CPST referendum. Ms. Jennings explained that was the sole request Fort Lawn made.

Mr. Loflin indicated he thought there should be “plenty of money left over” from the 2014 CPST referendum from the School District and the City of Chester not spending their funds. Mr. Loflin asked what happens to those funds.

Ms. Jennings stated she hoped people learned from the 2014 CPST referendum so their project requests this time had more accurate figures. If the figures are not accurate, then the project cannot be completed.

Chairman Days asked whether anyone would like to make a motion to address Mr. Loflin’s concerns. Ms. Jennings reminded the Commission that it did not have any power over the 2014 CPST referendum or list of projects.

Chairman Days not hearing any motion to address Mr. Loflin’s concerns, asked if there was any option to finalize the list for tonight.

Mr. Loflin continued to comment on how the 2014 CPST referendum impacted the Commission’s current considerations.

Chairman Days suggested the current Commission could not address the 2014 CPST Commission’s work.

Mr. Lutz returned to the discussion about AEDs and having them listed as one item. Mr. Lutz moved to place all AEDS as one item at the top of tier four. Mr. Loflin seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous.

[VICE-CHAIR JENNINGS ASSUMED CHAIRING THE MEETING.]

Attorney Kozlarek read the list of the projects as tentatively ordered by the Commission.

[CHAIRMAN DAYS RESUMED CHAIRING THE MEETING.]

Chairman Days reminded the Commission any number of methods for ordering projects would be acceptable.

Mr. Loflin suggested any of the options would be reasonable but again questioned why the order mattered.

Mr. Jennings commented that each community needed to feel as though it had received something for its community. Attorney Joanie concurred.

Mr. Moyd suggested his method of ordering from lowest cost to highest cost would provide the “most bank for the buck,” because these are just numbers.

Mr. Lutz stated the order matters because it is the way voters will read it. They will see the first 15-20 projects and determine whether to vote in favor. He suggested everyone complete a full ranking of the proposed project list in order from 1 to 55 and provide it to the Chairman. He expressed his unhappiness at

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 8 of 14

how the meeting had been going.

Ms. McDow also expressed discomfort at how the meeting had been going. She suggested the Commission members remember the purpose was to help each community and the County at large.

Chairman Days appreciated the Commission members confirming his impression of how the meeting had been unfolding. He suggested it was a good idea for the Commission to adjourn for the evening to meet next week. He commented that Mr. Moyd and Mr. Lutz had each provided a viable means for ordering the projects. He also reminded the Commission members, if the Commission members are having questions about the project list, then it would be even worse for the voters.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. Lutz moved the Commission meet on Tuesday, May 5, at 6:00 p.m. to continue consideration of the referendum question and project list. Ms. Jennings seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. Adjournment: All business having been concluded, Mr. Lutz moved the meeting adjourn. Mr. Moyd seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Days closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

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Herbert Lutz, Jr.  
Secretary

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 9 of 14

**EXHIBIT A**

**FORT LAWN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT LETTER**

Fort Lawn Fire Protection District

P.O. Box 13

5671 Pleasant Avenue

Fort Lawn, SC 29714

Chester County Capital Project Sales and Use Tax Commission  
Chester County Administration Building  
Chester, NC 29706

Reference: Items # 19, 20, 21

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Fort Lawn Fire Protection District, I would like to respectfully request the removal of the following item numbers, 19-21, which were submitted to your commission without the knowledge or approval of our board by Chief Allen Culp.

Fire Coordinator, Barkley Ramsey, has submitted a request for swift water rescue equipment which includes a boat for the county departments.

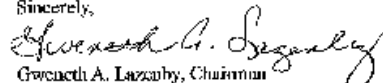
Our board purchased a Physio Control Lifepak 1000 AED with Case in June 2019 at the request of Chief Culp. (Item #20)

The department's older Holman extraction devices were updated and a new device was purchased in July 2019. (Item# 21) This provides us two devices.

We feel that the additional pavement (Item #99) will be more beneficial to the department. Currently our main station is unsafe and cannot be used because structural damage to the side of the building. All calls are being made from the substation at this time.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Gretchen A. Lazzaby, Chairman  
803-289-9146

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 10 of 14

**EXHIBIT B**

**TENTATIVELY ORDERED PROJECTS**

**(TOP TIER)**

<b><u>App. #</u></b>	<b><u>Name of Organization</u></b>	<b><u>Name of Project</u></b>	<b><u>Approved</u></b>
001	Lewis Fire Protection Assoc	Lewis Fire Department South Fork Sub-station	\$700,000.00
023	ATL Charter School	ATL Charter School Multipurpose Facility	\$500,000.00
024	Chester County Sheriff's Office	County Detention Center Access Control & Security System	\$390,000.00
033	Chester County Sheriff's Office	Sheriff's Department Deputy Protection Equipment Upgrade	\$118,000.00
068	Chester County Youth Soccer Association	Rodman Sports Complex Soccer Improvements	\$250,000.00
101	Chester County	Great Falls Sports Complex Improvements	\$291,190.00
047	Town of Great Falls	Great Falls Redevelopment & Restoration of Company Store Building	\$2,675,000.00
114	Chester County	Rodman Sports Complex Baseball and Soccer Improvements	\$1,153,803.00
116	Chester County	North Chester Fire Substation	\$679,081.00
067	Chester County Economic Development	I-77 Interchange High Mast Lighting (Exit 65)	\$675,000.00
031	Chester County Sheriff's Office	Sheriff's Department Cameras: Body/In-car Video/Interview Room	\$790,863.00
063	Richburg Fire Department	Richburg Fire Department Substation Improvements	\$89,214.00
064	Richburg Fire Department	Richburg Fire Department Rescue Equipment	\$90,500.00
118	Chester County	County Library Roof Improvements	\$125,000.00
098	Chester County	Health Department Building Improvements	\$152,576.00
104	Chester County	County Emergency Management Agency Building Improvements	\$234,788.00
105	Chester County	County Museum Improvements	\$310,450.00
Combined 3	12, 54, 95	Eight Automated External Defibrillators (Fort Lawn Community Center, Town of Fort Lawn, City of Chester)	\$14,800.00



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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 11 of 14

**EXHIBIT C**

**TENTATIVELY ORDERED PROJECTS**

**(BOTTOM TIER)**

<b><u>App. #</u></b>	<b><u>Name of Organization</u></b>	<b><u>Name of Project</u></b>	<b><u>Approved</u></b>
093	City of Chester	City of Chester Emergency Generator for Public Works Building	\$65,000.00
094	City of Chester	City of Chester Emergency Generator for City Hall	\$75,000.00
099	Chester County	El Bethel Fire Department Parking Lot Paving	\$264,934.00
106	Chester County	County Courthouse Building Improvements (HVAC, Elevator, Porch Waterproofing, Security)	\$1,481,000.00

