

2025 Annual Report

Cape Fear Public Utility Authority 



On September 30, 2025, Cape Fear Public Utility Authority (CFPUA) officially welcomed about 2,800 new customers to our water and sewer system following the successful consolidation of the Town of Wrightsville Beach's water and sewer system into CFPUA.

This culminates years of careful negotiation and planning by leaders at CFPUA and the Town, along with crucial support from members of our state legislative delegation, who secured a \$25 million grant to help pay for the upgrades needed to the Town's infrastructure.

To ensure a smooth transition, CFPUA staff worked diligently in the months leading up to this historic event, the first consolidation in our organization's history. New Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) software and equipment, modified water meters, new generators, and other essential infrastructure have been installed, upgraded, and integrated into CFPUA's systems. Town customers were successfully migrated into CFPUA's customer management and billing system.

We also conducted significant outreach to Town residents, including two direct mailings that explained the transition, social media and website postings, and two townhall-style workshops in Wrightsville Beach where several staff were on hand to answer residents' questions.

One theme that emerged in conversations with our soon-to-be customers was excitement about the coming improvement in the Town's drinking water quality. Saltwater intrusion impacts several public drinking water wells in Wrightsville Beach. Even before September 30, CFPUA has supplied about 40-50% of the Town's potable water, and this proportion is expected to steadily increase with the construction of new infrastructure. The Town's new water supply comes from the state-of-the-art Sweeney Water Treatment Plant with its new Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters, which have been distributing clearly better drinking water to CFPUA's customers since October 2022.

Among the improvements that will make this possible is a project to construct new water and sewer transmission lines running under the Intracoastal Waterway, from the mainland to Harbor Island. This work is expected to begin in the coming months.

The consolidation is a win not just for the Town and its residents, but also for those who already were CFPUA customers. The economies of scale resulting from the addition of 2,800 new accounts means the costs to deliver CFPUA's services will be spread over a larger base.

This historic event was made possible by the vision and leadership of our Board, as well as the diligent work of community leaders on both sides of the negotiating table. The result will be a stronger and more resilient utility for Wilmington, Wrightsville Beach, and New Hanover County. We invite you to learn more about the consolidation in an article in this Annual Report or by visiting CFPUA.org/WrightsvilleBeach.



Wesley P. Corder
CFPUA Board Chairman



Kenneth Waldroup, P.E.
CFPUA Executive Director

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This Report is available at [CFPUA.org](https://www.cfpua.org).



Connect with CFPUA on social media

Clearly Better at the Beach



The Town of Wrightsville Beach and Cape Fear Public Utility Authority's water and sewer consolidation became effective on September 30.

The consolidation resulted from years of negotiation and planning between CFPUA and Town leaders. In addition to making CFPUA the Town's water and sewer services provider, the consolidation will allow CFPUA to make significant improvements to Wrightsville Beach's utility infrastructure, thanks to State appropriations.

The Town will continue to provide stormwater and trash services, and customers' accounts for those services will remain active.

The consolidation has numerous benefits for Wrightsville Beach customers, including:

Significantly improved water quality: A number of public drinking water wells in Wrightsville Beach

are impacted by saltwater intrusion. Even before consolidation CFPUA supplied about 40-50% of the Town's drinking water through a wholesale agreement with the Town. This water comes from the state-of-the-art Sweeney Water Treatment Plant and its new Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters. The percentage of water supplied by CFPUA to the Town is expected to increase steadily after September 30. Wrightsville Beach customers will pay the same rates as current CFPUA customers.

\$25 million from the State for necessary infrastructure improvements: Thanks to our state elected leaders, CFPUA and the Town were allocated a combined \$25 million in funding to pay for upgrades to the Town's water and wastewater infrastructure. While these projects were identified in CFPUA and the Town's consolidation study, almost all of them would have been required even if the water/sewer

system remained with the Town.

A solid foundation for the Town's future: Without consolidation and the State funding, Wrightsville Beach's water and sewer bills would have more than tripled by 2030 to pay for the required improvements, according to a Town-commissioned study. The benefits from consolidation – clearly better drinking water, infrastructure upgrades, and long-term cost savings – help provide a solid foundation for the Town's long-term future.

The consolidation also is a win for those who already were CFPUA customers: The addition of 2,800 new accounts brings economies of scale that spread the costs to provide water and sewer services over a larger customer base.

For more information on the consolidation and frequently asked questions, visit CFPUA.org/WrightsvilleBeach. 

Southside Project Breaks Ground

A major project years in the making is officially underway as crews have started site work for CFPUA's new Southside Water Reclamation Facility.

Southside is one of two wastewater facilities in CFPUA's system, treating billions of gallons of sewage each year, reclaiming the water, and returning it cleanly and safely to the Cape Fear River. Formerly known as the Southside Wastewater Treatment Plant, the facility opened in 1972. While it has been upgraded and expanded over the past 53 years, the plant has reached the end of its useful life.

This project will not only fully replace the plant and upgrade its infrastructure and equipment to modern, more efficient assets, it also will expand Southside's treatment capacity from 12 million gallons per day (MGD) to 16 MGD.

In fall 2025, crews began site work for the new Southside's location, just south of the existing plant on River Road. Construction is expected to get underway in early 2026 and wrap in 2030.

