MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ISLE OF PALMS WATER & SEWER COMMISSION IUNE 18, 2025

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Agenda was posted on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at City Hall, the Commission Office, and provided to *The Post and Courier*. The meeting was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at the Commission Office, 1300 Palm Boulevard on the Isle of Palms, SC.

Attending were Chairman Donald Smith, Commissioner Bob Hooper, Commissioner Jeff Forslund, Commissioner Curtis Helfrich, PE (via phone), General Manager Chris Jordan, Special Projects Administrator Bill Jenkins, Operations Manager Shorty Meade, Engineer Mark Yodice, and Attorney Jennifer Blumenthal. Commissioner Jay Leigh and Comptroller Helena Stickles were absent.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Following the opening prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, and roll call, Frank Davis of Confluence Consulting, LLC presented rate adjustments for FY26. Mr. Davis noted that the Commission never went below its minimum cash balance. He recommends a 2% increase in water and sewer fees for FY26 through FY30. These increases will help maintain and rebuild cash balances. The forecast assumes the Commission will receive \$1.1 million in FEMA funding as well as \$3.3 million in SCIIP funding in FY26. He noted that cash balances are better than projected thanks to conservative budgeting.

The Isle of Palms Water & Sewer Commission's proposed FY26 rate increase puts its rates under those for Sullivans Island customers. Mr. Davis noted that other utilities are proposing 5-7% increases in the coming year.

General Manager Jordan reported that increased materials costs are built into the budget and the proposed rate increase.

Commissioner Hooper made a motion to recommend the proposed FY26 rate increase to the full Commission for approval. Commissioner Helfrich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hooper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Forslund seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 a.m.

Donald S. Smith, Chairman

7 - / 6 - 2625 Date