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 12 of 14

#### EXHIBIT D

#### PROJECTS REMAINING TO BE ORDERED

App. #	Name of Organization	Name of Project	Approved
002	Chester County EMA	County Emergency Management Agency Mobile Command Vehicle	\$178,000.00
005	Chester County Landfill	County Landfill D5K2 CAT Bulldozer	\$151,022.60
013	Fort Lawn Community Center	Fort Law Community Center Sound System (Auditorium)	\$14,800.00
014	Fort Lawn Community Center	Fort Law Community Center Replace Carpet (Main Building)	\$28,500.00
015	Fort Lawn Community Center	Fort Law Community Center Replace Windows (Main Building)	\$58,000.00
016	Chester County Coroner	County Coroner Body Transport Stretcher	\$42,801.75
025	Chester County Sheriff's Office	Sheriff's Department Computer Network Upgrades with Switch Systems & Server	\$570,000.00
026	Chester County Sheriff's Office	County Courthouse Security Access Control Improvements	\$55,000.00
032	Chester County E911	Countywide E911 Radio Project	\$4,000,000.00
037	Flopeye Fish Festival	Flopeye Fish Festival Portable Event Stage	\$116,295.00
042	Town of Great Falls	Town of Great Falls Republic Golf Course Improvements	\$18,000.00
044	Town of Great Falls	Town of Great Falls W.C. Childers Wastewater Plant Pump Improvements	\$78,520.00
051	West Chester Fire Department	West Chester Fire Department Breathing Air Compressor System	\$80,000.00
055	Town of Fort Lawn	Town of Fort Lawn Walking Track	\$40,000.00
056	Town of Fort Lawn	Town of Fort Lawn Parking Lot Improvements	\$35,000.00
057	Town of Fort Lawn	Town of Fort Lawn Town Hall Foundation Repair	\$11,215.00
058	Town of Lowrys	Town of Lowrys Park Playground Improvements	\$65,000.00
059	Town of Richburg	Town of Richburg Park Parking Lot Improvements	\$179,070.00
062	Chester County School District	County Schools Park Elementary School Bus Loop Cover	\$400,000.00
066	Chester County Economic Development	SC Highway 9 Roadway Lighting (near exit 65)	\$119,338.52
076	City of Chester	City of Chester Evergreen Cemetery Streets and Stormwater Drainage Improvements	\$100,000.00
077	City of Chester	City of Chester City Hall ADA-Compliant Restrooms	\$142,065.00
079	City of Chester	City of Chester Fire Department Station 10 Improvements (Roof, Insulation, and Walls)	\$76,725.00
081	City of Chester	City of Chester Police Department Building Improvements	\$200,000.00
084	City of Chester	Chester Fire Department Station 10 Front and Rear Drive Ramp Repair	\$38,000.00
086	City of Chester	Wylie Park Recreational Center Basketball Courts	\$40,000.00
089	City of Chester	City of Chester Fire Station 10 Emergency Generator	\$65,000.00
088	City of Chester	City of Chester City Sidewalk Improvements (Gadsden Street)	\$150,000.00
090	City of Chester	City of Chester Fire Station 1 Flooring Improvements	\$10,000.00
091	City of Chester	City of Chester Fire Station 1 Emergency Generator	\$75,000.00
100	Chester County	Great Falls Library Improvements	\$60,000.00

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Page 13 of 14

**EXHIBIT E**

**2014 CPST PROJECT LIST**

Construct fire substation North Chester	\$125,000
Construct fire substation Fort lawn	\$125,000
Construct welcome signs on I-77 at Exit 65	\$100,000
Construct two helicopter pads near I-77 at Exit 55 and Exit 62	\$16,800
Downtown City of Chester streetscaping	\$65,000
City of Chester park renovation (Finley, Adair, Guy, James, Connor, Brooklyn)	\$30,000
City of Chester way-finding and entry signs at major entry points	\$30,000
Chester County Museum renovations	\$70,000
Chester School District playground equipment (three elementary schools)	\$500,000
Great Falls basketball and tennis courts upgrades	\$20,000
EMS equipment (monitor defibrillators and stretchers)	\$215,000
Joe Collins facility upgrades and field improvements	\$225,000
Wylie Park renovations	\$65,000
Chester War Memorial building roof renovations	\$144,000
County Health Department roof and meeting room renovations	\$170,000
Great Falls town hall renovations	\$50,000
Department of Juvenile Justice building roof renovation	\$10,000
Family Court building roof renovations	\$125,000
Emergency Management Agency Federal Building renovations	\$175,000
Voter registration building roof renovations	\$200,000
Great Falls Fire Station/EMS roof renovations	\$40,000
County Government Complex metal roof and renovations	\$1,510,000
City of Chester City Hall renovations	\$525,000
McKeown Building renovations	\$45,000
Lewis Fire Station renovations and expansion	\$150,000
Chester Sewer District – sewer line from GITI to Lando facility	\$2,000,000
Install lighting at Rodman Complex baseball fields 1 & 2	200,000
Construct two soccer fields with lighting	\$308,000
Construct concessions, restrooms and other facilities at Rodman Complex	\$40,000
Construct baseball/softball with lighting at Rodman Complex	\$115,000
Install lighting at Republic Field in Great Falls	\$175,000
City of Chester West-End activity center renovations and expansion	\$125,000
City of Chester Fire Department renovations and expansion	\$150,000
Great Falls waste water treatment plant renovations	\$100,000
Construct South Chester fire substation restrooms	\$20,000
Construct Lewisville High School concessions, restrooms and scoreboards	\$155,000
Install lighting at Chester Complex fields 1 through 5	\$650,000
Construct two new softball fields at Chester Complex	\$300,000

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April 30, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 14 of 14

Construct additional restrooms at Chester Complex	\$20,000
Install lighting at Gayle softball field	\$137,500
Construct maintenance facility for County detention center	\$150,000
Construct new office building for County animal control	\$75,000
Construct storage facility for County fire coordinator	\$25,000
Construct County Library basement expansion	\$125,000
Great Falls sewer line replacement (Brooklyn Bridge)	\$300,000
Upgrade lighting for Chester and Lewisville High Schools	\$25,000
City of Chester Public Works facility renovations	\$75,000
Great Falls leaf vacuum	\$20,000
Construct and refurbish City of Chester sidewalks	\$125,000
City of Chester “Backlot” and amphitheater streetscaping	\$45,000
City of Chester overflow parking lot and retaining wall	\$35,000
City of Chester Evergreen Cemetery improvements	\$15,000
City of Chester Housing Authority common area improvements	\$69,000
Construct City of Chester police substations	\$225,000
Chester School District regulation track	\$500,000
Construct and equip City of Chester Public Works yard debris site	\$415,000
Construct athletic field houses for each high school	\$1,050,000
Chester Technology Park Speculative Building	\$2,000,000

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 1 of 25

Commission Members Present:

Chester County Representatives: Herbert Lutz, Jr., Sylvia Jennings, and Kelvin Moyd

City of Chester Representative: Dr. Jacques Days

City of Chester Representative Appointees: Larry Loflin and Brenda McDow

Also present:

Joanie Winters, County Attorney

Michael E. Kozlarek, Bond Counsel

Other members of the public were present.