With project costs estimated at \$400 million, the Southside Expansion and Replacement Project is the

largest capital project in CFPUA's history. To help fund the project, CFPUA has secured \$175 million in low-interest State Revolving Fund loans from the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) and continues to pursue numerous options for State and federal funding. The CFPUA Board has also approved three rate increases to date driven by costs associated with the project.

We are excited to advance this critical project to serve our community's customers for the next generation. Learn more at CFPUA.org/Southside. 💧



Rendering of the future Southside Water Reclamation Facility

Other Major Projects

Parallel Raw Water Main

What: Installing 10 miles of a 54" Raw Water Main parallel to the existing 48" Raw Water Main to provide security of supply and additional water capacity for future growth.

Project Start: February 2023

Project Complete: May 2027

Cost: \$60.2 million, Costs shared between Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority (LCFWASA), CFPWA, Pender County, and industrial customers on U.S. 421

Details: The Kings Bluff raw water system provides much of the raw water supply to utilities in Southeastern North Carolina. LCFWASA and its customers (CFPUA, Pender County, and U.S. 421 Industries) and have determined that a regional approach to managing raw water resources would be beneficial and cost effective for customers.

The existing 48" raw water pipeline that serves the region failed and required significant repairs in 2021, prompting a regional push to fund 10 miles of 54" parallel raw water pipeline from a ground reservoir in Brunswick County to CFPWA's meter vault in New Hanover County.



Lead Gooseneck and Galvanized Water Service Replacements, Phase 1

What: Replacing water service lines identified as containing lead goosenecks or galvanized segments that were connected downstream of lead goosenecks at any time during their operational history.

Project Start: September 30, 2025

Project Complete: November 14, 2026

Cost: \$5.8 million

Details: This project will remove and replace up to 347 galvanized water service lines and lead goosenecks situated in public right-of-way areas, between CFPWA water mains and water meters (on the public side of the water system).

Additionally, up to 112 galvanized water service lines located between water meters and building foundations (private-side) will be replaced. The project will involve replacing the galvanized lines on both sides of the water meters with non-metal piping.

5th Avenue Water and Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement Project

What: Joint project with the City of Wilmington, including street resurfacing, sidewalk repairs, stormwater drain improvements, tree replacement, and the rehabilitation and replacement of the CFPUA's water and sewer utilities along the 5th Avenue corridor.

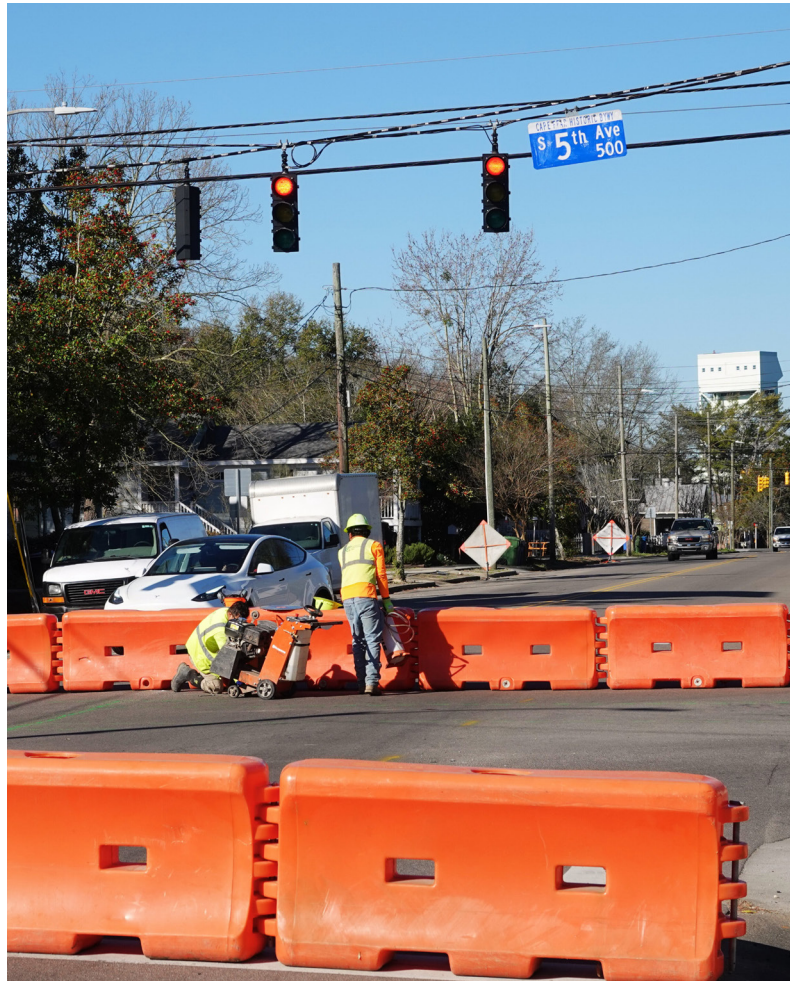
Project Start: February 14, 2024

Project Complete: February 13, 2026

Cost: \$10.9 million

Details: Along 5th Avenue from Greenfield Street to Market Street, the project included installing approximately 6,900 feet of 8" to 16" water mains, over 5,000 feet of gravity sewer mains, and 1,300 feet of 8" gravity sewer surveying, cleaning, and lining.

In the McCumber's Ditch area, the project also provided sewer cleaning, surveying, and lining for 2,300 feet of 36" gravity sewer line.



Bayshore Area Water Main Interconnections Project

What: This design-build project will extend 16-inch water mains through the Bayshore area to increase connectivity between the Richardson Water Treatment Plant and the Porters Neck Elevated Tanks.

