



Gateway to the Mountain Lakes Region

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR
WESTMINSTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

June 11, 2021

GENERAL INFORMATION

Fire Department – May Monthly Report

Attached is the May report of call activity as provided by Chief Michael Smith.

OJRSA

The OJRSA Board met Monday, June 7, 2021 at 4:00 pm and passed its FY2022 Operating Budget. That budget includes a rate increase for the City of 15.2%. You may recall, this increase is currently included in the City's FY2022 Proposed Budget. Also, the OJRSA had a sewer line collapse on Sandifer Blvd near Richland Creek. It is estimated that 100,000 gallons of wastewater spilled into the creek and the OJRSA issued a water quality advisory on June 4, 2021 as a result. On June 7, 2021 the OJRSA issued a repeal of the water quality advisory. Details on the collapse and line rehabilitation is expected to be forthcoming from the OJRSA. The two media advisories are attached.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 15, 2021 at 6:00 pm - Westminster City Council Meeting at the Westminster Fire Department

June 21, 2021 at 4:00 pm - OJRSA Finance & Administration Committee Meeting at OJRSA

June 23, 2021 at 4:00 pm - OJRSA Operations & Planning Committee Meeting at OJRSA

June 24, 2021 at 10:00 am – PMPA Board Meeting at PMPA (Greer)

June 25, 2021 at 10:30 am – Appalachian Council of Governments Board Meeting via Zoom the link is

https://www.scacog.org/acog_board



DATE: 06-07-2021

To: City Council

From: Micheal Smith, Fire Chief

Subject: May, Monthly Westminster Fire Department Report

Calls Run

City Calls: 47

County Calls: 20

Mutual Aid Given: 6

Daytime Calls: 43

Night calls: 24

Structure Fires in City: 0

Structure Fires in County: 1

Total Calls for April: 67

Inspections

Inspections Completed: 7

Re-Inspections Completed 2

Pre-Fire Plans Completed 3

Rental Inspections 3

Smoke Detectors Installed 2

**** I have been conducting inspections as needed along with rental inspections until we get the fire marshal's position filled.

Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention Events Attended:

Fire Prevention Events Scheduled:

General Information

***** Anderson Brothers in Piedmont SC still has one of the City fire engines and making repairs to get it back in service. We received a phone call last week stating repairs are coming along and truck is about 3 weeks out on being complete.

***** We have purchased and added into inventory all the new digital radios that we purchased from the grant money we received from the V-Safe grant. We are in the process of having all them programmed to issue to members and to have installed in all the vehicles.

***** We are now back to full staff for our allowable number of full-time employees. We have hired Ben Sheriff and Cody Collopy to fill the open Lieutenant positions we had. Both men have a lot of experience, training and are certified EMT's. These men will be an asset to our department and the City. Captain Grant will move into the 40 hour Fire Marshal position.



MEDIA RELEASE

June 4, 2021

Contact:

Chris Eleazer

864-972-3900

info@ojrsa.org

ADVISORY: Sewer line break on Richland Creek

SENECA, S.C. – The Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority (OJRSA) is currently working to repair a collapsed sewer line on Sandifer Boulevard (U.S. Highways 76 and 123) near Richland Creek in Oconee County. It is estimated that 100,000 gallons of wastewater entered Richland Creek before the break was secured earlier Friday.

Tugaloo Pipeline, a contractor assisting the OJRSA with the repair, installed a plug in an upstream manhole and established a temporary pumping system to divert the wastewater around the broken line until they can rebuild the creek crossing and replace 90 feet of 8-inch ductile iron pipe. Due to the scarcity of materials and the area where the break is located, it is anticipated the repair will be completed around June 16.

The OJRSA has notified the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) of the incident and samples will be collected for analysis. Signs will be posted alerting those in the vicinity to avoid the area and will remain in place until SCDHEC approves the removal of the advisory. People and pets should avoid contact with Richland Creek and Coneross Creek south of Sandifer Boulevard to S.C. Highway 59 bridge until further notice.

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About the Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority:

The Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority (OJRSA) is a governmental agency providing wastewater treatment service to the cities of Seneca, Walhalla, Westminster, the town of West Union and their surrounding areas. Learn more at www.ojrsa.org.



June 7, 2021

Contact:

Chris Eleazer
864-972-3900

info@ojrsa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority Repeals Water Quality Advisory for Richland Creek

SENECA, S.C. – The Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority (OJRSA) has repealed the water quality advisory issued on June 4, 2021, for Richland Creek and Coneross Creek in Oconee County. The notice was issued as a precaution when wastewater spilled from a collapsed sewer line on Sandifer Boulevard (U.S. Highways 76 and 123) near the Richland community.

The OJRSA has analyzed samples from the affected waterway and results indicate that contamination due to the spill has returned to normal levels.

Tugaloo Pipeline, a contractor assisting OJRSA with the repair, has installed a plug within an upstream manhole and established a pumping system to divert the wastewater around the broken line until they can rebuild the creek crossing and replace 90 feet of 8-inch ductile iron pipe. Due to the scarcity of materials, it is anticipated the permanent repair will be completed within two weeks.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) has approved the repeal of the advisory based on the sample results. Signs are posted near the location of the spill and will remain in place until the repair is fully complete.

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