Action on Agenda Items:

1. Welcome/Declaration of Quorum: Chairman Days welcomed everyone on the call, thanked everyone for their participation, and declared the presence of a quorum of the Commission.

2. Invocation: Chairman Days offered thanks through prayer.

3. Approval of Minutes:

April 30, 2020 – Mr. Loflin moved the approval of the minutes. Mr. Moyd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion of Referendum Question/Division of Funds:

Chairman Days discussed the April 30 meeting and the difficulties that arose during that meeting. Prior to that meeting, Chairman Days had asked each Commission member to provide a list of the top 10-15 projects to Chairman Days so he could attempt to weight the project list and arrive at a collective tiering system. Chairman Days suggested the list he provided to the Commission during the last meeting was not entirely accurate in its tiering. Chairman Days then reminded the Commission members the Commission's calling is to do the best work for all the County's citizens and to try to touch all areas of the County in providing the project list and ordering.

Chairman Days suggested it might help to further the Commission's work if the Commission could arrive at a process for ordering the projects. Chairman Days noted he wanted the process to ensure no one appeared to be more or less important, but the process would allow the Commission members to work out any differences. Chairman Days reviewed some of the potential processes for ordering projects: (a) numerical order by application number, (b) numerical order by application number for those projects approved on the first night followed by numerical order by application number for those projects approved on the second night, (c) highest cost projects to lowest cost projects, and (d) lowest cost projects to highest cost projects.

Chairman Days inquired, which, if any, of those processes might be viable. Mr. Lutz said the numerical order was not viable. Ms. Jennings stated she did not think the high cost to low cost was viable because it would not reach the "needs." All Commission members agreed. Ms. Jennings suggested that low cost to high cost may be a viable option. Ms. Jennings noted this method would provide for a lot of projects, but would the projects be in the order that the voters would approve. Ms. Jennings expressed her concern that the Commission is not placing enough of the "needs" at the top of the list. Mr. Loflin agreed as did Ms.

**MEETING MINUTES**

CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION

**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 2 of 25

McDow, but she also noted the Commission could start with the lowest but then adjust the middle portion of the list to include the necessities. Mr. Moyd suggested the low cost to high cost would provide for the most projects, including 1-47 (all projects up to \$700,000) during the first, likely borrowing. Ms. Jennings also reminded the Commission the Commission needed to ensure the County's children had projects as well as the two fire substations because that would mean lower taxes for those citizens.

Chairman Days suggested the "low to high" process was a viable option with "some tweaking." Mr. Lutz noted it would be "a lot of tweaking." Chairman Days inquired if there was another viable process. Mr. Loflin suggested the Commission should focus on public safety and recreation as the top priorities because these areas touch so many people in the County, children, and other needs of the voters.

Chairman Days suggested the Commission should embrace a process and tweak that process as necessary to prioritize the list, perhaps, using an high, medium high, medium, and so forth method.

While the Commission was contemplating these potential processes, Chairman Days referenced a number of emails received regarding the Countywide radio system project and the Great Falls renovation project, copies of which are attached, respectively, as Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

Ms. Jennings stated that, in his proposed project list, Mr. Lutz did a very good job in spreading out projects, trying to consider how many projects would be covered by the first borrowing.

Mr. Loflin alerted the Commission that Mr. Lutz lost power because of an hailstorm. Mr. Lutz then rejoined the meeting by phone to let the Commission know the weather had turned severe.

Mr. Ben Grant from Chester County Emergency Management let the Commission know that Chester County was subject to a severe thunderstorm warning. Chairman Days indicated the Commission would recess for an hour because of severe weather in the area.

[THE COMMISSION RECESSED AT 6:29 P.M.]

[CHAIRMAN DAYS RECONVENED THE COMMISSION AND CALLED THE COMMISSION BACK TO ORDER AT 7:30 P.M. THE FOLLOWING COMMISSION MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: CHAIRMAN DAYS, MS. JENNINGS, MR. LOFLIN, MS. MCDOW, AND MR. MOYD. ATTORNEY WINTERS AND ATTORNEY KOZLAREK WERE ALSO PRESENT.]

5. Adjournment: Due to continued concerns of severe weather in the area, Chairman Days suggested the Commission adjourn until Thursday, May 7, at 6:00 p.m.. Ms. McDow moved the meeting adjourn as suggested by Chairman Days. Mr. Loflin seconded. The motion in favor passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Herbert Lutz, Jr.  
Secretary

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 3 of 25

**EXHIBIT A**

**COUNTYWIDE RADIO PROJECT – SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION**



**Chester County  
Department  
Affiliates**

Chester Fire  
Department

Crossroads Fire  
Department

Fort Lawn Fire  
Department

Great Falls Fire  
Department

Lando Fire  
Department

Leeds Fire  
Department

Lewis Fire  
Department

North Chester Fire  
Department

Richburg Fire  
Department

Rossville Fire  
Department

South Chester Fire  
Department

West Chester Fire  
Department

May 5, 2020

C.P.S.T. Commission  
1476 J.A. Cochran Bypass  
Chester, SC 29706

Dear Commission Members,

On October 3, 2019 the Chester County Chief's Association received information from IWA Technical Services concerning their findings after studying the communication needs of emergency service providers in Chester County. We appreciate the time and effort of the Communication Study Committee and of IWA Technical Services.

IWA Technical Services recommendations concluded that moving emergency communication to the 800 megahertz (MHz) system was the preferred option for emergency service providers in Chester County. The Chester County Fire Chief's Association voted to formally support the recommendations of IWA Technical Services to place all county emergency service providers on the 800 MHz Radio System.

IWA cited lower long-term cost, when compared with other viable option that would improve emergency communications, as a major reason for recommending the 800 MHz system. Another goal this move will accomplish is all county emergency service providers (fire, EMS, sheriff, EMA) will be on the same communication system and will have the ability to communicate with each other via radio. County emergency service providers are currently operating on three different radio systems and different agencies cannot directly communicate with each other when required. The ability for all County emergency agencies to communicate has been a concern and this recommendation provides a solution.

Another advantage of moving to the 800 MHz system is the ability to seamlessly integrate radio communications in the event of a large incident requiring mutual aid from other state agencies. State Emergency

**MEETING MINUTES**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 4 of 25

Page 2 of 2

Management uses the 800 MHz system as their standard when responding to emergency incidents throughout the state. Having Chester County on the same system will make communication with other agencies and resources more efficient and easier to implement.

The Chester County Fire Chief's Association looks forward seeing progress in improving emergency communications in Chester County through your approval of the 800 HHZ Radio Project.