Project Start: October 8, 2025

Project Complete: December 2027

Cost: \$12 million

Details: This project includes installation of two 16" water mains to enhance water distribution.

While the project is early in the design phase and exact alignments and connection points have not been determined, one of the proposed mains would extend approximately 2 miles along Market Street and down Bayshore Drive, including connections near the intersections of Wendover Lane and Torchwood Boulevard/Bayshore Drive. The main would continue along Bayshore Drive to connect with the existing 8" water main at Bayfield Drive.

The other 16" water mains will be installed along Furtado Drive, linking to an existing 12" main on Porters Neck Road and nearby 8" mains.

Northern Water and Sewer Mains - North College and Blue Clay roads

What: Installing new water mains along North College Road and Blue Clay Road

Project Start: March 5, 2025

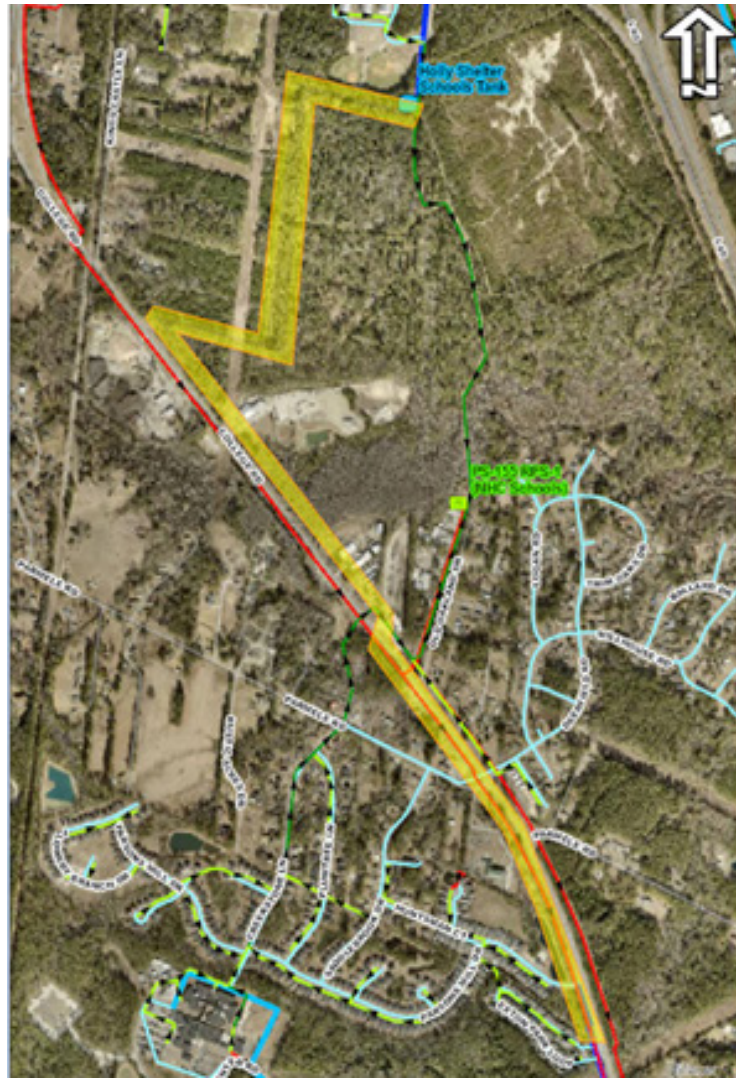
Project Complete: April 4, 2026

Cost: \$7.8 million

Details: This project consists of installing 21,800 feet of 16" water main along the North College Road and Blue Clay Road corridors.

The new North College Road water main will connect to existing infrastructure at the Holly Shelter School Elevated Tank. This alignment will run south along North College Road to Huntsman Court.

The new Blue Clay Road water main will connect to existing infrastructure north of I-140. This alignment will run south along Blue Clay Road to connect to existing infrastructure on North Kerr Avenue.



Northern Water and Sewer Mains - Holly Shelter Road

What: New Waterline and Force Main along Holly Shelter Road

Project Start: February 21, 2025

Project Complete: March 23, 2026

Cost: \$10.2 million

Details: The Holly Shelter Road Corridor consists of the installation of approximately 22,500 feet of 12" force main and approximately 15,500 feet of 16" water main.

The new force main will connect to an existing manhole upstream of Pump Station 155. This alignment will run east along Holly Shelter Road to near the New Hanover County line. The new water main will connect to existing infrastructure at the Barbados Boulevard intersection. This alignment will run east along Holly Shelter Road to near the county line.

Both of these projects are part of the larger Northern New Hanover County Water and Sewer Mains Project.

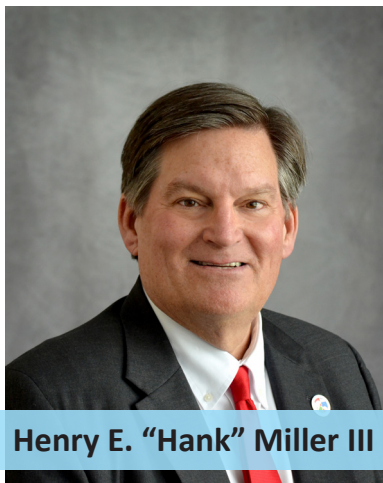
Board Welcomes New Members in 2025

Two community leaders joined the CFPUA Board this year: Town of Wrightsville Beach Mayor Pro-Tem Henry E. “Hank” Miller III and New Hanover County Commissioner Dane Scalise.

Mr. Miller is the President of Miller Realty Associates Inc. and M&N Construction Supply, Inc., and Senior Vice President for Cape Fear Commercial LLC. He currently serves as Chair of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO) and of the Wilmington Regional Film Commission.

Commissioner Scalise is an attorney and insurance broker who has served on numerous boards and committees in the region, including the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, as past Chair of Wilmington Downtown, Inc., and as past President of the New Hanover County Bar Association.

Both Mr. Miller and Commissioner Scalise were appointed to the Board by New Hanover County and their terms run through 2028 and 2025, respectively. 💧



Henry E. “Hank” Miller III



Dane Scalise



Employee Spotlight:
Azaleah Iniguez

GIS Analyst Azaleah first joined CFPUA as an intern before being hired full-time. As a member of the GIS Team, she updates CFPUA’s database of infrastructure and helps Engineers map out their projects.

“I genuinely enjoy tackling the challenge of every project,” she said. “I like interacting with my co-workers and creating a data dashboard or map tailored to their projects.”

During her free time, you can find Azaleah gaming, drawing, and hanging out with her friends, family, and cats.

A CFPUA-Seahawk Partnership

This summer, CFPUA was selected for the University of North Carolina Wilmington’s Cameron School of Business’ the Executive MBA International Residency, in partnership with the University of Surrey, UK, Business School. The program brought local and international students to CFPUA’s facilities to identify opportunities to improve our business practices.

Over two weeks, the 18 graduate students and faculty of the residency team visited CFPUA, met with staff, and reviewed data from two of our divisions: Repair & Maintenance and Line Locates. The residency culminated in a presentation of the team’s findings to the CFPUA Board. The presentation is available on the CFPUA Board’s YouTube channel: [YouTube.com/@CFPUABoard](https://www.youtube.com/@CFPUABoard).



CFPUA values our partnership with UNCW and this incredible opportunity to improve our processes and better serve our customers. 💧



Employee Spotlight:
Jason Scott

As a Senior Maintenance Mechanic for CFPUA, Jason Scott’s workday can take him to all parts of the organization, from the treatment plants to the construction warehouse to any of CFPUA’s offices.

“Variety is the spice of life,” he said. “Unless there is a large project we’re working on that takes a few days, no two days are the same.”

Jason has been a member of the CFPUA team for nearly a decade.

He doesn’t just use his trade skills in the office. At home, Jason is an avid woodworker and painter, making art of aquatic creatures like turtles and octopuses.

Going Platinum

CFPUA was honored to receive the Association of Metropolitan Water Association’s (AMWA) 2025 Platinum Award for Utility Excellence.

AMWA’s Platinum Award recognizes water utilities that demonstrate exceptional management. Award criteria are based on the Ten Attributes of Effective Utility Management and the Keys to Management Success laid out in the Effective Utility Management Primer.

Earning the AMWA Platinum Award places CFPUA among the ranks

of much larger peer utilities that have won Platinum in recent years, including the Orange County Water District of California, Seattle Public Utilities, and Houston Water.

The Platinum Award was presented in October at AMWA’s 2025 Executive Management Conference.

This honor comes just three years after CFPUA received AMWA’s Gold Award for Exceptional Utility Performance. Utilities are eligible to apply for Platinum consideration three years after winning Gold. 



2025 Timeline

January 8: New Hanover County Commissioner Dane Scalise is sworn in as the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority Board’s newest member. A member of the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners since 2023, Commissioner Scalese was appointed to serve on the CFPUA Board by his fellow Commissioners in December 2024

for a term to run through 2025.

January 21: CFPUA begins the first of a four-day administrative closure put in place to protect staff and customers during severe winter weather.

March 20: The Board and staff of CFPUA mourn the passing of Board Member Hollis Briggs, Jr. Mr. Briggs was appointed to the CFPUA Board by New Hanover County, taking

his oath of office on July 10, 2019. During his term of service on the Board, Mr. Briggs was a member of several Board committees, including Long Range Planning, Sustainability, Communications, and Human Resources, which he chaired.

April 9: The CFPUA Board approves the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) totaling \$210.7 million, as well as the organization’s 10-Year CIP, which totals

In Memoriam: Hollis Briggs, Jr.



June 17, 1957 - March 20, 2025

On March 20, 2025, CFPUA Board Member Hollis Briggs, Jr. passed away.

Mr. Briggs was appointed to the CFPUA Board by New Hanover County, taking his oath of office on July 10, 2019. During his term of service on the Board, Mr. Briggs was a member of several Board committees, including Long Range Planning, Sustainability, Communications, and Human Resources, which he chaired.

He was known for his interest in the well-being of CFPUA employees at all levels of the organization, and he often would stop to speak with staff when he encountered them working in the community.

“It was a true privilege to have served alongside Hollis on the CFPUA Board for the past six years,” former CFPUA Chairwoman Jennifer Adams said. “Hollis exemplified the essence of a dedicated community servant through his involvement with the USS North Carolina, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration, and CFPUA. His words and actions consistently reflected his devotion for this area, and his positive spirit and camaraderie will be dearly missed by both myself and the entire Board.”