Regards,



Brian L. Beer  
Secretary, Chester County Fire Chief's Association



**MEETING MINUTES**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 5 of 25

## CHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Eric C. Williams  
*Chief of Police*



"To Serve and Protect"

TO: Whom It May Concern  
FROM: Chief E.C. Williams  
RE: Chester County 800 Radio Proposal  
DATE: 5/4/20

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my understanding that a proposal of a 800 radio system is being considered for the first responders of Chester County. Upon hearing of this proposal, I really got excited to know this emergency void was being addressed. Considering the layout and logistics of Chester County a modern 800 radio system would definitely serve the county well and bring us into operating compliance in an emergency services aspect. Currently some municipalities and entities are not working on a collaborative system which handicaps services because communication amongst first responders is at a minimum. Given the nature of a first responders profession, its imperative that a professional and inclusive public service be offered to its customers regardless of their location. This radio proposal should provide the communication and ability for those serving the public to operate in a more safe and efficient manner throughout the county with confidence from this unified step. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Chief E.C. Williams*  
*Chester Police Department*  
*Office: 803-581-9675*  
*Cell: 803-899-0098*

100 West End Street    Chester, South Carolina 29706    Phone: 803-581-2132    Fax: 803-581-7645

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 6 of 25

<b>F A X</b> <b>FORT LAWN POLICE DEPARTMENT</b> PO BOX 37/512 MUNICIPAL DRIVE FORT LAWN S.C. 29714 PHONE 803-872-4995 FAX NUMBER 803-872-4996 	<b>To:</b> SHERIFF MAX DORSEY Fax number: SHERIFFDORSEY@CHESTERSO.COM
	<b>From:</b> Chief David Hayes Fax number: 803-872-4996
	<b>Date:</b> 5/1/2020
	<b>Regarding:</b> SALES TAX
	<b>Phone number for follow-up:</b> 803-872-4995, 803-804-7747

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 7 of 25



**FORT LAWN  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

P.O. BOX 37 / 512 MUNICIPAL DRIVE  
FORT LAWN, S.C. 29714

Phone 803-872-4995

Fax 803-872-4996

*Chief R. David Hayes*

DATE: May 1, 2020

SUBJECT : One Cent Sales Tax Radio Communication

To: Whom it may concern.

The Fort Lawn Police Department fully supports the use of the revenue gained from the sales tax to go towards every First Responder agency having the capability to communicate with each other, by use of an 800/mhz. radio. The benefits would be endless. Having all first responder agencies with the capability to communicate while responding to calls for service without the delays of requiring dispatch to relay messages between agencies would greatly improve efficiency and safety of all involved.

Respectfully Yours,

R. David Hayes

Chief of Police

Fort Lawn S.C.



**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
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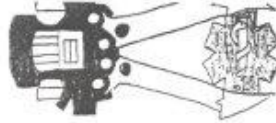
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 8 of 25



ESTABLISHED 1964

PHONE 581-5550

**CHESTER COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD**

P.O. BOX 324

CHESTER S.C. 29706

October 10, 2019

Mr. Shane Stuart, Chester County Supervisor

Chester County Council Members

This letter is in support of the new Pal 800 Radio program that is being proposed by the Emergency Services in Chester County.

As you know the Chester County Rescue Squad is a vital part of the Emergency Services in Chester County.

We believe this new system will greatly improve the quality of communications for the Emergency Services in Chester County.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sonny Hudson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Loren E (Sonny) Hudson

Chairman

Chester County Rescue Squad

**MEETING MINUTES**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 9 of 25

**COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION**



**Chester County  
Department  
Affiliates**

Chester Fire  
Department

October 24, 2019

Crossroads Fire  
Department

Mr. Don Wood  
Chester County Communication Study Committee  
Chester Fire Department  
156 Columbia Street  
Chester, SC 29706

Fort Lawn Fire  
Department

Great Falls Fire  
Department

Mr. Wood,

Lando Fire  
Department

On October 3, 2019 the Chester County Chief's Association received information from Ira Wiesenfeld with IWA Technical Services Consulting Engineers concerning their findings after studying the communication needs of all emergency service providers in Chester County. We appreciate the time and effort of the Communication Study Committee and of IWA Technical Services.

Leeds Fire  
Department

Lewis Fire  
Department

Mr. Wiesenfeld presented recommendations of IWA Technical Services, which concluded that moving Chester County emergency communication to the Palmetto 800 system. The Chester County Fire Chief's Association voted to formally support the recommendations of IWA Technical Services to place all county emergency service providers on the Palmetto 800 Radio System. The Association also encourages the Communication Study Committee to present the findings of the Communication Study and the recommendations of IWS Technical Services to County Council as soon as possible.

North Chester Fire  
Department

Richburg Fire  
Department

Rossville Fire  
Department

South Chester Fire  
Department

IWA cited lower long-term cost, when compared with other viable option that would improve emergency communications, as major reason for recommending the Palmetto 800 system. Chester County Sheriff Department is already utilizing Palmetto 800 system. Chester County EMA can also communicate on the Palmetto 800 system. This would mean Fire and EMS would require equipment upgrades to access the Palmetto 800 System.

West Chester Fire  
Department

**MEETING MINUTES**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 10 of 25



**James Jackson**  
Fire Chief

**VeeVee**  
**Torrence**  
Admin. Asst.

**Don Wood**  
Fire Marshal

**Ben Grant**  
**Dean Naniot**  
Training Officers

**Riley L. Cloud**  
Fire Prevention  
Officer

**Administrative  
Department**  
156 Columbia St.  
Chester, SC 29708  
Office: (803) 385-2123  
Fax: (803) 355-9757

**Station 1**  
156 Columbia St.  
Chester, SC 29708  
Station: (803) 377-1210  
Fax: (803) 385-5812

**Station 10**  
888 McCandless Rd.  
Chester, SC 29705  
Station: (803) 581-5329  
Fax: (803) 581-5339



**CHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

156 Columbia Street  
Chester, South Carolina 29706  
803.385.2123



October 25, 2019

Chester County Radio Study Group  
Att: Don Wood  
156 Columbia St.  
Chester, SC 29708

Dori,

Although I have been serving as Chief of the Chester Fire Department for a short time, I have been able to see the shortcomings of our current VHF radio system. There are limitations to the system. One of the facts is that it does not provide adequate coverage, within the fire district. Added to the problem, all county responders are not on the same communication system.

I was present at the County Fire Chiefs Association on October 3, 2019. I heard the presentation, by IWA Technical Services. It was recommended that Chester County join the Palmetto 800 MHz System. At the previous fire department, where I also served as Chief, we utilized the 800 MHz system. I can vouch for the quality and benefit of the system. Therefore, I, along with my current department, am in support of Chester County joining the Palmetto 800 System for all responders.

Regards,

James Jackson  
Chief, Chester Fire Department

*"Committed to Saving Lives and Protecting Property"*

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 11 of 25

**Chester County Responder's Radio Study**  
**Ad Hoc Radio Group Report**  
**Chester County Council November 4, 2019**

On behalf of Emergency Responders and the Radio Group, I would like to extend our appreciation for Chester County Council's support with our engineer study of Chester County's radio systems.