\$612.1 million. The CIP includes all capital projects that CFPUA will undertake in the coming fiscal year, which begins on July 1, 2025. The single largest project in the FY26 CIP is the Southside Water Reclamation Facility Replacement and Expansion Project, which is estimated to cost \$400 million.

April 14: Attorneys representing CFPUA in its lawsuit against Chemours and DuPont file a response with

the federal district court for the Eastern District of North Carolina objecting to the companies’ motion to seal CFPUA’s summary judgment briefing and more than 180 of the companies’ documents submitted as evidence in the case. The documents requested to be sealed by the companies include an extensive record of Chemours’ and DuPont’s decades of releases of GenX and other per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from their chemical

manufacturing plant on the Cape Fear River. The river is the source of most of the raw water CFPUA treats and distributes to its customers in Wilmington and New Hanover County.

May 14: The CFPUA Board approves the organization’s Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) operating budget, which totals \$129.35 million, a 7.8 percent increase over the FY25 budget. The key driver of the FY26

Continued on next page

Financial Reports

Statement of Net Position*

Date: June 30, 2025

ASSETS

Current assets	\$165,120,030
Non-current assets, including capital assets	\$917,170,524
Total assets	\$1,082,290,554

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

\$14,530,854

LIABILITIES

Current liabilities	\$48,936,640
Noncurrent liabilities	\$328,461,880
Total liabilities	\$377,398,520

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

\$2,079,978

NET POSITION

Net investment in capital assets	\$647,500,958
Restricted	\$9,164,478
Unrestricted	\$60,677,474
Total net position	\$717,342,910

This statement shows the Authority's net position – the extent to which the Authority's assets exceed its liabilities. This statement categorizes net position into three types:

1) Net investment in capital assets is equal to the depreciated value of the Authority's capital investment in water and sewer infrastructure less any outstanding amount of debt used to acquire or construct those assets. These amounts are not available to fund the Authority's ongoing operations.

2) Restricted net position represents assets and liabilities that are restricted by law, Board action, or outside parties. For the Authority, the amount in this category is the amount restricted to pay principal and interest on outstanding debt.

3) Unrestricted net position is the portion of total net position that is available to fund the Authority's ongoing operations. A relatively high amount of unrestricted net position is an indication of financial health and resilience.

*** Information contained on this page is unaudited. CFPUA maintained Aa1 and AA+ credit ratings from Moody's and S&P, respectively. Both ratings are just one notch below the highest-possible rating.**

operating budget and rate increases is the upcoming project to replace and expand CFPUA's Southside Water Reclamation Facility on River Road. Under the FY26 budget, the average residential customer's monthly bill for combined water and sewer services will increase by \$5.12, or 6.9 percent. The budget also increases the rate for separately metered irrigation to \$7.73 per 1,000 gallons, compared with \$4.86

per 1,000 gallons previously.

May 17: CFPUA crews begin conducting sewer smoke testing in parts of the service area. Smoke testing is a common method for utilities to find leaks or breaks in sewer mains. During testing, non-toxic smoke-filled air is forced into the sanitary sewer system, which helps identify breaks or other defects in need of repair.

June 11: Henry E. "Hank" Miller III is sworn in as a member of CFPUA's 11-member Board. A member of the Town of Wrightsville Beach's Board of Alderman, Mr. Miller was appointed to the CFPUA Board by New Hanover County. His term on runs through 2028.

August 13: The CFPUA Board elects officers for Fiscal Year 2026. Wesley P. Corder will serve as Board Chair-

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position* Fiscal year ended June 30, 2025

REVENUES

Operating revenues

Charges for services	\$103,158,084
System development charges	\$6,121,937
Other operating revenues	\$2,565,795

Nonoperating revenues

Investment earnings	\$3,092,734
Grants	\$20,045,019
Other nonoperating revenues	\$136,704

Total revenues	\$135,120,273
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EXPENSES

Operating expenses	\$78,184,588
Depreciation and amortization	\$34,107,560
Nonoperating expenses	\$8,456,781

Total expenses	\$120,748,929
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Increase in net position before capital contributions	\$14,371,344
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Capital contributions	\$14,327,438
Unusual or infrequent items	\$7,387,000
Increase in net position	\$36,085,782
Net position, July 1	\$681,257,128
Net position, June 30	\$717,342,910

This statement shows how the Authority’s net position has changed from the prior fiscal year.

The Authority’s net position increased by \$36.1 million during FY25. The \$36.1 million increase in net position was mainly driven by:

- 1) Capital investments of current year revenues, including capital grants and contributions, that exceeded depreciation on capital assets, and,
- 2) Cash transfers from the Town of Wrightsville Beach made in advance of the transfer of operations that took place on September 30, 2025.



Employee Spotlight:
Cindy Emerson

In her nearly 5 years with CFPUA Cindy Emerson has worn many hats: as a member of our Billing team, an Office Administrator, an Accounting Specialist, and, today, Accounting & Payroll Manager.

Her team manages payroll for CFPUA’s 340-plus employees, plus account processing for the vendors who work with CFPUA.

“I absolutely love my job and the people I work with,” she said. “We come from all different walks of life but somehow, we gel like family.”

At home, Cindy is taking care of her teenage son and their French Bulldog, traveling with her boyfriend on his Harley, and going to concerts with friends.

man, Deans Hackney will continue as Vice-Chairman, Dr. Jessica Cannon will continue as Secretary, and Bill Smith, P.E., will serve as Treasurer.