There was a long delay in having the study completed due to issues discovered with the fire radio system. These issues had to be resolved before the study could begin. Out of 2 tower sites and 3 voter sites, only 1 voter site was working correctly. While most of the sites needed adjusting / tuning, the Great Falls voter was in need of repair to include tower work that caused an extended delay.

While not part of the Study Engineer's (IWA) contract scope, they provided guidance to the local radio technician's adjustment and tuning of the fire radio system. The end result is the fire radio system is usable "functioning as good as the current system can" but leaves a lot to be desired.

Part of the Study Engineer's (IWA) scope was to provide a recommendation for the best type radio system, with maximum benefit for the county. The Engineer's recommendation is to join the SC Palmetto 800 MHz system (PAI-800). This system is currently used by most of our county's law enforcement and is maintained by South Carolina.

The PAI-800 system will benefit all departments. Law enforcement will also benefit with improved coverage throughout the county when completed. The Radio Committee originally established a list of goals it hopes an updated radio system will provide.

- 1) Intra- and Inter-Operability
- 2) Maximum county Coverage
- 3) Quality Radios (digital)
- 4) Emergency Call Button "Man Down"
- 5) Radio to Radio fire ground capability
- 6) Redundancy (backup)
- 7) Voice Clarity
- 8) Radio ID system
- 9) Least expensive "In Building Communication System"

The following benefits were identified if the PAI-800 system is implemented with the county.

- 1) All county agencies will be able to talk to each other
- 2) Cost effective for the County by taking advantage of existing infrastructure
- 3) Able to achieve most of the desired goals (note that coverage is subjective)
- 4) Less expensive for businesses to provide "Responder Radio Coverage"
- 5) Uses P25 system which increases availability for State and Federal Grants
- 6) Provides Public Safety grade communication infrastructure (State & Federal)
- 7) Prepares county for current and future technology
- 8) Prepares county for short term and long term use of radio system (State assumes responsibility once installed)
- 9) System is monitored 24-hours with backup (ISO compliant)

The Engineer's recommendation was presented to the Chester County Chiefs Association October 3, 2019 and was received with unanimous support. The recommendation was also presented to the Radio Group October 9, 2019 with 9 members in attendance representing 6 agencies. Recommendation was received with support. One agency did not support due to concerns. Two questions of concern were asked at the meeting.

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 12 of 25

1) Why were the same technicians that maintain the PAI, 800 system not able to adjust and tune the fire radio system without the assistance of the Radio Engineer?

A: Most technicians are primarily trained on newer technology such as the 800 digital radio systems and do not have as much experience with older technology such as the current VHF fire radio system. The engineer has many years of experience with older systems and was able to help them.

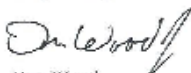
2) Why did the Study Engineer not meet with each agency to discuss needs and issues?

A: The scope of the Engineer Study did not include one on one meeting with each agency. The study included a group meeting with all agencies willing to attend to receive and discuss concerns. Project was to review and identify the best frequency and system infrastructure for Chester County based on measured data collected from the study.

Specific needs of each agency / department will need to be evaluated and determined during the infrastructure and design phase once a system is chosen.

We would like to request County Council's support with Chester County joining the PAI, 800 system for all agencies in accordance with the radio engineer's recommendation.

Respectfully,



Don Wood

For information the following are individuals were invited to group meetings.

- |                                                         |                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1. Allen Culp - Fort Lawn Fire                          | 12. Don Wood - Chester Fire                |
| 2. Ben Grant - FMA                                      | 13. Jay Williamson - Lewis Fire            |
| 3. Barkley Ramsey - Rural Fire                          | 14. James Jackson - Chester Fire           |
| 4. Brian Linchberger - EMS                              | 15. Johnny Roddey - E911                   |
| 5. Doug McMurray - Chester County Sheriff's Dept        | 16. Josh Cauden - Great Falls              |
| 6. Ed Darby - FMA                                       | 17. Kris Grant - Rural Fire                |
| 7. Eddie Murphy - EMA                                   | 18. Shane Surratt - Chester County         |
| 8. Ellis Faulkner - Chester County                      | 19. Terry Tinker - Chester County Coroner  |
| 9. Eric Hudson - Chester Rescue / Richburg Fire         | 20. Timothy Camp - Chester County Schools  |
| 10. Eugene Hudson - Chester Rescue / South Chester Fire | 21. Travis Moore - Chester Police Dept.    |
| 11. Eric Williams - Chester Police Dept.                | 22. Tyler Covington - Chester Police Dept. |
|                                                         | 23. Tyson Melton - Richburg Fire           |



**MEETING MINUTES**

CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION

**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 13 of 25

**CHESTER COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
RADIO COMMUNICATIONS STUDY  
FINAL REPORT**

**SUBMITTED  
OCTOBER 3, 2019**

**BY**

**IWA TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
DALLAS, TX  
(214) 707-7711**

**MEETING MINUTES**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 14 of 25

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Chester County entered into an agreement with IWA Technical Services, Inc., consulting engineers, to survey the communications systems used by Chester County, SC for their public safety agencies.

Besides looking at the end user needs, other items that were analyzed included all of the main radio systems used by Chester County for law enforcement personnel, fire personnel, EMS personnel, and other agencies that utilize the dispatch facilities and systems as controlled by the dispatch system on Dawson Street.

Of particular interest was the Fire paging, Fire two-way radio system, and the dispatch console system.

The final part of the survey was to provide maps from each of the existing permanent tower sites to determine the predicted downlink [base to subscriber (portable and mobile)] range and uplink [subscriber (portable and mobile) to base] range. The composite signal coverage was also included with the studies.

The details of each item analyzed are found in the following pages of this report.

Recommendations are made at the end of this report.

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 15 of 25

**FIRE PAGING FROM DISPATCH**

The paging alerts from dispatch to the pagers used by the various fire departments throughout Chester County were being missed by many agencies, and those that did get through the alerting process had very low audio volume from the pagers.

Another problem was that there were multiple dead spots throughout Chester County.

**SOLUTION 1 IN LINK CONTROL STATION**

We discovered two problems with the paging alerts on the system. The first problem was that the console radio in the equipment room being utilized for the paging alert tones had the audio level setting too low in amplitude. The second problem was that the automatic gain control (AGC) was turned ON in the control station Line Access Card and in the main audio path within the same transmitter. This was corrected and the tones sounded better, but the VHF transmitters were still not performing properly.

**SOLUTION 2 IN MOTOROLA 7550 DISPATCH CONSOLE**

The dispatch consoles had the AGC turned on in the microphones, along within the console channel Conventional Channel Gateway (CCGW) for this channel in each console. The AGC functions were turned off in each console, and the audio was raised in amplitude for each console.