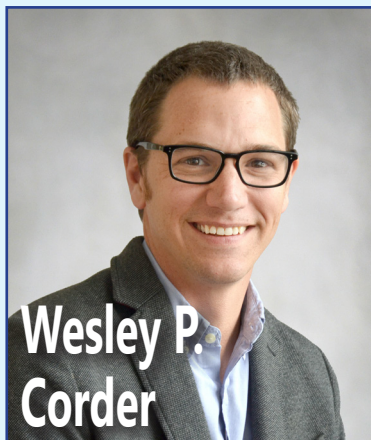
September 30: Cape Fear Public Utility Authority officially becomes the water and sewer service provider of the Town of Wrightsville Beach. The consolidation comes after years of careful negotiation

and planning between CFPUA and Town leaders. In addition to making CFPUA the Town’s water and sewer services provider, the consolidation will allow CFPUA to make significant improvements to Wrightsville Beach’s utility infrastructure, thanks to State appropriations.

October 8: The CFPUA Board approves a resolution to rename the two facilities where the utility

treats wastewater. The new names are the Loughlin (Northside) Water Reclamation Facility and M’Kean Maffitt (Southside) Water Reclamation Facility. The name changes acknowledge the current advanced level of treatment at Northside and the enhanced treatment coming to Southside in 2030 as part of a \$400 million replacement project. 💧

Board Members



**Wesley P.
Corder**

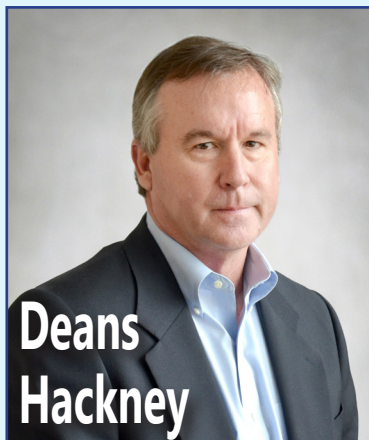
Chairman

Jointly appointed by the City of
Wilmington and
New Hanover County

Seated in 2017

Term ends 2026

Committees: Communications,
Executive, & Finance



**Deans
Hackney**

Vice-Chairman

Appointed by the City of
Wilmington

Seated in 2018

Term ends 2028

Committees: Executive,
Finance, & Long Range
Planning



**Jessica
Cannon, M.D.**

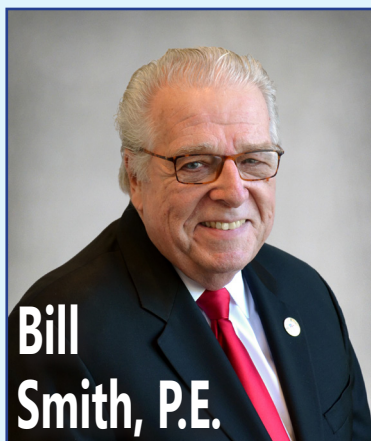
Secretary

Appointed by the City of
Wilmington

Seated in 2019

Term ends 2026

Committees: Executive, Human
Resources, & Sustainability



**Bill
Smith, P.E.**

Treasurer

Appointed by New Hanover
County

Seated in 2023

Term ends 2026

Committees: Executive,
Finance, & Long Range
Planning



**Jennifer
Adams**

Member

Appointed by New Hanover
County

Seated in 2016

Term ends 2028

Committees: Human
Resources, Long Range
Planning, & Sustainability



**Leslie
Hudson**

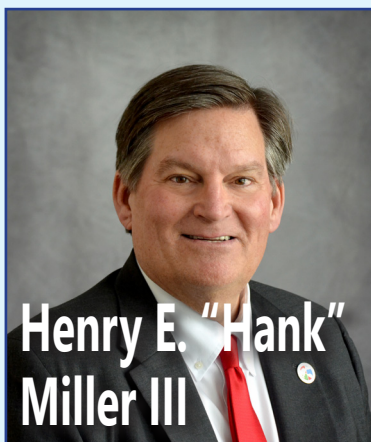
Member

Appointed by the City of
Wilmington

Seated in 2024

Term ends 2027

Committees: Communications
& Sustainability



**Henry E. "Hank"
Miller III**

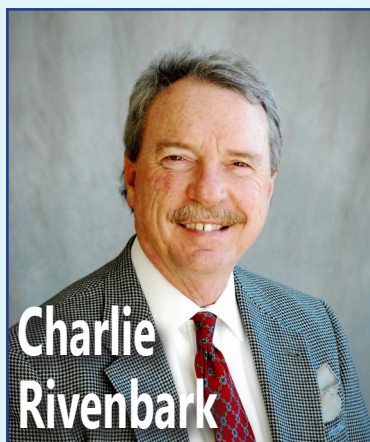
Alderman

Appointed by New Hanover
County

Seated in 2025

Term ends 2028

Committees:
Communications & Human
Resources



**Charlie
Rivenbark**

Councilman

Appointed by the City of
Wilmington

Seated in 2010

Term ends 2027

Committees: Long Range
Planning



**Dane
Scalise**

Commissioner

Appointed by New Hanover
County

Seated in 2025

Term ends 2025

Committees:
Communications & Human
Resources



**Luke
Waddell, Sr.**

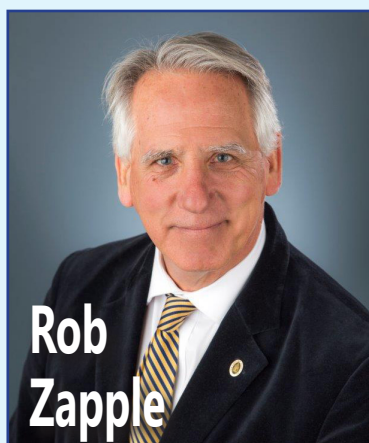
Councilman

Appointed by the City of
Wilmington

Seated in 2022

Term ends 2028

Committees: Finance



**Rob
Zapple**

Commissioner

Appointed by New Hanover
County

Seated in 2019

Term ends 2025

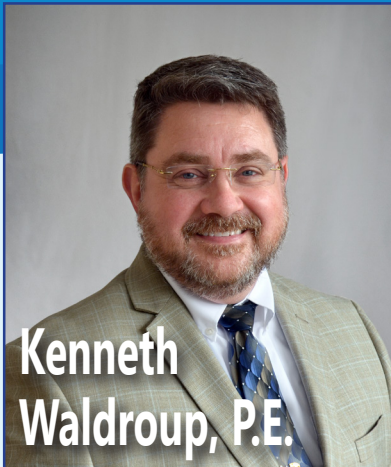
Committees: Finance, Long
Range Planning, &
Sustainability



**Donna S.
Pope**

Clerk to the Board

Executive Team



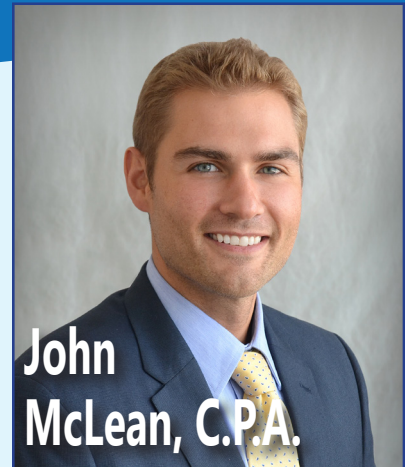
**Kenneth
Waldroup, P.E.**

Executive Director



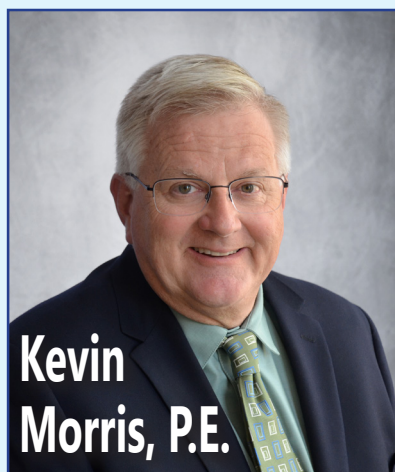
**Beth
Eckert**

**Deputy Executive Director,
Environment, Sustainability, &
Linear Assets**



**John
McLean, C.P.A.**

**Deputy Executive Director,
Chief Financial Officer**



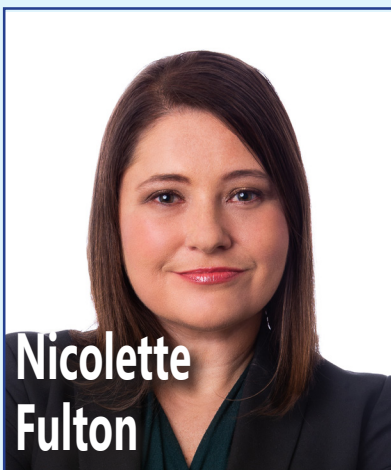
**Kevin
Morris, P.E.**

**Deputy Executive Director,
Treatment & Engineering**



**Cord
Ellison, C.G.C.I.O.**

Chief Information Officer



**Nicolette
Fulton**

Authority Attorney



**Vaughn
Hagerty**

Director of Communications



**Lori
Tayson**

Human Resources Director

Committee Reports

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is a standing committee that meets as needed to provide guidance on CFPUA's communications strategies to deliver information to customers and stakeholders.

In 2025, the Communications Committee received updates on CFPUA's second Customer Service Survey, conducted by the ETC Institute, and the upcoming redesign of CFPUA.org.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee, which comprises officers of the Board, met monthly to review Board meeting schedules and agendas, appoint committee members, and receive legal advice. The Executive Committee also reviewed legal issues that affect CFPUA.

The committee consults with other members of the Board who have expertise or interest in certain areas and solicits input from the public. Members oversee and monitor the performance of the Executive Director.

Finance Committee

The Authority's Treasurer serves as Finance Committee Chair. During Fiscal Year 2025, the Committee reviewed and recommended agenda items relating to a variety of financial issues including the approval of significant construction and services contracts, the approval of strategic plan initiatives, and the approval of the Fiscal Year 2026 operating and capital budgets.

The Committee approved contracts related to the Wrightsville Beach Consolidation, approved the issuance of approximately \$68 million in revenue bonds, approved contracts related to several ongoing CFPUA projects to connect New Hanover County residents with PFAS-contaminated wells, and accepted State Revolving Fund low-interest loans for the Southside Expansion and Replacement Project. The Committee received and discussed the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, prepared by CFPUA staff. The auditor presented a "clean" opinion on this report, which also received the Government Financial Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee is a standing committee that meets as needed. The committee reviews, advises on, and recommends actions on matters involving CFPUA employees or as designated by the Board.

The Human Resources Committee met periodically during the fiscal year. Items considered at meetings included initiatives on staff and leadership development and employee compensation and benefits.