**SOLUTION 3 AT CHESTER AND RICHBURG RADIO SITES**

The audio amplitude being broadcast from the VHF fire base stations at Chester Tower and Richburg tower were not identical. The transmitter audio control level setting was reset at each of the two station locations to be the same.

**RESULTS**

Once the audio levels and AGC settings were corrected at the dispatch consoles, dispatch link control stations, and the two radio base station sites, all of the problems disappeared and pages were heard correctly throughout the county.

**MEETING MINUTES**

CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION

**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 16 of 25

**FIRE VOICE TRAFFIC FROM DISPATCH**

The voice traffic from dispatch to the field units on the fire channel exhibited the same problems as the page tone traffic from dispatch.

**SOLUTION 1 IN LINK CONTROL STATION**

The problems in the link control station for the voice traffic were discovered to be the same as the paging link control station.

Once the page tone issues were found and corrected, the appropriate adjustments were made on the fire voice link control station and the problems were resolved.

**RESULTS**

The problems with the voice traffic were corrected when the paging problems were set properly.

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 17 of 25

**FIRE TALKBACK TO DISPATCH**

There were originally multiple serious problems with the talkback from the field units back to dispatch.

The audio would drop out in between syllables. In addition, there were many parts of the county where there was no coverage from mobiles or portables back to dispatch.

The voter VHF receiver and UHF transmitter link was inoperable at Catawba.

The voter VHF receiver and UHF transmitter link was inoperable at Great Falls. The antenna on the VHF receiver was tested and failed the line sweep test.

The main JPS SNV12 voter control unit at Chester Tower had alarm LEDs lit on some of the channels.

Upon checking the FCC authorizations for the UHF link transmitters that were part of the voting system, we discovered quite a few discrepancies in the all of the radio systems used by Chester County. (See section on FCC authorizations)

**SOLUTION 1 AT CATAWBA VOTER SITE**

The power was restored and the antennas were tested.

**SOLUTION 2 AT GREAT FALLS VOTER SITE**

The VHF receiver was replaced. The UHF transmitter was replaced. The VHF antenna and transmission line was replaced. The power supply was replaced. Audio levels were set at this site to be identical with the other sites.

**SOLUTION 3 AT RICHBURG TOWER SITE**

The UHF receivers at the Richburg Tower site were reset and the audio was set for identical levels between each channel.

**SOLUTION 4 AT CHESTER TOWER SITE**

The audio levels were adjusted in the JPS voter and the Convex audio processor so that all channels have the identical audio amplitude.

**RESULTS**

Once all of the voter receivers were set properly and the voter was optimized, everything functioned as designed and user complaints stopped.

**MEETING MINUTES**

CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION

**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 18 of 25

**FCC AUTHORIZATIONS**

As the study progressed and all sites were analyzed, we determined that the actual operation and the FCC authorizations had discrepancies. In addition, changes were made such that required new frequencies were needed to continue operation.

The next part of our project included gathering all of the pertinent parameters so that the revised FCC authorizations would exactly match the equipment and locations utilized in the system.

The FCC authorizations project is under separate contract and is being completed at this time.

**MEETING MINUTES**

CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION

**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 19 of 25

**OTHER FACTORS IN THE RADIO SYSTEMS**

Once the infrastructure was corrected, we noticed that some units functioned while others did not while being operated from the same location. This usually is caused by defective radios, poor installations or defective antennas; from the mobiles or defective batteries, antennas, or radios on the portables.

A logging procedure should be instituted to help identify defective radios by keeping track of the unit numbers, locations, and circumstances where the radio transmission are being lost or garbled.

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**  
**[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/8597396715](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8597396715)**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 20 of 25

**RANGE AND MODE TEST**

A range and mode test was performed using the Sheriff's VHF channel from the Chester Tower. This test was developed to help determine if switching from the analog mode to one of the digital modes would increase the range of the radio systems.

This test also was used to determine if the predicted and actual range would match each other.

**TEST SETUP**

A Hytera DMR/Analog FM VHF 50 watt repeater was temporarily installed and used to replace the sheriff's Motorola GTR8000 base station. The antenna at the top of the Chester tower was utilized for the range test.

A Hytera MD782 and MD782i mobile radio were calibrated for 30 watts RF power each, along with a magnetic base quarter wave VHF antenna was mounted to the center of the rooftop of each vehicle, and a cigarette light plug was used to power the radios.

A pair of Hytera PD682 walkie-talkies were used to check the portable range along with the mobile range of the system.

**TEST OPERATION**

Two vehicles were traveling a few hundred feet from each other and the ability to communicate with each other was tested as they moved about Chester county and the adjacent counties. The mobile and portable radios were tested between the vehicles every few miles as the distance was increased from the transmitter site and the readings were recorded as the transmissions were made.

Transmissions were made in the analog mode and the digital mode (DMR). The readability quality was noted as the transmissions were made and received.

**RESULTS**

The range test confirmed that the actual range and the predicted range as illustrated in the VHF (155 MHz maps) were identical. The switching between the analog mode and the digital mode also showed approximately 5% increase in range for the digital mode over the analog mode.

The range was limited by the terrain and obstructions such as hills, trees, and man-made structures. If the terrain was flat, the digital mode would have been far superior in range, but that was not the case in Chester County.



**MEETING MINUTES**

CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION

**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 21 of 25

**PROPAGATION MAPS**

**COMPARISON BETWEEN VHF, UHF, 700 MHZ AND 800 MHZ**

Propagation studies were made on the following bands and modes:

VHF (155 MHz)

UHF (460 MHz)

700 MHz

800 MHz

VHF Paging

UHF Paging

900 MHz Paging

In each of the two-way bands listed above, propagation maps were generated for the following circumstances:

**Talk out (Base to Portable coverage)**

**Talk out (Base to Mobile coverage)**

**Talkback (Portable to Base coverage)**

**Talkback (Mobile to Base coverage)**

For each category above, the sites studied were:

Chester

Richburg

Santee Cooper

Great Falls

In addition, combined sites included:

Chester and Richburg

All Sites

**MEETING MINUTES**

CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION

**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 22 of 25

**RECOMMENDATION OF NEW RADIO SYSTEM FOR CHESTER COUNTY**

The empirical studies of using the sheriff's VHF radio channel from the Chester Tower and the fully functioning four towers for the paging and fire radio system confirmed that the propagation maps can be trusted as being reliable and accurate.

In order to have adequate radio coverage from mobile units, the antennas should be center mounted on the roofs of the vehicles, and lapel mounted remote microphones with antennas for the portable units.

In order to have interoperability with the state-wide Palmetto 800 MHz system and the adjacent county neighboring systems, it is our recommendation that Chester County join the Palmetto 800 MHz system. There are substantial monetary benefits for Chester County for joining the state-wide system as well as a more robust and resilient radio communications system.