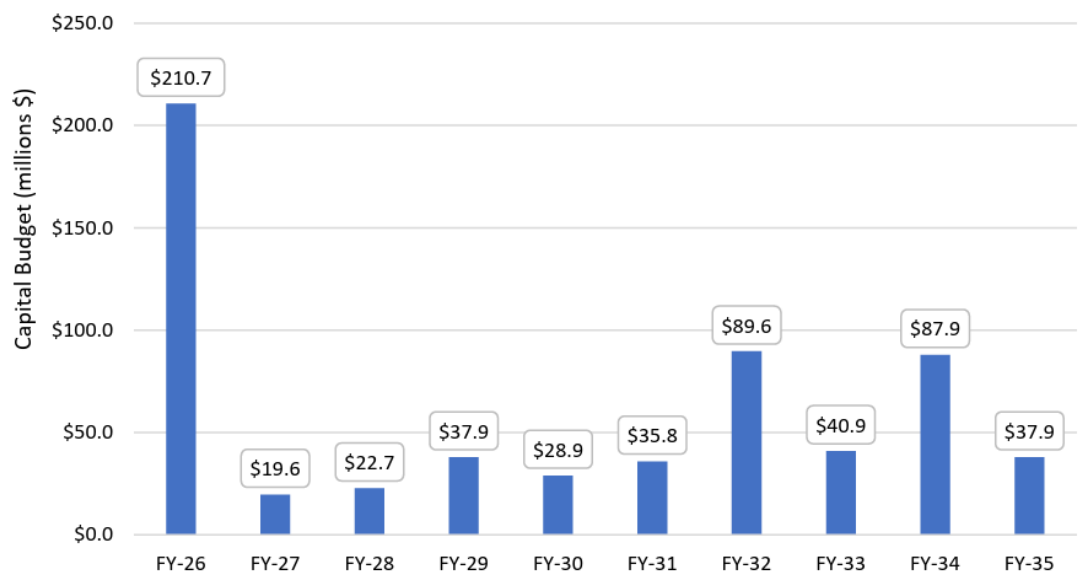
Committee Reports

Long Range Planning Committee

The Long Range Planning Committee is a standing committee that met monthly to receive updates on projects and the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvements Plan. Projects discussed in 2025 included:

- The 54" diameter Raw Water Transmission Main Project
- Value-engineering efforts for the Southside WRF Replacement Project
- Updates on the Last Frontier Projects in northern New Hanover County
- Updates on the Town of Wrightsville Beach Consolidation
- Development of a process for updating CFPUA's Technical Standards
- A novel treatment process for removal of 1,4-dioxane based on work at the Hampton Roads Sanitation District
- Water and Wastewater Master Plan efforts
- Briefings on selected Find-It, Fix-It projects
- Asset Accrual report for conveyances to CFPUA

10-Year FY-2026 to FY-2035 Capital Improvements Plan



Sustainability Committee

The Sustainability Committee is a standing committee that meets as needed. In 2025, the committee reviewed numerous presentations, including those focused on resiliency, projects resulting from the Sustainability Division's partnership with UNCW Data Science students, CFPUA's greenhouse gas inventory and Energy Action Plan, and reframing Sustainability within CFPUA. These included discussions surrounding aquifer sustainability, source water protection, planning in the face of natural disasters, as well as reexamining CFPUA's emissions reduction goal.

While that goal is being reassessed, reducing energy consumption through efficiency remains a key priority. These strategies are outlined in the Energy Action Plan, which includes pursuing the installation of a solar array. The Sustainability Division continues to advance efficiency and resiliency through source water protection efforts, grant applications, and promoting energy efficient practices.

2025 Awards

Employee Years of Service

Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies:

- Platinum Award for Utility Excellence

Government Finance Officers

Association:

- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, 15th consecutive year
- Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, 13th consecutive year

N.C. Department of Labor Achievement in Outstanding Health and Safety:

- Administrative Services: Gold
- Centralized Maintenance: Gold
- Customer Service: Gold
- Customer Service - Meters: Gold
- Engineering: Gold
- Environmental Management and Sustainability - Community Compliance: Gold
- Environmental Management and Sustainability - Laboratory Services: Gold
- Utility Services - Collections System Operations and Maintenance: Gold
- Utility Services - Water Quality and Locate Services: Gold
- Utility Services - Water and Sewer Construction: Gold
- Wastewater Treatment - Northside: Gold
- Wastewater Treatment - Southside: Silver
- Water Treatment - Richardson: Gold
- Water Treatment - Sweeney: Silver

25 Years

Chris Benegasi
Charlie Graham

20 Years

Yanqing Duan
Stephanie Floyd
Bernice Johnson
Gary McSmith

15 Years

Crystal Callahan
Steve McGowan

10 Years

Matthew Ayres
Kasey Blais
Todd Childers
Sara Eskew
Melanie Holt
Melvin Horne
Teresa McPherson
Eddie Southerland
Matthew Wiencek
Corey Williams

5 Years

Cammie Bellamy	John Kupinski
Thomas Bradshaw	Debbie Leonard
Lewis Clark	Lai'Tonia Monroe
Charles Dixon	Marcus Robinson
Vaughn Hagerty	Fredrick Simpson
Edward Harper	Scott Solari
Willie Hawes	Jamie Withers
Dustin Jones	



Cape Fear Public Utility Authority

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