Since there are a few holes in the 800 MHz coverage along the far southern edge, far northeastern edge and the entire western end of the county, Chester County will need to add 3 more sites to the 4 existing Palmetto 800 sites that are currently in operation. With the adjacent counties using their own 800 MHz systems and the South Carolina State Highway Patrol using the Palmetto 800 MHz system, the propagation maps show that Chester County will have 95% radio coverage for all of the agencies if there are 7 towers utilized for Chester County. All 7 sites will require a microwave backhaul to facilitate IP connectivity to dispatch.

100% coverage cannot be obtained due to the effect that the new green energy building codes have on radio propagation into green energy buildings. These new buildings and the all metal construction buildings prevent radio signals penetrating the interior of these buildings. Many jurisdictions are requiring building owners to install bi-directional amplifiers to provide radio coverage for the public safety radio systems in their jurisdiction. This is mitigated on a case-by-case basis.

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 23 of 25

**EXHIBIT B**

**GREAT FALLS BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT – SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Dr. Jacques Days  
Chairman  
Chester County Capital Project Sales and Use Tax Commission  
P.O. Box 215  
Chester, S.C. 29055

Dear Dr. Days:

I am aware that the Commission is working on the priority list for the one cent sales tax projects and would like to address the location of our Company Store renovation project (# 47) on that list. As you know, this project is for the Great Falls Visitors Center for the whitewater, trails and State Park coming to this area. Since Duke Energy has assured us that the Whitewater project will be completed in the Fall of 2022, it is extremely important to Great Falls that the renovation project for the Visitor Center be well underway, if not completed by the time Whitewater begins to flow and visitors come to our town. We feel that having this project delayed will make it more difficult for us to take advantage of this opportunity being presented to the town.

I would further like for the Commission to consider changing the name of our project to-renovations for Great Falls Whitewater, Trails and State Park Visitors Center. Although everyone in Great Falls is familiar with the meaning of Company Store, the voters in the rest of the county may not understand the project.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests and for all of your hard work on this project.

Sincerely

Glenn Smith

Councilman Town of Great Falls

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 24 of 25



Water Strategy, Hydro Licensing,  
and Lake Services

Duke Energy  
526 S. Church Street / EC12Y  
Charlotte, NC 28202

May 4, 2020

Dr. Jacques Days, Chairman  
Chester County Capital Project Sales and Use Tax Commission  
P.O. Box 580  
Chester, S.C. 29706

Re: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
Catawba-Wateree Hydroelectric Project No. 2232  
Great Falls Re-Diversion Project Schedule

Dear Mr. Days

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Duke Energy) has been asked to provide schedule information for the Great Falls Re-Diversion Project (Project) being completed to meet the requirements the New License for the Catawba-Wateree Hydro Project received from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on November 25, 2015.

The Re-Diversion Project consist of modifications to install a Safe Boater Bypass Structure on the Long Bypass Reach of the Great Falls Reservoir and an Obmeyer Inflatable Gate on the Short Bypass Reach (SBR). These modifications will provide biological flow releases to enhance aquatic habitat and provide public recreation opportunities. The development of the detailed design for these modifications is currently in progress. Following completion of the design and award of the contract, Duke Energy will begin construction on these modifications in May 2021 and expects construction to be completed in the third quarter of 2022.

Please contact me at (704) 382-0293 ([Tami.Styer@duke-energy.com](mailto:Tami.Styer@duke-energy.com)) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Tami Styer, Senior Project Manager  
Catawba Wateree Hydro Project  
Water Strategy and Hydro Licensing  
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

cc: Glinda Price Coleman - Great Falls Home Town Association  
Tim Huffman - Duke Energy

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**  
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May 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 25 of 25

Great Falls, Dearborn Hydro Station – Catawba River Bypass

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### Status and Schedule Expectations

- Design & Physical Model Study – Completed Q3 2018
- Final Conceptual LBR Design, Construction Documents – Complete Q4 2018
- Construction Contractor Screening – Q3 2019 (complete)
- Civil, Electrical, Mechanical Design LBR & SBR – Ongoing – Target February 2020
- FERC Submittals & 404, 401 Permit Submittals - Q2 2020
- FERC Approval & Permits – Q3-4 2020 (expected)
- Competitive Bidding Start – Q3 - 2020 (expected)
- Contract Award – Q4 2020 (expected)
- Construction Commences – 2021
- Completion Date by License Commitment – August 2022



**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**  
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May 7, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 1 of 4

**Commission Members Present:**

Chester County Representatives: Herbert Lutz, Jr., Sylvia Jennings, and Kelvin Moyd

City of Chester Representative: Dr. Jacques Days

City of Chester Representative Appointees: Larry Loflin and Brenda McDow

**Also present:**

Joanie Winters, County Attorney

Michael E. Kozlarek, Bond Counsel

Other members of the public were present.

**Action on Agenda Items:**

1. Welcome/Declaration of Quorum: Chairman Days welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked everyone for their participation, noted Tuesday's meeting was interrupted by severe weather, which sadly caused the death of one of the County's citizens, and declared the presence of a quorum of the Commission.
2. Invocation: Chairman Days offered thanks through prayer.
3. Approval of Minutes: Chairman Days reminded the Commission members the Commission's calling is to do the best work for all the County's citizens and to try to touch all areas of the County in providing the final project list. Chairman Days also reminded the Commission that it might be most helpful to use a specific process to assist the Commission in ordering the projects.

May 5, 2020 – Chairman Days suggested a proposed change to the minutes to reflect that during the May 5 meeting, Ms. Jennings acknowledged the low cost to high cost ordering of projects may be a viable option. Ms. Jennings moved the approval of the minutes with the amendment noted by Chairman Days. Ms. McDow seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion of Referendum Question/Division of Funds:

Chairman Days returned to the discussion from the May 5 meeting of viable options for ordering the projects. Chairman Days inquired whether any Commission member had any other viable processes for ordering the projects. Mr. Lutz explained his process in selecting the project order. Mr. Lutz stated it is very important to touch all areas of the County, to include public safety, first responders, a school project, and some recreation because these projects will resonate with voters. Mr. Loflin stated he reviewed Mr. Lutz's list and appreciated how well it embodied the "Commission's spirit." Mr. Loflin explained he thought Mr. Lutz's list would be "palatable" to the voters and Mr. Loflin "really liked" Mr. Lutz's list because it included some larger projects, smaller projects, and projects in all corners of the County. Mr. Loflin explained Mr. Lutz's list provided for the correct timing of projects and included at the very top of the list those projects the voters would really appreciate. Mr. Loflin stated Mr. Lutz spent so much time for the Commission in coming up with Mr. Lutz's list.

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
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May 7, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 2 of 4

Mr. Moyd explained that he agreed with Mr. Lutz's list as well. However, Mr. Moyd explained he decided to arrange the list by lowest cost to highest cost to try to include the largest number of projects. By ordering the projects in this manner, 45 of 55 projects would be completed with the first, anticipated borrowing, and 54 of 55 projects would be completed by the second borrowing. Mr. Moyd said his method provided for touching and turning dirt in each area as quickly as possible and left only the Countywide radios until the end, while having that project remain on the list so it would still be set to be funded. Mr. Lutz suggested that if the radio project is funded using "pay go," then the Commission should consider increasing the funding to \$5,000,000.

Chairman Days asked the Sheriff if the Sheriff felt comfortable with the \$4,000,000 figure. The Sheriff stated he felt comfortable with that number for the next couple of years.

Mr. Loflin noted Mr. Lutz's list placed core items, like public safety and children, above "development" items, even the Great Falls company store project. He explained the order makes a difference for the voters and the children. Mr. Lutz's list takes these factors into consideration.

Chairman Days returned to the starting premise asking what are the viable options for ordering the projects, even if these options need to accommodate some individual project shifts. Chairman Days asked how Mr. Lutz and Mr. Moyd each developed their process for listing projects.

Mr. Lutz explained that he based his criteria, on projects that are "needed," like public safety and "needed" for youth/families. Mr. Moyd explained that his ordering involved lowest cost to highest cost with some adjustments to deal with specific issues, for example, items that did not receive a unanimous vote, or the other method using the highest cost to lowest cost as a similar concept. Chairman Days asked if the entire Commission views the three processes as viable, then how should the Commission move forward.

Mr. Loflin asked if someone had suggested the Commission needed to get "more projects done upfront." Rather, Mr. Loflin suggested the Commission be more concerned about being selective in ordering projects to ensure inclusivity of each community and the entire County. He again suggested the Commission members should carefully review Mr. Lutz's list. Mr. Loflin also noted that all the Commission's work would be for naught if the voters were not comfortable voting for the referendum, and Mr. Lutz's list presented an ordering of the projects about which people could be happy.

Chairman Days asked whether the Commission had any further comments about the processes already discussed or any other processes to consider. Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Days reviewed the underlying premise for each proposed process. Chairman Days suggested Mr. Moyd's processes were designed to accomplish the largest number of projects, were relatively simple processes, and permitted the ease of moving projects within the proposed list. Chairman Days suggested Mr. Lutz's process was more complex because it was guided by the perspective of a project's worth to the community and County rather than its cost, focused on public safety and youth- and family-related activities, and touched all corners of the County.

Chairman Days inquired whether the Commission members had any comments. Ms. Jennings suggested only two adjustments should be made to Mr. Lutz's list by moving the soccer improvements of \$250,000 and the Chester

**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**  
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May 7, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 3 of 4

Schools bus loop covering closer to top of the list. Mr. Lutz explained his reasoning for how he ordered those projects: Mr. Lutz placed the soccer improvements lower than the other Rodman improvements because the larger project included lights that would be beneficial before the goals and bleachers would be added. Mr. Lutz also noted he had no objection to moving both projects to the proposed locations. Mr. Loflin noted he was also agreeable to the proposed change, as did Ms. McDow and Mr. Moyd.

Chairman Days suggested the Commission should vote on the specific location for these two projects. Attorney Kozlarek suggested a process by which the Commission move these two projects in Mr. Lutz' list, permit Attorney Kozlarek to rephrase some of the project descriptions, and then the Commission could vote to approve the final list forsaking all prior lists or orderings.

A general discussion ensued regarding where to place the two projects. Chairman Days noted the two projects being moved each needed to be moved to a specific location. Ms. Jennings moved to relocate the \$250,000 Rodman Complex improvement project to the 3<sup>rd</sup> position (immediately following the two fire department substation projects) and the school project to the position vacated by the \$250,000 Rodman Complex project. Ms. McDow seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Loflin moved to accept the revised project list with fund allocation as the final project list with fund allocation in place of all other, prior lists or other orderings, subject to Attorney Kozlarek's restating some of the project descriptions. Ms. McDow seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous.

At Attorney Kozlarek's request, Chairman Days recessed the meeting for 30 minutes so Attorney Kozlarek could prepare the Commission's final Resolution, including the final referendum question, with the final project list and fund allocation.

[THE COMMISSION RECESSED AT 7:01 P.M.]

[CHAIRMAN DAYS RECONVENED THE COMMISSION AND CALLED THE COMMISSION BACK TO ORDER AT 7:35 P.M. ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS WERE PRESENT. ATTORNEY WINTERS AND ATTORNEY KOZLAREK WERE ALSO PRESENT.]

Chairman Days asked if any Commission member objected to not having the entire form Resolution read to the Commission, the Resolution having been previously disseminated to, reviewed by, and approved by the Commission. Hearing no objection, Chairman Days asked Attorney Kozlarek to forego reading the entire Resolution but instead to read only the complete project list with revised descriptions and fund allocation. Attorney Kozlarek read the list. At the Courthouse improvements project, Attorney Kozlarek suggested the listing be further revised to include the four, specific areas covered by the Commission's prior approval. Attorney Kozlarek then read the four Courthouse improvement areas (HVAC, elevator, porch waterproofing, security).

Mr. Lutz moved the Commission approve the final, draft Resolution, which included the final referendum question, which included the final project list with fund allocation, as read to the Commission members during the meeting at 7:37 p.m. by Attorney Kozlarek. Mr. Moyd seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. Adjournment: All business of the Commission having been concluded, Mr. Loflin moved, when the



**MEETING MINUTES**  
CHESTER COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECT SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**  
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May 7, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

Page 4 of 4

Commission adjourned at the conclusion of the May 7 meeting that the Commission's work be deemed concluded with the exception of the Chairman and the Secretary being able to approve the minutes for the May 7 meeting and to present the Commission's Resolution to County Council. Ms. McDow seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Winters reminded the Commission members that the County Council was considering final approval of the Commission's work on May 18, and it would be appropriate for each of the Commission members to consider being present for that meeting, subject to appropriate medical and social distancing precautions.

Chairman Days suggested the Commission members "trumpet" what amazing work the Commission had performed in coming up with the project list. Chairman Days also reminded the Commission that the Commission members needed to ensure to get all voters behind the referendum and to please "make yourselves available as need arises to share with fellow citizens." Ms. McDow inquired whether it would be appropriate to start telling everyone. Chairman Days said it was "absolutely the right time" to start explaining to everyone what a positive impact the referendum could have on the entire County.

Attorney Winters, as the County Attorney, noted she has been part of three capital project sales tax referenda, commended the Commission's hard work, thanked the Commission for the unique journey, the member's self-sacrifice, their time, and all the effort. Attorney Winters commented on how well the Commission members represented each of their communities and the County as a whole. She expressed her pride at the work done and thanked the Commission members again for ensuring the projects touched all corners of the County.

Chairman Days profusely thanked the Commission members for their service and expressed how many important lessons he had learned through this process and blessed the Commission members.

The Commission's work having been concluded, Mr. Lutz moved the meeting adjourn. Mr. Loflin seconded. The vote in favor was unanimous. Chairman Days closed the meeting by reminding everyone the Commission's work had been completed, offered a word of prayer, and declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Herbert Lutz, Jr.  
Secretary